

This month's *Journal on Head Trauma Rehabilitation* features intimate partner violence and brain injury. Read further for more information in this week's *Washington Weekly*.



**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF STATE HEAD INJURY
ADMINISTRATORS**

Washington Weekly!

by the National Association of State Head Injury Administrators

January 7, 2022

Administration News

HHS Reminds Americans that the Deadline for Open Enrollment is Approaching

The deadline for Open Enrollment Year 9 (OE9) is next Saturday, January 15, 2022, for getting coverage for 2022 in most States. This includes consumers who were automatically reenrolled in a plan, but have found that the plan does not meet their needs or if they want to see what options are available. These consumers can still change their plan by next Saturday and have their new coverage begin Feb. 1. So far, over 13.6 million people have enrolled in coverage through [healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or on a State-based marketplace.

CMS is Promoting Medicaid Access for People with Mental Health and SUD Crises

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), is working with States to promote access to Medicaid services for people with mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) crises. States have a new option for supporting community-based mobile crisis intervention services for individuals with Medicaid. This new option will help States integrate these services into their Medicaid programs and offers flexibility for States to design programs that work for their communities.

The new Medicaid option requires that crisis response teams include one qualified behavioral health care professional who is able to provide an assessment within scope of practice requirements under State law. States can add other professionals and paraprofessionals with expertise in substance use and/or mental health crisis response. The teams are tasked with providing screening and assessment, stabilization and de-escalation, and coordination with and referrals to health, social and other services, as needed. To access the Medicaid guidance, visit [here](#).

NCAPPS Opens Applications for 2 New Learning Collaboratives

The National Center on Advancing Person-Centered Practices and Systems (NCAPPS) has announced that applications for two new Learning Collaboratives are open: [The Beyond Compliance Learning Collaborative](#) and the [Self-Direction Learning Collaborative](#). Access the application for The Beyond Compliance Learning Collaborative [here](#) and the application for the Self-Direction Learning Collaborative [here](#). If you have any questions or problems with accessing applications, email ncapps@hsri.org.

Federal Grants

CDC Solicits Research on Strategies for Preventing Overdose through Linking People to Recovery Support Services

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC) is soliciting investigator-initiated research that will support the identification and rigorous evaluation of effective strategies that link people in recovery for illicit substance use disorders to at least one evidence-based recovery and support service available within their community, and, if needed, re-link people to such services following resumption of illicit substance use. Research is needed to evaluate strategies that are tailored to the individual to increase recovery capital and maintain recovery, or initiate return to care, among people with illicit substance use disorders through linkage to programs and services that help support recovery over time. NCIPC intends support of up to five recipients for three years at up to \$750,000 per award per year. Read this NOVO (RFA-CE-22-101 [here](#)). Applications are due by March 14, 2022.

HHS Announces Funding to Increase Public Health Workforce in Rural and Tribal Communities

Before Christmas, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), through the Health Resources and Services Administration's (HRSA) Federal Office of Rural Health Policy, announced the availability of nearly \$48 million in American Rescue Plan funding for community-based organizations to expand public health capacity in rural and tribal communities through health care job development, training, and placement. Applicants can begin the application process on Grants.gov and apply by Friday, March 18, 2022 at 11:59pm (ET). Visit this [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#) for more information.

Reports and Resources

JHTR Focuses 1st 2022 Issue on Intimate Partner Violence and Brain Injury

The first issue of 2022 of The Journal on Head Trauma Rehabilitation is devoted to intimate partner violence and brain injury. Included in the journal is the article, "How CARE Tools Are Being Used to Address Brain Injury and Mental Health Struggles with Survivors of Domestic Violence." In 2016, the Ohio Domestic Violence Network (ODVN) secured a 3-year federal grant to raise the capacity of domestic violence service organizations (DVSOs) to serve survivors with brain injury and unmet mental health needs. Needs assessment activities with DVSO providers and survivors accessing services, conducted in 2017, led to their discovery of a discrepancy between providers' perception of the potential impact of brain injury on survivors' ability to access advocacy services and the pervasive exposure to incidents of head trauma, including strangulation, that can cause brain injury and comorbid mental health concerns among the population. Limited access to training and tools to address TBI and strangulation is one cause of the lack of awareness. Read the article [here](#).

NIH Doctor Publishes Article on Next Phase of BRAIN Initiative Research

On January 6, Dr. John Ngai, Director of the NIH [Brain Research Through Advancing Innovative Neurotechnologies \(BRAIN\)® Initiative](#), published a [Leading Edge](#) commentary in *Cell* about the next phase of BRAIN Initiative research. In the article, Dr. Ngai outlines a vision for how three new large-scale projects — a comprehensive brain cell atlas, a whole mammalian brain microconnectivity map, and tools for precision access to brain cell types — promise to change how we view our body's most complex organ and how we approach and develop cures for brain diseases.

Center for Health Care Reports on State Strategies to Strengthen the Direct Care Workforce

The Center for Health Care features a [scan](#) that highlights examples of strategies in 11 States — Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, Tennessee, Washington State, and Wisconsin — aimed at strengthening the direct care workforce through legislation, American Rescue Plan Act funding, and training. The scan is part of a report, [Forging a Path Forward to Strengthen Michigan's Direct Care Workforce](#), developed for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports with funding from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund. However, information in this report can apply to any State interested in strengthening the direct care workforce.

ARCH Publishes New Guidelines for Families Receiving Respite Care

The ARCH National Respite Network and Resource Center has published new information and guidelines to assist families with careful and thoughtful decision making to ensure respite care is received as safely as possible during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. A Community Advisory Board (CAB), comprised of family caregivers and respite care recipients, reviewed the contents of these guidelines to help ensure the relevance of the information to family caregivers. [Read the Guidebook](#), "Receiving Respite Care Safely During the COVID-19 Pandemic: Guidelines for Families."

ODEP Publishes Brief on Access to FMLA for Workers with Disabilities

The U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) today published a brief on "Access to Paid Leave for Family and Medical Reasons Among Workers with Disabilities. Read the [brief](#) for more information.

Upcoming Conferences and Webinars

ARCH Announces Conference -- Save the Date!

ARCH National Respite Network has announced it is hosting the 2022 National Lifespan Respite Conference with the Respite Care Association of Wisconsin in Madison, WI, September 13-15, 2022. The theme is "Reimagine Respite!" The Call for the Presentations for the national conference is now open and the deadline to submit a proposal is March 1, 2022. Please visit the [website](#) for more information.

LEAD Center Offers Building Equity and Inclusion into Your WIOA State Plan Two-Part Webinar Series

The LEAD Center will host a two-part webinar series on "Building Equity and Inclusion in Your WIOA State Plan." The series will focus on updating States' Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act four-year plans to ensure the public workforce system serves everyone, including people with disabilities. It will examine practices for building equity and inclusion in two critical areas: system coordination and alignment and collecting, sharing and reporting data that benefit individuals, communities and policies. Part 1, on January 11 from 3:00-4:00pm (ET), will feature Carol Rogers from Indiana University and Jessica Cunningham from Kentucky Center for Statistics. Part 2, on January 19 from 3:00-4:00 pm (ET), will feature Lisa D. Jones from Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity and Lauren Gilwee from Maryland Department of Labor. Register for Part 1 and 2 [here](#).

Center Offers Free Webinar on Medicare Coverage for Home Health Services

The Center for Medicare Advocacy is offering a free webinar Jan. 12, 2022, 1:00- 2:00pm (CST): [Medicare Coverage of Home Health Services](#). Medicare's home health benefit offers coverage of a range of services for beneficiaries who qualify, but the benefit is often misunderstood. This webinar by the Center for Medicare Advocacy will review the services the Medicare home health benefit covers, including skilled nursing; physical, occupational, and speech therapy; medical social services; and home health aides. The webinar will also discuss current challenges and possible strategies for beneficiaries who are trying to access or maintain home health services, especially if they have longer-term, chronic conditions. There will be an opportunity for questions for Center for Medicare Advocacy staff members. Register [here](#). [Registration \(gotowebinar.com\)](#).

Visit our website

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The National Association of State Head Injury Administrators assists State government
in promoting partnerships and building systems
to meet the needs of individuals with brain injuries and their families.

Support States. Grow Leaders. Connect Partners.



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