

Addiction Medicine Advocacy Highlights

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THE ASAM ADVOCATE

ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



NATIONAL

HHS Announces Enhanced Provider Portal, Relief Fund Payments for Safety Net Hospitals, Medicaid & CHIP Providers

On June 9, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), announced additional distributions from the Provider Relief Fund to eligible Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) providers. HHS expects to distribute approximately \$15 billion to eligible providers that participate in state Medicaid and CHIP programs and have not received a payment from the Provider Relief Fund General Allocation.

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HHS Awards \$20.3 Million to Expand the Addiction Workforce in Underserved Communities

On June 2, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded \$20.3 million to 44 recipients for the

expansion of accredited addiction medicine and addiction psychiatry fellowship programs across the country. Funding for this program for Fiscal Year 2020 was a top appropriations priority for ASAM.

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ASAM Continues to Press for Passage of the Bipartisan Medicaid Reentry Act

In this recent opinion piece, ASAM members, Dr. Elizabeth Salisbury- Afshar and Dr. Kelly King, give compelling reasons as to why Congress should pass the Medicaid Reentry Act. The Medicaid Reentry Act would allow Medicaid payment for medical services furnished to an incarcerated individual during the 30-day period preceding the individual's release.

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STATE

New Oklahoma Law Will Require Mental Health and Addiction Parity

On May 19, Governor Kevin Stitt (R-OK) signed legislation requiring health insurers to follow federal parity law with respect to the coverage of mental health and substance use disorders.

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NJSAM Provides Comments on Legislation Governing Residential Aftercare Facilities

The New Jersey Society of Addiction Medicine provided comments on NJ A4084. The bill would, among other things, explicitly grant licensing and regulatory authority over New Jersey residential aftercare facilities to the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

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HAPPENINGS ON THE GROUND

ASAM Board Member, Ilse R. Levin, D.O., M.P.H. & T.M., Elected to the AMA's Board of Trustees



On June 7, ASAM Board Member, Dr. Ilse Levin, was elected to the Board of Trustees of the American Medical Association (AMA). The AMA is the nation's largest physician organization. Dr. Levin has been serving as chair of ASAM's delegation to the AMA.

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O'Neill Institute Addiction and Public Policy Initiative Summer Series

The O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law of Georgetown University Law Center will host a summer series virtual roundtable beginning June 10th extending to July 2020. The virtual roundtable will discuss the challenges, opportunities, and practices in implementing medication-based treatment within correctional facilities. ASAM Advocacy and Government Relations Staff will attend.

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ADVOCACY MEMBER VOICES

Opioid-Addiction Treatment Is Limited by Shortage of Authorized Doctors

The Wall Street Journal's Ted Alcorn interviews Dr. Galbis-Reig, president of the Wisconsin Society of Addiction Medicine, about the shortage of doctors authorized to prescribe buprenorphine for the treatment of opioid use disorder and the impact on patients.

Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

ASAM Immediate Past President, Dr. Kelly Clark, participated in a virtual National Academy of Medicine symposium along with numerous other ASAM members, including Dr. Margaret Jarvis, Dr. Corey Waller, Dr. Dan Alford, and Dr. Elizabeth Salisbury-Afshar. The symposium highlighted various presentations with the goal of fostering coordination and collaboration in combating the current opioid addiction crisis.

ADDICTION POLICY IN THE NEWS

A Message from the Director on Racially Motivated Violence

Nora D. Volkow, M.D., NIDA, Nora's Blog

Coronavirus Disease 2019 and Opioid Use—A Pandemic Within an Epidemic

Stephanie Slat, BS; Jennifer Thomas, BA; Pooja Lagisetty, MD, MSc, JAMA Network Health Forum

Mental Health Crisis Puts Everyone On The Front Lines

Representative David Trone, The Hill

Virginia Governor Signs Bill Decriminalizing Marijuana Possession

Veronica Stracqualursi, CNN

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



#Today, through #HRSA, @HHSgov provided \$20.3 million to increase the number of #addiction fellows to treat #opioid and other #substanceuse disorders (#SUD) during the #COVID19 pandemic. #LearnMore: bit.ly/2zKNm43



- Help ASAM thank HRSA and HHS for awarding \$20.3 million to expand addiction medicine and addiction psychiatry fellowship programs across the country, by retweeting **this tweet** and commenting "Thank You":

The American Society of Addiction Medicine
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