

COVID-19 - MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

- THE CITY OF NEW YORK:
 - o City of New York Mental Health Support While at Home Guide
 - o <u>COVID-19: Coping and Emotional Well-being</u>
- DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
 - o Mental Health and Coping
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA):
 - COVID-19 Homepage
 - Disaster Distress Hotline
 - Training and Technical Assistance
 - <u>FAQs: Provision of Methadone and Buprenorphine for the Treatment of Opioid Use</u> <u>Disorder in the COVID-19 Emergency</u>: In response to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic, SAMHSA is providing answers to Frequently Asked Questions regarding the provision of methadone and buprenorphine for the treatment of Opioid Use Disorder for new and existing patients.
 - <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Opioid Treatment Programs</u>: SAMHSA is offering guidance on pharmacotherapy for opioid use disorder availability in circumstances in which patients may be exposed to highly contagious infectious agents (such as COVID-19).
 - <u>Use of Telemedicine While Providing Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)</u>: Under the Ryan Haight Act of 2008, where controlled substances are prescribed by means of the Internet, the general requirement is that the prescribing Practitioner must have conducted at least one in-person medical evaluation of the patient. U.S.C. 829(e). However, the Act provides an exception to this requirement. 21 U.S.C. 829 (e)(3)(A).
 - <u>TAP 34: Disaster Planning Handbook for Behavioral Health Treatment Programs</u>: This handbook offers guidance in creating a disaster preparedness and recovery plan for programs that provide treatment for mental illness and substance use disorders. It describes the planning process, preparing for a disaster, roles and responsibilities, training, and testing.
 - <u>COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response and 42 CFR Part 2 Guidance</u>: In response to the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic, SAMHSA is providing COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Response and 42 CFR Part 2 guidance to ensure that substance use disorder treatment services are uninterrupted during this public health emergency.
 - <u>TIP 42: Substance Abuse Treatment for Persons with Co-Occurring Disorders</u>: This updated (March 2020) TIP is intended to provide addiction counselors and other providers, supervisors, and administrators with the latest science in the screening, assessment, diagnosis, and management of co-occurring disorders.
 - <u>Tips for Social Distancing, Quarantine, and Isolation during an Infectious Disease</u>
 <u>Outbreak</u>: In the event of an infectious disease outbreak, local officials may require the

public to take measures to limit and control the spread of the disease. This tip sheet provides information about social distancing, quarantine, and isolation.

Training and Technical Assistance Related to COVID-19: MHTTC Resources

• THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH (NIMH):

- o <u>Covid-19 Sharable Resources</u>
- CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS):
 - Medicare Telemedicine Health Care Provider Fact Sheet

• UNITED NATIONS:

o <u>COVID-19 and Mental Health Impacts</u>

• WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO):

- Mental Health and Psychological Considerations During COVID-19
- o Helping Children Cope with Stress

• CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC):

- o <u>COVID-19 Manage Stress and Anxiety</u>
- Therapeutic Options
- o <u>Reopening Guidance</u>
- Disaster Shelter Guidance
- Activities and Initiatives Supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President's Plan for Opening America Up Again

COVID-19 ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES – MENTAL HEALTH:

- Mental Health America Mental Health And COVID-19: Information And Resources
- National Alliance on Mental Illness Updates On The Coronavirus
- National Council on Behavioral Health Resources and Tools for Addressing Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- <u>American Psychiatric Association</u> Center for Workplace Mental Health Covid-19 Response
- <u>CitiesRise Local Mental Health Resources</u>
- American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Mental Health and Covid-19
- <u>Well Being Trust</u> Covid-19 Mental Health Resources
- PsychHub COVID-19 Mental Health Resource Hub
- <u>National Association of School Psychologists</u>: Helping Children Cope With Changes Resulting From COVID-19
- <u>National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors</u> Peer-Led Recommendations for Supporting Individuals Receiving Care in State Psychiatric Facilities during the COVID-19 Crisis
- Postpartum Support International: PSI COVID-19 Resources
- Depression and Bipolar Alliance: Covid-19 Resources
- Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health: Mental Health Resources During COVD-19

COVID-19 ORGANIZATIONAL RESOURCES – GENERAL:

- National League of Cities COVID-19 Response
- <u>National League of Cities CARES Act City Impacts</u>
- <u>United States Conference of Mayors COVID-19 Response</u>
- <u>National Association of Counties COVID-19 Response</u>

- Trust for America's Health Resource Portal
- <u>United States of Care Covid-19 Response</u>
- The New Deal Coronavirus Policy Resources Database
- Local Housing Solutions COVID-19
- <u>Cities for Health Covid-19 Resources</u>
- National Low Income Housing Coalition Covid-19 and Housing
- Harvard Kennedy School of Government COVID-19 Response: Open Data Resources for Local Government Leaders
- National Alliance to End Homelessness A Framework for Covid-19 Homelessness Response
- National Conference on State Legislatures State Action on Coronavirus (COVID-19)
- <u>Bloomberg Philanthropies Management Metrics for Cities in the COVID–19 Crisis</u>
- <u>American Psychiatric Association Foundation, Center for Workplace Mental Health Employee Mental</u> <u>Health & Well-being During & Beyond COVID-19</u>

COVID-19 SUPPLIES RESOURCES:

- National PPE Coalition
- Project N-95

COVID-19 DATA TRACKING DASHBOARDS:

- Johns Hopkins: Johns Hopkins Interactive Tracking Dashboard
- Johns Hopkins: Interactive County by County Tracking Dashboard
- Splunk: Splunk Dashboard for Coronavirus Tracking
- Tableau: COVID-19 dashboard, data resources and public health response information (Tableau)
- Elucd: National Public Perception Dashboard on COVID-19
- SAS: 2019 Novel Coronavirus Dashboards (SAS)

CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE NEWS

NEW YORK, NY: *ThriveNYC Releases Guides to Reduce Loneliness and Resources for Children and Young Adults:* The ThriveNYC team has created a *COVID-19 Guide to Mental Health Services for Young People*, as well as a five *Creative Activities to Reduce Loneliness and Promote Mental Health*. The Young People guide contains several free services and educational tools that can support youth mental health during the pandemic.

BUFFALO, NY: *Clinical social workers to help Buffalo Police handle mental health calls*: The Buffalo Police Department will embed a handful of licensed clinical social workers by mid-July to work alongside police officers and respond to mental health and substance abuse calls. The agreement, which the Common Council approved Tuesday, does not cost the city any money as a third party organization received a \$150,000 grant from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation last March to "embed" the crisis workers in the Buffalo Police and other area police agencies. For Buffalo, a non-profit, Endeavor, will provide three full-time clinical staff and a program supervisor. The plan also calls for six police officers and two lieutenants to be assigned to a Behavioral Health Team, but there still has to be an agreement worked out with the Buffalo Police Benevolent Association. The Behavioral Health Team would work day shifts Monday through Friday because there is not enough money available to staff the team around the clock. The mental health professionals are expected to begin working in mid-July with a short training period. They also will help develop and participate in BPD training. The clinicians, employed by Endeavor Health Services, also will focus on steps to prevent incarceration for people who suffer from mental illness or substance abuse.

MOULTRIE, GA: *Schools to offer 'first aid' training in youth mental health:* Colquitt County School System is offering free training this summer in Youth Mental Health First Aid, a groundbreaking eight-hour course that helps adults identify young people struggling with mental health or substance use problems and connect them with appropriate support and resources. "Youth Mental Health First Aid is an important training offered in Colquitt County Schools to ensure student safety," said Irma Townsend, the system's assistant superintendent for student services. "It is of even greater value as we begin school after the pandemic to ensure support is available when students experience mental health issues or a crisis."

OAKLAND, CA: *Oakland Unified School District votes to replace police with mental health staff:* Oakland Unified School District is now working to remove its police department from its schools after a unanimous vote on Wednesday. The Oakland Unified School District's Board of Education unanimously voted to adopt the "George Floyd Resolution" — to eliminate the only Alameda County school district police department. According to the resolution — the planning process begins at the end of August and they will move forward with eliminating the police from schools by the end of the year and begin to start the process of developing an alternative plan for school safety.

OVERLAND PARK, KS: *Overland Park to fund Crisis Intervention Training for all police officers:* Overland Park City Manager Bill Ebel has decided to fund Crisis Intervention Training, or CIT, for all of the city's 258 sworn officers. The move comes after a two-year push from Sheila Albers since her son, John, was shot and killed as he backed out of the family's driveway by former Overland Park Police Officer Clayton Jenison in 2018. The City will find the roughly \$80,000 needed in the budget to have CIT for all of the city's officers beginning next year. The Mental Health Task Force's original proposal was to have a new CIT unit complete with a sergeant, officers and enough social workers to cover around-the-clock need at a cost of \$2.2 million. The proposal included an increase in the property tax rate, which would have amounted to roughly \$30 more in taxes for the average homeowner per year. It failed on a 7-5 vote. CIT will now be universal for the Overland Park Police Department. Overland Park will become just the second Johnson County city to have all its officers undergo CIT.

SPRINGFIELD, MA: Springfield mayor to reallocate police department funds for outreach, mental health programs: The City of Springfield will reallocate funding from the police department to fund a new outreach program and mental health training for the city's Health and Human Services Department. Mayor Domenic Sarno said Springfield will reallocate \$125,000 of police funds and match another \$125,000 for a total of \$250,000 to the health department. Mayor Sarno stated, "As a result of my continued dialogue with community leaders and as a follow up to my announcement declaring racism as a public health crisis. I have created the Office of Racial Equity in order to create a comprehensive solution towards cultural change." The Springfield mayor added that this is for a proactive new Street Outreach Workers Program and cultural sensitivity/mental health training for the police department to enhance and build upon their already established training.

CHARLESTON COUNTY, SC: *Charleston Co. schools expand mental health services, social and emotional learning:* The Charleston County School District is allocating more than half a million dollars next school year to expanding mental health resources and social and emotional learning. "Our priorities are establishing physical safety and psychological safety. Without that we can't even begin to teach our reading, math and writing curriculum," CCSD's Director of Intervention and Psychological Services Lisa Allison said. The money will be invested in addressing the stress and anxiety of students, families, and teachers when they return to learning this fall. The district is set to spend \$534,720 on expanding those services after the district's board of trustees included mental health access into its mission critical actions last year.

DAUPHIN COUNTY, PA: New Dauphin County program teams mental health co-responders with law

enforcement: The Dauphin County Board of Commissioners said Tuesday its new co-responder team model is helping law enforcement respond to calls involving people with mental health or substance use issues. Dauphin County's Stepping-Up Initiative was developed through the county's Criminal Justice Advisory Board, the county said. The goal is to reduce the number of people with mental illness in the criminal justice system. The state Department of Human Services awarded a total of \$180,548 for fiscal year 2019 through 2021 for two co-responder positions under the supervision of Dr. Ashley Yinger of the Dauphin County District Attorney's Office.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA: Board of Supervisors greenlights pilot program to serve homeless people with mental illness: Los Angeles County will launch a pilot program that deploys teams of nurses, social workers and counselors to move homeless individuals with mental illness into treatment and housing, following a Tuesday vote by the county Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors' unanimous approval of the effort comes after Supervisors Kathryn Barger and Mark Ridley-Thomas supported a motion to deploy the program. Currently, Homeless Outreach and Mobile Engagement teams, or HOME teams, which consist of mental health psychiatrists and counselors, substance abuse counselors and psychiatric social workers and peers, provide voluntary crisis intervention and mental health evaluations throughout the county. If an individual is determined to be in imminent danger or is gravely disabled, they can be considered for a 72-hour hold for involuntary evaluation and treatment to ensure their protection and safety, according to the motion. While governments define the standard differently, gravely disabled generally means that a person cannot care for their basic needs, such as food, clothing and shelter, due to a mental health disorder. Under the pilot program, teams will be able to pursue an application for an outpatient conservatorship for individuals who are not in imminent danger but are gravely disabled and refuse voluntary services, according to the motion. A conservatorship occurs when a judge appoints a person or organization with the responsibility to care for an individual who cannot care for themselves. The county's Department of Mental Health proposed the pilot project to improve treatment and services for those with mental illness who experience a chronic cycle of homelessness, incarceration and hospitalization. A report back on the pilot's progress is expected to be submitted by Oct. 9 and a final report by July 1, 2021.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD: *Montgomery County schools seek more funding for mental health counseling amid pandemic:* Montgomery County public school system is looking into additional ways it can help students with mental health counseling as the coronavirus pandemic has drastically changed their lives. Recognizing what they said is an increasing need for additional and more intensive mental health support for students, Montgomery County Public School board members are asking the county government to help. School board members are requesting \$250,000 for a pilot program to contract with outside services to provide mental health care for families in the county who cannot afford it. The school system estimated that the per student cost of therapy services is between \$750 and \$1,100, meaning the \$250,000 would provide about 270 students with mental health counseling. The Montgomery County Board of Education unanimously approved a motion on Monday, June 29, to bring the request to the county. A letter from MCPS Superintendent Jack Smith stated that the coronavirus pandemic has led to more than 164,000 Montgomery County public school students being isolated in their homes and highlights what he said is a likely increase in need for mental health services. A Montgomery County Council committee is expected to review the request at the end of July.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY, CA: Board of Supervisors authorizes funding for mental health diversion program:

More than \$3.3 million in funding was announced Tuesday for San Diego County's first pre-trial mental health diversion program, designed to provide treatment options for people with untreated mental illnesses who might otherwise face jail and criminal charges. The funding would support treatment and housing for around 30 people at any given time, according to the San Diego County District Attorney's Office. The San Diego County Board of Supervisors authorized a contract to accept up to \$3,328,000 in grant funding from the

Department of State Hospitals for the program, which will provide community-based treatment for individuals who meet the state's criteria for mental health diversion. If granted diversion, that person may be referred to a mental health treatment program instead, after which criminal charges could be dismissed upon successful completion of the program. The program will include Assertive Community Treatment, wraparound services, case management, life skills, medication management, benefits assistance, peer support and community linkages, according to the DA's Office.

IOWA: *Iowa governor to use \$50M in federal COVID-19 money for mental health:* Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds says she will spend \$50 million in federal funding on adult and childhood mental health and substance abuse programs. The money is part of the state's allocation from the \$2 trillion coronavirus rescue package that was approved by Congress and signed by the president in March. Gov. Reynolds says \$30 million will be used for mental health services administered regionally across the state. The remaining \$20 million will go to mental health and substance abuse providers to cover increased costs. Reynolds says stress caused by the coronavirus has increased the need for mental health services.

NEW HAMPSHIRE: *NH Bar removes mental health question from N.H. Bar exam:* New Hampshire has joined other states in removing questions from its bar application about mental health history, diagnosis, or treatment when determining character and fitness for bar admissions.

WISCONSIN: New 24/7 hotline gives WI farmers mental health support as pandemic wears on: Rising COVID-19 case numbers and uncertainty in reopening plans are continuing to impact farmers and their mental health, which is part of the reason farmers say a new 24/7 hotline connecting them directly with licensed mental health professionals. They have seen big increases over the last few years in requests for vouchers to help farmers pay for mental health services. So far, 2020's requests are up 28 percent compared to this time last year. That is why Wednesday DATCP launched a hotline -- free for farmers to call and talk to a licensed mental health professional 24/7. The hotline is designed for people in crises -- any time of the day or night -- but longterm counseling is also available through the Farm Center. In addition to those resources, DATCP is hoping to help train people who interact with farmers to help spot warning signs. It's called QPR training, which stands for Question, Persuade and Refer -- helping people better recognize warning signs in farmers.

WISCONSIN: *Wisconsin recommends schools focus on mental health upon return next fall:* The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction is recommending schools put a strong emphasis on the mental health of students and staff when returning in the fall. The coronavirus pandemic may have introduced trauma into lives of young students, whether it be the loss of a family member or the quick shift in schedules. The state recommends schools assume that fear, loss and isolation contribute to an increased need for mental health support.

EXECUTIVE

Trump Administration Launches National Campaign to Reduce Suicide

- The Trump Administration launched a broad national campaign Tuesday aimed at reducing high suicide rates, urging the public to reach out to others, especially during the coronavirus pandemic, and acknowledge daily stresses in people's lives
- Known as REACH, the government campaign is the core part of a \$53 million, two-year effort announced by President Donald Trump to reduce suicide, particularly among veterans

Digital ads will hit the internet with the key message that "suicide is preventable" and that collective
action not only by government but also by businesses, schools, nonprofits and faith-based
organizations can overcome the stigma of discussing mental health and empower people to
understand risk factors, stay connected with others and talk openly about problems

SAMHSA Releases Children and Mental Health After Disasters Guide

- The resources below include information for parents and caregivers about how children may experience and respond to disaster, signs of the need for professional mental health assistance, and how they can help their children in the most effective way.
- <u>Children and Youth</u>: This SAMHSA Disaster Behavioral Health Information Series installment highlights resources for and about children and youth during and after a disaster. The resources listed can help parents, other caregivers, and educators to support disaster preparedness for children; children and youth to understand and cope with their disaster reactions; and school personnel to ensure disaster preparedness for their institutions.
- <u>The Emotional Impact of Disaster on Children and Families</u>: In this training module, the AAP discusses how a disaster can lead to emotional difficulties in children and factors that can increase the likelihood of issues, such as age and previous mental health issues. The second section of the module lists the stages of emotional response after a disaster and the most common symptoms and conditions in children exposed to disasters. The module also reviews various interventions to support children after disaster.
- <u>Your Child Is at Risk for Mental Health Issues After a Disaster</u>: On this web page, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention describes how disasters may affect children, including mental health issues and conditions, and highlights ways for parents and caregivers to help children cope. The page also lists signs of the need for help from a mental health professional and other resources related to helping children after a disaster.
- <u>Helping Children and Adolescents Cope With Disasters and Other Traumatic Events</u>: In this publication, the National Institute of Mental Health defines and describes trauma, including trauma linked to disasters, and identifies ways in which children and adolescents may react to trauma. It also offers ways that parents and caregivers, rescue workers, and community members can help children and adolescents in recovering from trauma. This page is available as a <u>PDF download</u> and in <u>Spanish</u>.

Department of Labor (DOL) Proposes Updates to Mental Health Parity Compliance Tool

- The DOL has released a proposed update to its mental health parity self-compliance tool
- Like the 2018 revision this proposal is prompted by the 21st Century Cures Act's directive to help improve compliance with the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) by providing and updating biennially a publicly available compliance program guidance document
- The MHPAEA generally requires parity between medical or surgical benefits and mental health or substance use disorder benefits in the application of (1) annual and lifetime dollar limits; (2) financial requirements (such as deductibles, copayments, coinsurance, and out-of-pocket maximums); (3) quantitative treatment limitations (such as number of treatments, visits, or days of coverage); and (4) non-quantitative treatment limitations (such as restrictions based on facility type).

• You can view highlights of the proposed changes here

White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONCDP) Shows Spike in Overdose Deaths

- An ONCDP analysis shows an 11.4 percent year-over-year increase in overdose fatalities for the first four months of 2020. Preliminary data shows fatal overdoses climbed at least 3 percent for the 12-month period ending in November 2019. Final data will not be available until the end of this year
- The data confirms experts' early fears that precautions like quarantines and lockdowns, combined with economic uncertainty, would exacerbate the addiction crisis
- The surge is prompting the drug policy office and federal agencies to convene regular meetings to size up how the pandemic has disrupted the opioid response
- The pandemic has accelerated a trend that CDC data shows was beginning to pick up in 2019 for example West Virginia, another state hit disproportionately hard by the addiction crisis, reported 923 overdose-related EMS calls in May a roughly 50 percent jump compared to year-earlier figures

CONGRESS

Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee Hosts Hearing *"High Anxiety and Stress: Legislation to Improve Mental Health During Crisis"*

- Last Tuesday, the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee reviewed 22 mental health bills and Democratic leaders signaled the legislation could come to the House floor this year, possibly as part of the next coronavirus-relief package. Frank Pallone (D-N.J.), chairman of the committee, said he expects the bills to get votes
- Republicans and Democrats on the panel agreed that Congress needs to address the mental health challenges worsened by the coronavirus, yet differed over more than half the bills the panel reviewed
- Rep. Greg Walden (R-Ore.) said Republicans support nine of the bills, including one (H.R. 7316) to create a special center for training mental health providers and another (H.R. 7293) to expand suicide awareness and training in schools.
- Rep. Michael Burgess (R-Texas) said he doesn't support a measure (H.R. 884) that would give more independence to clinical psychologists to treat Medicare patients without approval from a physician, because it would expand the definition of a physician under Medicare.
- Health Subcommittee Chair Rep. Anna Eshoo said the bills would help health-care providers better meet the increasing demand for their services

IN OTHER NEWS

AARP Report Highlights Benefits of Music for Mental Health

• AARP's Global Council on Brain Health just released <u>a report</u> outlining the benefits of music for brain health and includes recommendations for older adults to improve their mental well-being

- The report highlights previous research showing music can stimulate parts of the brain responsible for movement and memory, and that music could be used to help those with Parkinson's disease improve talking as well as help stroke patients recover from their illness
- The report also draws from a <u>recent survey</u> conducted by AARP, which found that adults who reported listening to music or making music were more likely to report their overall health as excellent or very good
- Recommendations to individuals include listening to music as a way to motivate exercise, while community recommendations include starting groups such as choirs to encourage regular music-making activities.

New Report Shows Link in Depression in Mothers and their Offspring

- A <u>new review</u> of six studies further underscores the link between depression in mothers and the development of similar symptoms in their children during adolescence
- The studies in the review, which included data from nearly 15,600 mother-child pairs, revealed that children born to mothers who experienced depression during or in the year following pregnancy were 70% more likely to also have depression as adolescents or adults
- Women who experienced depression during pregnancy than in the year after giving birth were slightly more likely to have children who also experience depression, and daughters born to mothers with depression were also more likely to experience the condition than sons

E-cigarette advertising restrictions could reduce teen vaping

- According to a <u>new survey</u> of around 12,000 teens (ages 16-19) in Canada, laws restricting advertisements of e-cigarettes to youth could help prevent teens from vaping
- In 2018, Canada prohibited e-cigarettes ads from being specifically marketed to teens, but some provinces such as Quebec and Manitoba also banned retail displays and e-cigarette ads in general
- The proportion of teens who reported seeing marketing for e-cigarettes often or very often doubled from 2017-2019, and these teens were around 40% more likely to also report vaping in the month or week prior to being surveyed
- Teens living in Canadian provinces with fewer restrictions on e-cigarette marketing were not only more likely to say they saw ads for the products, but were also more likely to report having vaped in the previous month, and 65% more likely to say they vaped in the week before the survey

WEEKEND READING

<u>CNN</u>: This town of 170,000 replaced some cops with medics and mental health workers. It's worked for over 30 years

STAT: Structural Racism Is Why I am Leaving Organized Psychiatry

STAT: 'It just weighs on your psyche': Black Americans on mental health, trauma, and resilience

U.S NEWS: Will the Covid-19 Pandemic Leave a Mental Health Crisis in Its Wake

THE ATLANTIC: This Is Not a Normal Mental-Health Disaster

USA TODAY: COVID-19 triggers mental health concerns in workplace: Ask HR

HEALTHLINE: How Barbers Are Stepping Up for Black Men and Mental Health

EDUCATION DIVE: Students May Need Extra Social Emotional Support When They Return to the Classroom

The information in this email was compiled from various news sources including: Axios, CQ Roll Call, Politico, The Hill, Vox, Modern Healthcare, and STAT