SAMHSA 101

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation and to improve the lives of individuals living with mental and substance use disorders, and their families.

Vision

To provide leadership and resources – programs, policies, information and data, funding, and personnel – to advance mental and substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services in order to improve individual, community, and public health.

Mission

To reduce the impact of substance misuse and mental illness on America's communities.

SAMHSA Centers

Center for Mental Health Services

The Center for Mental Health Services leads federal efforts to promote the prevention and treatment of mental disorders. Congress created CMHS to bring new hope to adults who have serious mental illness and children with emotional disorders. (CMHS):

- Strengthens the Nation's mental health system by helping states improve and increase the quality and range of their treatment, rehabilitation, and support
- Makes it easier for people to access mental health programs
- Encourages a range of programs such as systems of care to respond to the increasing number of mental, emotional, and behavioral problems among America's children
- Supports outreach and case management programs for the thousands of Americans who are homeless and the improvement of these services
- Ensures that scientifically-established findings and practice-based knowledge are applied in preventing and treating mental disorders

https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/cmhs
**Center for Substance Abuse Prevention**

The mission of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention is to improve behavioral health through evidence-based prevention approaches. The Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) works with federal, state, public, and private organizations to develop comprehensive prevention systems by:

- Providing national leadership in the development of policies, programs, and services to prevent the onset of illegal drug use, prescription drug misuse and abuse, alcohol misuse and abuse, and underage alcohol and tobacco use
- Promoting effective substance abuse prevention practices that enable states, communities, and other organizations to apply prevention knowledge effectively

As a result of its efforts, CSAP's work creates:

- Supportive workplaces, schools, and communities
- Drug-free and crime-free neighborhoods
- Positive connections with friends and family

[https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/csap](https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/csap)

**Center for Substance Abuse Treatment**

The mission of the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment is to promote community-based substance abuse treatment and recovery services for individuals and families in every community. CSAT provides national leadership to improve access, reduce barriers, and promote high quality, effective treatment and recovery services. The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT):

- Works to close the gap between available treatment capacity and demand
- Supports the adaptation and adoption of evidence-based and best practices by community-based treatment programs and services
- Improves and strengthens substance abuse treatment organizations and systems

CSAT's work supports:

- States and community-based groups to improve and expand existing substance abuse treatment services under the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Program
- SAMHSA's free treatment referral service that connects people with substance abuse services in their community

[https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/csat](https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/csat)

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**Behavioral Health is Essential to Health • Prevention Works • Treatment is Effective • People Recover**
**Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality**

The Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality is the government’s lead agency for behavioral health statistics, as designated by the Office of Management and Budget. The Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (CBHSQ):

- Provides national leadership in behavioral health statistics and epidemiology
- Promotes basic and applied research in behavioral health data systems and statistical methodology
- Designs and carries out special data collection and analytic projects to examine issues for SAMHSA and other federal agencies
- Participates with other federal agencies in developing national health statistics policy
- Consults and advises SAMHSA’s Administrator and the Department of Health and Human Services' Secretary on statistical matters

[https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/cbhsq](https://www.samhsa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/offices-centers/cbhsq)
SAMHSA Regions and Regional Administrators

- **Region 1**: (No Regional Administrators)
  Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont

- **Region 2**: Dennis O. Romero, M.A
  New Jersey, New York, Puerto Rico, and Virgin Islands

- **Region 3**: Jean Bennett, Ph.D.
  Delaware, The District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia

- **Region 4**: Captain Michael King, Ph.D., MSW
  Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee

- **Region 5**: Captain Jeffery Coady, Psy.D. ABPP
  Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin

- **Region 6**: Commander Karen Hearod, LSCW
  Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas

- **Region 7**: Kimberly Nelson, LAC, MPA
  Kansas, Iowa, Missouri, and Nebraska

- **Region 8**: Charles Smith, Ph.D.
  Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming

- **Region 9**: Emily Williams, LCSW-PIP,BCD
  Arizona, California, Hawaii, Guam, Nevada American Samoa, CNMI, FSM, Marshall Islands, and Palau

- **Region 10**: David Dickinson, M.A
  Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington