

Issue 51
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CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE ON ADDICTION

ADDICTION ROUND UP

The Addiction Round Up is a monthly newsletter providing current information and research related to alcohol and other drugs.



WE CAN HELP

Center for Excellence on Addiction

The Center for Excellence on Addiction is available to assist with a variety of needs related to alcohol and other drugs. If you or your organization are interested in receiving expert consultation, technical assistance, and/or training, please complete this [request form](#).

Updates from The Partnership

Youth vaping is a growing challenge—and schools are key to the solution. Join **Marisa Katz** (Public Health Law Center) and **Jessica Morton** (NH Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Program) for a practical session on adopting and implementing the [Tobacco-Free Model School Policy](#) for K–12.



Learn how to create policies that support students, reduce suspensions, and prioritize learning. We'll cover policy essentials, evidence-based enforcement strategies, how to handle confiscated vaping products, and tools like the [More Good Mornings](#) youth campaign.



ADDICTION
UPDATES

NH Opioid Abatement Trust Fund & Advisory Commission

All 10 counties in New Hampshire plus Belmont, Berlin, Claremont, Concord, Derry, Dover, Franklin, Keene, Laconia, Londonderry, Manchester, Nashua, and Rochester receive a share of opioid abatement trust funds that they can use to address the opioid crisis's impact on their community. RSA 126-A:86 defines the use of these funds for opioid abatement projects. Yearly reports on opioid funds spending are available the Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission's [website](#). Any questions about how your area is using this money and/or about available funding, should be directed to your local government.

Scholarship Opportunities to Attend the New England School of Best Practices

Multiple scholarships are available to attend the [New England School of Best Practices](#) which is held virtually from August 25-29th. [Scholarships](#) are available for individuals living in New Hampshire and current NHADACA members. The five-day event includes virtual courses for addiction and behavioral health professionals.

Virtual Peer Collaboration Groups are Available

Check out available [Peer Collaboration Groups](#) through NHADACA to discuss various topics related to your work.



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

The Partnership @drugfreeNH

[The Partnership @drugfreeNH](#) is a public-private collaboration between the NH Department of Health and Human Services' Bureau of Drug and Alcohol Services, the NH Governor's Commission on Alcohol & Other Drugs, the NH Charitable Foundation, and the NH Center for Excellence on Addiction/JSI. The Partnership envisions a New Hampshire where individuals have the information and skills they need to make and support healthy decisions around alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. By fostering community engagement and sharing thoughtfully crafted prevention messaging, The Partnership promotes coordinated communication to reduce substance misuse and strengthen protective factors.

With a focus on prevention, education, and local engagement, the Partnership highlights local voices, resources, and solutions, and expert insights on the issues shaping prevention in The Partnership highlights local voices. Recent initiatives include the inaugural [NH Prevention Conference](#) and conversations on [health literacy](#) and [compassion-based education](#).

DrugFreeNH brings a range of perspectives to the forefront. New blogs, podcast episodes, and educational materials are added regularly to spark dialogue and support healthier communities statewide.

Visit [drugfreenh.org](#) to explore the latest work, [sign up for our newsletter](#), and [register for our June convening](#) (June 6th) to stay engaged.



YOUR RESOURCE CONNECTION

We Are Here Video Project

The University of New Hampshire has developed the "We Are Here" Video project with the Institute on Disability, the Endowment for Health, and community members. The videos aim to share the stories of New Hampshire patients who struggled to access culturally competent behavioral health care and share strategies for increasing system capacity. The video series and the project report are available on their [website](#).

Estimates of Illicit Opioid Use in the US

This [national survey](#), supported by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), conducted in June 2024, reported higher adult illicit opioid use and illicitly manufactured fentanyl (IMF) use than previously reported estimates. The report also includes information on the type of opioid use at first use and self-reported likelihood of an opioid-related overdose.

Behind the Numbers: Making Sense of Trends in the Drug Supply and Overdose Rates

This [webinar recording](#), from Dr. Nabarun Dasgupta at the University of North Carolina and Dr.

Mary Maddux-Gonzalez, explores why new synthetic drugs enter the drug supply and their impact on recent overdose trends. The presentation slides are also available for download.

Meaningfully Engaging People with Lived Experience in Behavioral Health Reform: A Guide for States

This [guide](#), developed by the Center for Health Care Strategies, describes how to engage individuals with lived experience in policy and program design related to behavioral health system reform. The guide provides a framework for engagement through defining meaningful engagement, describing the importance of trust, and addressing common challenges.

Money set aside to help NH's opioid crisis could be steered elsewhere in the state budget

This [article](#) from New Hampshire Public Radio describes uses and concerns related to New Hampshire's Opioid Abatement Trust Fund, which is dedicated to opioid treatment, prevention, and recovery services. The redirection of Opioid Abatement Trust Funds could result in substance misuse programing cuts across the state.

Coverage of Selected Behavioral Health Services Among Older Medicare and Medicaid Beneficiaries

This [report](#) from SAMHSA analyzed 5-year utilization trends of various mental health and substance use screenings or medications among older adults in the United States. The data includes Medicare and Medicaid claims from 2017-2021 related to depression, suicide risk, Substance Use Disorder (SUD), and cognitive impairment screenings among other services.



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR**



Psychological First Aid for Law Enforcement & First Responders

This in-person [training](#) adapts the standard Psychological First Aid (PFA) training to the needs of law enforcement personnel and first responders. The training aims to help individuals reduce distress and provide community support after potentially traumatic events.



CSP Lunch & Learn: Autism spectrum disorders, co-occurring conditions, and substance misuse

This virtual [event](#) aims to provide foundational information related to autism spectrum disorder and explore co-occurring substance use or mental health conditions.



Youth Mental Health First Aid

This in-person [event](#) aims to complement a two-hour online course related to Youth Mental Health First Aid. The course instructs adults on recognizing signs of potential mental health challenges, providing reassurance, and referring youth to appropriate professional care. The course will also cover applying the Youth Mental Health First Aid Action Plan (ALGEE) steps in crisis and non-crisis situations.



Ethical and Practical Considerations for Recovery Support Workers in a Variety of Clinical and Non-Clinical Settings

This in-person [workshop](#) will discuss ethical considerations for Recovery Support Workers. Participants will learn about the professional expectations, treatment and recovery approaches, and boundary requirements across delivery settings.



Connect Suicide Prevention for Behavioral Health Clinicians

This virtual [training](#) provides foundational knowledge on the Connect Suicide Prevention Program, which uses evidence-based techniques to identify and assess suicide risk. Participants will also learn about lethal means reduction,

care transitions, and other intervention strategies.

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