

TOWNHALL Q&A

———— with ————
Chuck Ingoglia

Joe Parks

Reyna Taylor

Linda Henderson-Smith

A blue microphone on a stand is positioned on the left side of the slide, angled upwards. The background features a dark blue geometric pattern of overlapping triangles.
NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

COVID-19 Information & Resources Directory

<https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/covid19/>

A dark blue banner with white and light blue text and graphics. The text reads "Resources for COVID-19". In the top right corner, it says "NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH". There are abstract light blue circular and line graphics on the left and right sides.

Resources for COVID-19

NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- **Goal:** Help members during COVID-19 by creating a regularly updated repository of internal and external resources.
 - Deliver the latest COVID-19 news
 - Connect providers with new tools and resources
 - Share available learning opportunities

First-ever Hill Day at Home and Virtual Policy Institute

NATIONAL COUNCIL
FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

TUESDAY,
JUNE 23

HILL
DAY



LEARN TODAY.

TOMORROW TAKE ACTION.

[Register Today](#)

Tuesday, June 23, 12 – 4 PM ET

- Matt Salo, Executive Director, National Association of Medicaid Directors
- Director Jim Carroll, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy
- Representative David Trone (D-MD)
- Senator John Cornyn (R-TX)
- Breakouts on telehealth, parity and health inequity

Wednesday, June 24

- Series of digital advocacy events
- Film Screening, Panel 2:00 – 3:30 PM ET

Office Hours: Thursday, June 11 from 1-2 p.m. ET



Health Equity and COVID-19 - Promoting Organizational and Self-care Strategies for African Americans

Join us to discuss the ways allies can create courageous spaces to support African American staff and colleagues and how to build in organizational training and support mechanisms to establish responsive workplaces.

Tips for the Times

Show

Show empathy and be available:

Understand that employees are likely feeling overwhelmed / anxious about circumstances related to the virus AND the social unrest.

Communicate

Stay connected with communication and meeting tools:

Options like WebEx or Teams for regular check-ins and to allow individuals to connect with one another "face-to-face."

Recognize

Recognize the impacts of current events:

Be aware of significant changes in your team member's personality or work product, it may be a sign that a person is struggling.

Encourage

Encourage self-care:

This is a great time to encourage employees to take time to care for themselves.

Check in

Check in with Work Life Solutions services:

Include all relevant website links and phone numbers for both the Work Life Solutions and health plans in employee communication

COVID-19 Telehealth Flexibilities

- Wide-ranging authority given to states for Medicaid flexibilities
- Increased opportunities for certain providers to bill Medicare, including some audio-only services
- DEA has loosened some restrictions for prescribing via telehealth

What's Next?

- Collecting data from our members to inform policy recommendations
- Urging agencies to evaluate impact of policy changes to inform future direction
- Advocating for smooth ramp to transition back to in-person care following pandemic

Congressional Response Since Shutdown

- **CARES Act (COVID 3.0)**
 - Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)
 - Public Health and Social Services Emergency Relief Fund
 - \$425 million to SAMHSA
- **Paycheck Protection Program and Health Care Enhancement Act (COVID 3.5)**
 - \$484 billion in spending
 - Replenished the PPP and PHSSEF
 - No relief for PPP loans to nonprofits 500+
- **HEROES Act (House-passed COVID 4.0)**
 - \$3 trillion in spending
 - Further funds PHSSEF, PPP loans (extends PPP and adds flexibility)
 - \$3 billion to SAMHSA funding
- **Senate Action on COVID 4.0**
 - Has not taken up the HEROES Act
 - Preliminary discussions around PPP modifications

Public Health and Social Services Emergency Relief Fund

- HHS distributed funds from the \$175B, largely to providers who received Medicare fee-for-service payments in 2019 and 2018
- Tens of billions of dollars remain unallocated
 - June 3, 2020 – the Chairs and Ranking Members of the committees of jurisdiction sent a letter to the Secretary of HHS asking for a dedicated distribution to Medicaid-dependent providers
 - June 9, 2020 – HHS and HRSA announced \$25B for safety net providers, including \$15B for Medicaid and CHIP providers – National Council voiced strong objection to exclusions for providers that have received any Medicare funding

Our Advocacy Ask

\$38.5 billion to providers of mental health and substance use disorder services.

N NEWSWEEK MAGAZINE

The Mental Health Toll from the Coronavirus Could Rival that of the Disease Itself

BY ADAM PIORE ON 05/29/20 AT 5:30 AM EDT

THE HILL

US ill-prepared for coronavirus-fueled mental health crisis

BY JESSIE HELLMANN - 05/30/20 05:00 PM EDT

3,191 COMMENTS

PowerPost

Follow @powerpost

Get the Health 202 Newsletter

PowerPost • Analysis

The Health 202: Coronavirus could worsen the opioid abuse epidemic



By Paige Winfield Cunningham
May 11

MORNING CONSULT

OPINION

We Must Prepare for the Surge Behind the Curve

