NAMICon 2020
A Virtual Event • July 13-14
Together Toward Tomorrow
The View from D.C: NAMI’s Federal Legislative and Policy Update

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Presentation Overview

• Legislative Action in 2020
• Administrative Action in 2020
• 2020 Elections

Note: Content current as of June 24, 2020, we will provide updates when we move to the live part of the presentation
COVID-19 Relief Legislation

1. March 6 – CPRSA Act – $8.3 billion
2. March 18 – Families First – $3.5 billion
3. March 27 – CARES Act - $2 trillion
4. TBD
   - April 24 – House Passed HEROES Act - $3 trillion
   - Senate unlikely to act on HEROES Act
"Since the start of COVID-19, I've been slowly falling into depression more and more. And you can't just snap out of mental health issues. They are illnesses just like any other illness."

—NAMI member in Tennessee

ACT4MentalHealth

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NAMI Priorities - Next Package

- SAMHSA Block Grant
- FMAP Increase
- Medicaid Reentry Act
- Emergency Rental Assistance
- Provider Relief Fund
- Telehealth Flexibilities
9-8-8 Legislation

• *National Suicide Hotline Designation Act*

• Designate 9-8-8 the nationwide number for a suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline

• Passed the Senate

• Advocacy in the House
9-8-8 Legislation

During a crisis, every minute counts.

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FY 2021 Appropriations

• Labor, Health and Human Services (Labor-HHS)
• Military Construction, Veterans Affairs (Mil Con- VA)
• Transportation, Housing & Urban Development (T-HUD)
HHS Distribution of COVID-19 Provider Relief Funds

- $175 billion in Provider Relief Funds
- $15 billion for Medicaid and CHIP providers
- Mental health providers largely left out
COVID Telehealth Changes

- Widespread expansion of telehealth
- HIPAA adjustments
- Medicare allowed coverage for audio-only phone services same as in-person
- Advocacy to make changes permanent
Affordable Care Act – Legal Challenge

• Supreme Court will again rule on constitutionality
• Could have drastic implications
• House Bill

Doug Mills/The New York Times
Medicaid

• Block grant guidance issued

• Work requirements invalidated
Anti-Discrimination

• HHS rolls back anti-discrimination protections
• Supreme Court historic ruling on Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
2020 Elections: #Vote4MentalHealth
2020 Elections & Your Advocacy

• Vote4MentalHealth: Take the Pledge
  vote4mentalhealth.org

• Sign up for Advocacy Alerts
  www.nami.org/takeaction
Live Updates/Questions

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