



## **CITY, COUNTY, AND STATE NEWS**

**MO: [Missouri Legislature Sends Opioid Monitoring Program To Governor:](#)** Missouri is set to shed its distinction as the only state without a statewide program to track opioid prescriptions. The state House voted 91-64 Tuesday to adopt a prescription drug monitoring program. By January 2024, all health care providers who are legally able to prescribe opioids such as oxycodone will have to enter that information into a database in real time. The intent is to keep people with substance use disorder from going to multiple providers. The Senate already approved the program, and Gov. Mike Parson is expected to sign it into law.

**MADISON COUNTY, NY: [Madison County announces Mental Health Task Force:](#)** Madison County Chairman John Becker has put together a Mental Health Task Force to address the rise in mental health issues in the community. The group will be developing a comprehensive mental-health-needs assessment to determine the community's priority issues. The goal is to develop short-term, mid-range, and long-term goals to assist with the development of needed programs and services. "The COVID-19 pandemic has made it apparent that we are combating a second pandemic here in Madison County, that of mental health," Becker said.

**MADISON, WI: [Annual State of the Tribes Address puts focus on the need for mental health services:](#)** Lawmakers in Madison spent Tuesday afternoon learning about the biggest issues affecting Wisconsin's 11 federally recognized tribal nations. During his address Tuesday, the president of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, John Johnson, Sr., made a point of asking lawmakers to invest in one big resource, especially as they craft the next state budget. As many places across Wisconsin deal with growing drug problems, Johnson referred to what many tribes deal with as a challenge wrapped in the pandemic. "Drugs are killing people in northern Wisconsin and across the country," Johnson said. "Drugs don't discriminate." Abuse of prescription drugs and illegal substances aren't the only growing issues though. "I would be remised if I didn't mention the recent shooting that continues to impact the lives of our Oneida tribal members," Johnson said. In the wake of the recent deadly shooting on Oneida Nation casino grounds, Johnson called for funding a mental health and treatment facility in northern Wisconsin. "This only reinforces the need for expanding mental and behavioral health services," Johnson told lawmakers.

**NASHVILLE, TN: [Nashville police, mental health experts to respond to some 911 calls together in new pilot program:](#)** The Metro Nashville Police Department will begin a mental health co-response pilot program June 28 in the department's North Precinct and Hermitage Precincts, police spokesman Don Aaron said. The department has eight precincts altogether. The new approach involves mental health experts and police officers responding simultaneously to

911 emergencies involving people with mental health issues. The initiative will be based on a Denver model and comes in the wake of at least three Nashville police shootings this year involving people suffering from mental health issues — two of which took place since May 1.

**ONONDAGA COUNTY, NY:** [All Onondaga County school districts will have mental health clinics next fall:](#) Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon is now pledging \$17 million dollars to set up mental health clinics and provide more specialists in any district that needs them. He says he's heard from every district in the county. Earlier this month at one of his press briefings, we asked McMahon about the need.

## **NATIONAL**

### **House moderates signal concerns with Pelosi drug pricing bill**

A group of 10 moderate House Democrats is signaling concerns with Speaker Nancy Pelosi's (D-Calif.) signature legislation to lower prescription drug prices, raising further doubts about the legislation's path forward. Their letter to Pelosi calls for a drug pricing measure to be bipartisan and to "preserve our invaluable innovation ecosystem," pointing to concerns that a bill could hurt drug companies' ability to develop new drugs. "We must garner bipartisan, bicameral support, with buy-in from a majority of Americans and stakeholders in the public and private sectors," states the letter, sent earlier this month and obtained by The Hill. "If this pandemic has taught us anything, it's that we all, truly, must be in this together." Pelosi's H.R. 3 legislation, which would allow the secretary of Health and Human Services to negotiate lower drug prices and cap prices based on prices paid in other countries, received only two Republican votes when it passed the House in 2019, and is fiercely opposed by the pharmaceutical industry.

## **WEEKEND READING**

**CNN:** The Covid pandemic is highlighting men's mental health and how they can seek help

**The Hill:** In honor of Mother's Day, lawmakers should pass the Momnibus Act

**NPR:** Opioid Crisis: Filmmaker Details The Medical System's 'Crime Of The Century'

**Yale School of Medicine:** Make Harm Reduction Federal Health Policy Now, Says Yale Experts

**Time:** Suicide Among Black Girls Is a Mental Health Crisis Hiding in Plain Sight

**The Gaurdian:** US states oppose 'unjust' plan to shield Sackler wealth in opioid settlement

**USA Today:** What is languishing? Alonely? A mental health glossary to explain what you're feeling

**\*\*The information compiled in this email originated from the following news sources:  
NPR, Spectrum News, The Tennessean, The Hill, CNYCentral \*\***