Welcome to 2019 NAMI National Convention

Federal Legislative Briefing and NAMI Policy Priorities
Overview

• NAMI Public Policy Framework
• Federal Legislative Updates
• Federal Policy Updates
Our Movement. Our Moment.

#NAMICON19

Promote Innovation

Improve Care

Support Recovery
Promote Innovation

• Accelerate research
• Reinvent systems
• Integrate services
Improve Care

- Intervene early
- Expand coverage
- Ensure access
- Demand quality and outcomes
Support Recovery

• Divert from justice involvement
• Foster community inclusion
• Support peers and caregivers
Mental Health Agenda in the 116th Congress

- ACA stabilization
- Parity enforcement
- Prescription drug pricing
- Appropriations
- Veterans Mental Health
ACA Market Stabilization

• Major shift in status of the ACA after the 2018 midterm elections

• May 16, House passed 243-183 the Strengthening Health Care and Lowering Prescription Drug Costs Act (HR 987)
  • Repeals the Trump Administration’s Short Term Limited Duration Policy rule
  • $200 million for state Exchanges
  • $100 million for “Navigators”
  • 3 separate bills to speed approval and market access for generic drugs
Parity Compliance and Enforcement

• MHPAEA has been a major success in eradicating “quantitative” treatment limitations, but less so with “NQTLs”
• Congressional efforts
Prescription Drug Pricing

- “Blueprint” drug pricing proposals
- Bipartisan efforts to expand and accelerate generic alternatives
- CREATES Act and limiting “pay for delay”
Appropriations - NAMI Priorities

- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
- Veterans Administration (VA)
- Justice Department (DoJ)
Appropriations – NIMH

- FY 2019
  - $101 million increase
  - BRAIN Initiative - $29 million increase for FY 2019
- FY 2020 House bill boosts NIMH funding by an additional $79 million, up to $1.892 billion
Appropriations – SAMHSA

• FY 2019
  • $722.6 million for the Mental Health Block Grant
  • $150 million increase for the Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers

• FY 2020
  • House bill includes includes additional $755.6 for the MH Block Grant - $35 million increase for a new 5% set aside crisis intervention.
Appropriations – HUD

• **Section 811:**
  - $229.6 million
  - FY 2020 House bill increases funding by $74 million

• **McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance** - $99 million increase for FY 2019, up to $2.612 billion
Appropriations – VA

• FY 2019
  • Mental Health Funding and Suicide Prevention received $8.6 billion
    • $206 million for suicide prevention outreach,
  • VA Medical and Prosthetic Research received $779 million, a $57 million increase;
  • $1.25 billion to pay for the Veterans Choice Program for FY2019.
Appropriations – DoJ

Second Chance Act
- $87.5 million in FY 19
- $106.5 million in Proposed FY 20

Justice Reinvestment Initiative
- $27 million in FY 19
- $35 million in FY 20

Mentally Ill Offender Treatment and Crime Reduction Act
- $31 million in FY 19
- $35 million in FY 20
Veterans Mental Health

- Commander John Scott Hannon
  Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019 (S. 785)
- Introduced on March 13, 2019
- Named for NAMI-member & retired Navy SEAL
Federal Policy Updates

• Medicare 6 protected classes
• Medicaid IMD demonstration
• Medicaid work requirements
• Food Stamps
• Housing
• Veterans Affairs
Medicare Part D

• Existing policy requires Part D plans to cover “all or substantially all” of the medications in 6 protected classes
• In November 2018, HHS proposed to weaken those protections
• NAMI fought back
• Final rule issued on May 16 maintains current policy.
Medicaid IMD Waiver

• New guidance from CMS
• Pay for short-term inpatient treatment services in an “institution for mental disease (IMD)"
• States must apply
Medicaid Work Requirements

- New federal guidance
- Lets states take away Medicaid coverage without proof of work
- Approved in 9 states
- Court invalidated in 2 states
- Pending or being discussed in a dozen other states

If you aren’t working, we can’t help anymore.
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or “Food Stamps”

- In March, USDA proposed changes to limit access to SNAP
- Limit states ability to request waivers to suspend a 3-month limit on benefits
- Proposal would take away SNAP benefits from over 750,000 low-income Americans
Housing

• In May, HUD published a proposal to make changes to verify citizenship for public housing recipients.
• Could mean 55,000 children become homeless
Veterans Affairs

- Implementation of the VA Mission Act
- In February, VA proposed Veterans Community Care Program rules
- In March, Executive Order for a “National Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End Suicide”
Take Action &
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https://www.nami.org/Advocacy
Questions?

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• asperling@nami.org
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