



COVID-19 Behavioral Health Task Force

April 22, 2022

COVID-19 Behavioral Health Task Force Agenda

- Welcome: Dr. Sara Salek
- Arizona Department of Health Services Update: Liam Hicks (10 min)
- Justice Reinvestment Funds/Prop 207: Siman Qasim, MBA (10 min)
- AHCCCS Update: (30 min)
 - Maternal Mental Health Advisory Committee Updates: Dr. Salek
 - Telehealth Updates: Dr. Salek
 - Grant Updates: Hazel Alvarenga
 - Office of Individual and Family Affairs (OIFA) Updates: Susan Kennard
- Task Force Discussion: All
- Questions, Open Discussion & Wrap-Up: All

Arizona Department of Health Services Update

Liam Hicks, MPH

Vaccine-Preventable Disease Epidemiologist
Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

<https://www.azdhs.gov/covid19/index.php>

Proposition 207 Smart and Safe Arizona Act

Justice Reinvestment Program

Siman Qaasim, MBA
Health Equity Administrator
Office of Health Equity
Arizona Department of Health Services

Proposition 207
Smart and Safe Arizona Act
Justice Reinvestment Program



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Quick Facts

- Passed by Arizona voters November 2020
- Allows legalization, taxation, and recreational use of marijuana for adults 21 and over
- Justice Reinvestment Fund monies awarded to Local Health Departments and ADHS for *justice reinvestment programs*



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A.R.S. 36-2863.

Justice reinvestment fund; exemption; distribution; definition¹

C. On or before June 30 and December 31 of each year, the state treasurer shall transfer all monies in the justice reinvestment fund in excess of the amounts paid pursuant to subsection B of this section as follows:

1. Thirty-five percent to **county public health departments**, in proportion to the population of each county according to the most recent United States decennial census, for the purpose of providing justice reinvestment programs or distributing grants to qualified nonprofit organizations to provide justice reinvestment programs in that county.
2. Thirty-five percent to the **department** for the purpose of distributing grants to qualified nonprofit organizations that provide justice reinvestment programs in this state.
3. Thirty percent to the **department** for the purpose of addressing important public health issues that affect this state.



Justice Reinvestment Programs ¹

Justice Reinvestment Programs means initiatives or programs that focus on any of the following:

1. Public and behavioral health, including evidence-based and evidence-informed substance use prevention and treatment and substance use early intervention services.
2. Restorative justice, jail diversion, workforce development, industry-specific technical assistance or mentoring services for economically disadvantaged persons in communities disproportionately impacted by high rates of arrest and incarceration.
3. Addressing the underlying causes of crime, reducing drug-related arrests and reducing the prison population in this state.
4. Creating or developing technology and programs to assist with the restoration of civil rights and the expungement of criminal records.



Justice Reinvestment Program planning

Identified Social Equity Licensure Program eligibility zip codes

Hired a coordinator

Met with stakeholders from:

Youth and foster serving organizations

Legal aid groups and the ACLU of Arizona

Latino Coalition for Community Leadership (Colorado WAGEES Program)

Substance Treatment providers (BCBS)

African American Community

Re-entry organizations



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Next Steps



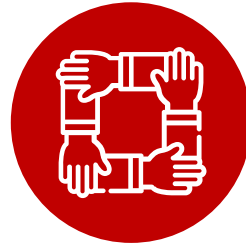
Data gathering

Identify communities experiencing high rates of arrest and incarceration



Funding Landscape

Understand the current funding landscape in Arizona



Community Input

Planning to hold a series of statewide community listening sessions



Program Evaluation

Develop a robust program evaluation process



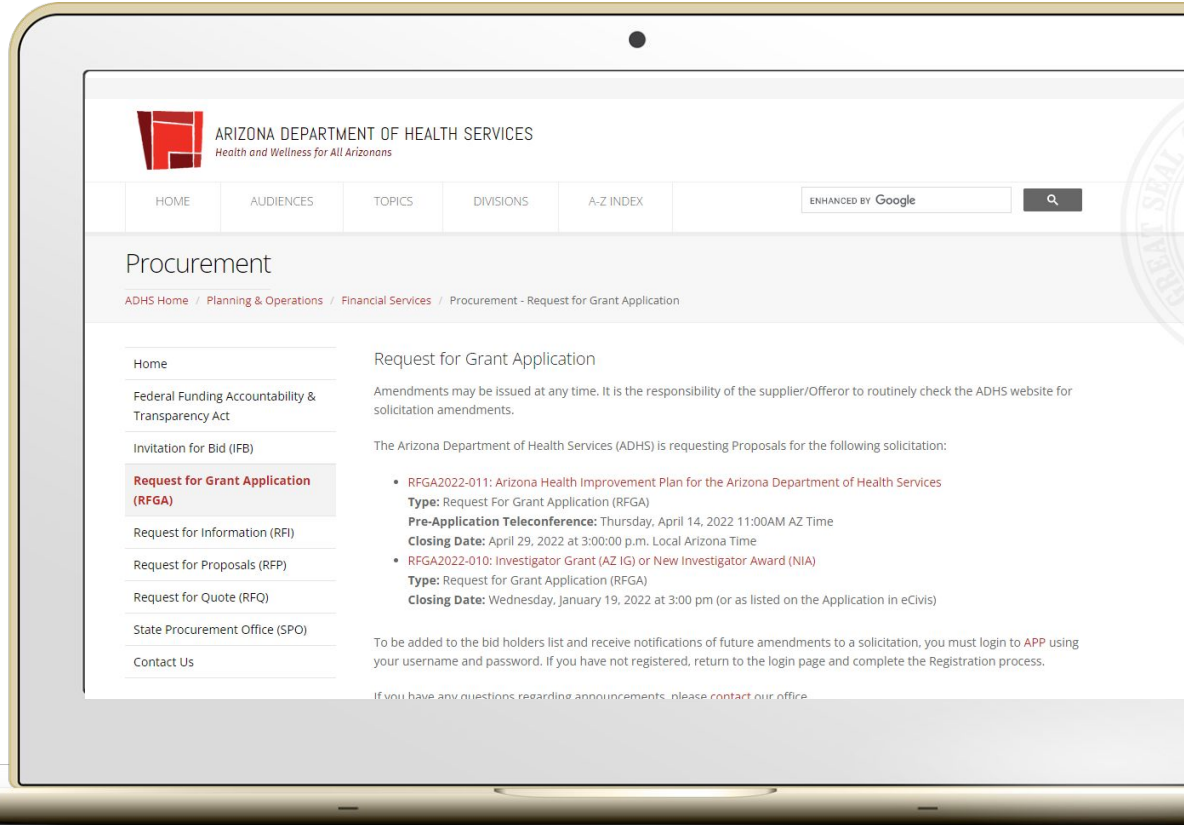
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Looking Forward

Develop & release a Request for Grant Application (RFGA)

*Announcement made public on our website



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We want to hear your voice!

Ways to engage:
will you be willing to be contacted by
our external evaluator?
Host a listening session?



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Contact Information

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AHCCCS Update

Maternal Mental Health Advisory Committee Updates

Dr. Salek Salek
Chief Medical Officer
AHCCCS

Maternal Mental Health Advisory Committee

- Recommend improvements for screening and treating maternal mental health disorders
- On or before December 31, 2022, the advisory committee shall submit a report with recommendations concerning improvements for screening and treating maternal mental health disorders
- Advisory Committee terminates on June 30, 2023

<https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/CommitteesAndWorkgroups/maternalmentalhealthcommittee.html>

Telehealth Updates

Dr. Salek Salek

AMPM 320-I Telehealth Updates

- Reason for changes: Incorporation of changes to align with HB2454 and adaptation based on flexibilities offered during pandemic
- Highlights of proposed changes
 - Addition of E-Consults
 - Pay parity for telemedicine with in-person for all service types
 - Pay parity for audio-only with in-person for behavioral health services
 - Contractor may not limit or deny the coverage of services provided through telehealth and may apply only the same limits or exclusions on a service provided through telehealth that are applicable to an in-person encounter for the same service (except for services for which the weight of evidence, based on practice guidelines, peer-reviewed clinical publications or research or recommendations by the telehealth advisory committee on telehealth best practices established by section 36-3607, determines not to be appropriate to be provided through telehealth)
- Provide [public comment](#) on proposed policy changes
 - Sign up for [notifications](#)

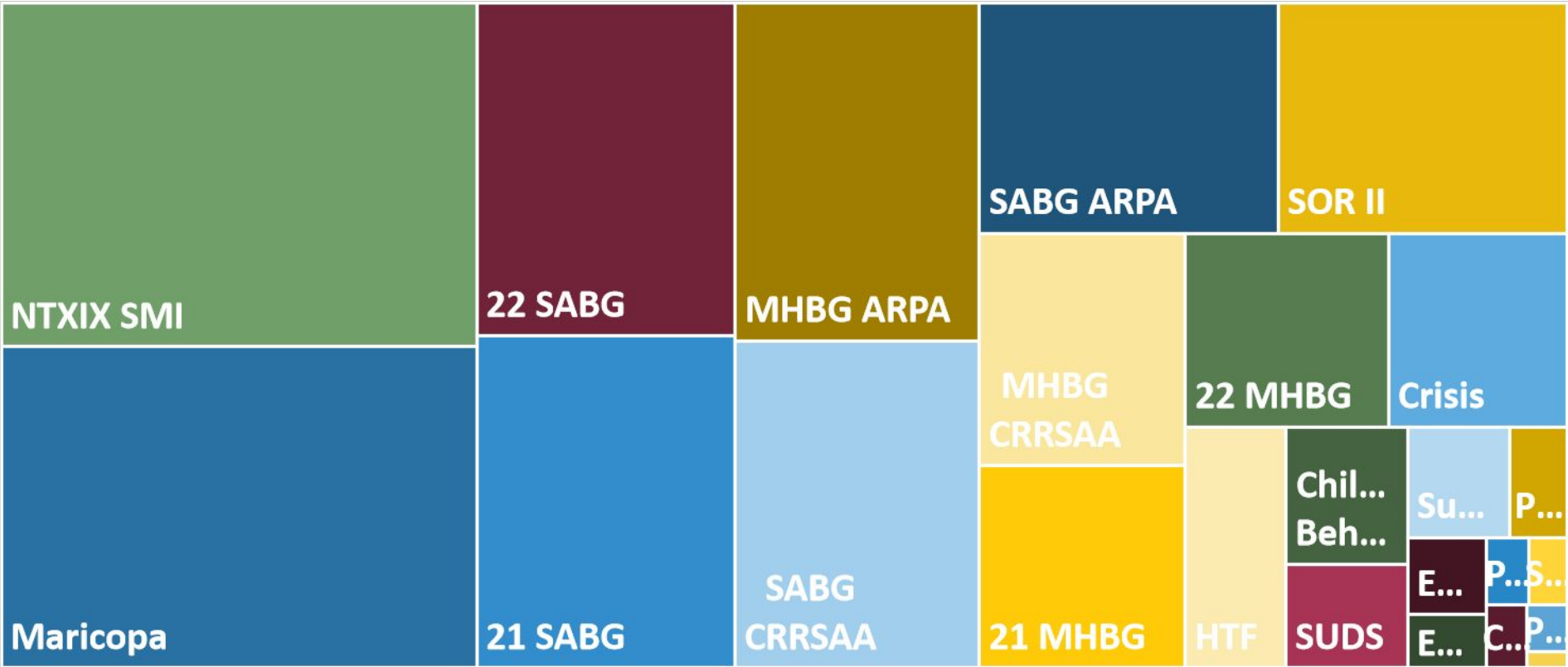
Grants Update

Hazel Alvarenga, MPH

Deputy Assistant Director

Division of Grants Administration (DGA)

FY 2022 Grant Funding: \$500,000,000



Opioid Use Disorder Services Locator

Are you looking for opioid use disorder services in the area?

Enter a zip code to find a program that is right for you or for your loved one.

Zip Code



Within
25 miles

Service Type(s)

ALL

Accepting Clients

Show Filters

Search

85034

Within 100+ miles

Service Type(s) ALL

Accepting Clients

Show Filters SEARCH

Sort By Distance

Map Satellite

Community Medical Services-Phoenix on University
2516 East University Drive, Suites 140, 145, and 150, Phoenix, AZ 85034
Health Plans - Accepting 8 Plans Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) - Buprenorphine, Methadone, Naltrexone
Counties Served - Serving 15 Counties OUD Services Provided - Naloxone Distributor, Peer Support, Pregnant Wo...
(602) 607-4747 communitymedicalservices.org 0.9 miles

Central City Addiction Recovery Center (CCARC)
2770 East Van Buren Street, Phoenix, AZ 85008
Health Plans - Accepting 8 Plans Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) - Buprenorphine, Methadone, Naltrexone
Counties Served - Serving 1 Counties OUD Services Provided - Additional, Peer Support
(877) 931-9142 https://communitybridgesaz.com 1 miles

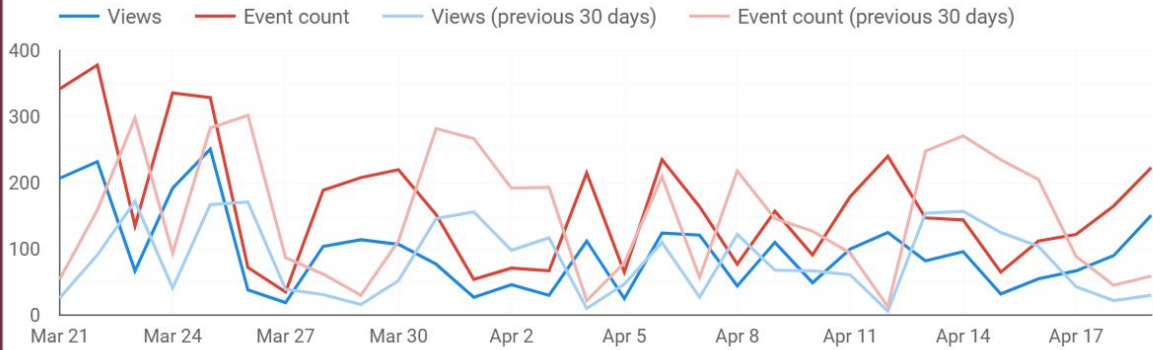
Cactus Integrated Care
1520 East Pima Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034
Health Plans - Accepting 8 Plans Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) - Buprenorphine, Methadone, Naltrexone
Counties Served - Serving 1 Counties OUD Services Provided - Additional, Peer Support
(877) 931-9142 https://communitybridgesaz.com 1.3 miles

<https://opioidservicelocator.azahcccs.gov/>

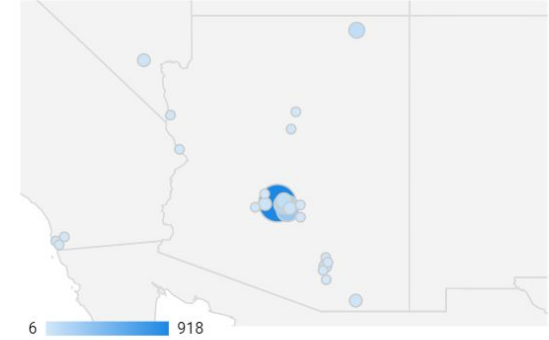
Filters:

Only Arizona City Service Type Mar 21, 2022 - Apr 19, 2022
 State Enter a value Zipcode

Active Users By Day



Views By City



- 26,253 views between October 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022
- Average 4,000+ hits per month

Opioid Use Disorder Services Locator

If your Agency is not listed please register.

See the [How To Guides](#) posted on the Grants Administration [web page](#) under the Opioid Services Locator section.

Please contact opioidservicelocator-support@azahcccs.gov with any questions.

The screenshot shows the AHCCCS Opioid Use Disorder Services Locator interface. At the top, there is a search bar with a 'Zip Code' field, a 'Within 25 miles' dropdown, and a 'Service Type(s)' dropdown set to 'ALL'. There are also buttons for 'Accepting Clients', 'Show Filters', and 'SEARCH'. Below the search bar, there are three service listings. The first listing is for Central City Addiction Recovery Center (CCARC) at 2770 East Van Buren Street, Phoenix, AZ 85008, with 8 OTPs available. The second listing is for Community Medical Services-Alpha at 3825 N 24th Street, Phoenix, AZ 85016, with 102 OTPs available. The third listing is for Center for Behavioral Health Phoenix, Inc. at 1501 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034, with 200 OTPs available. To the right of the listings is a map of Phoenix, Arizona, with red pins indicating the locations of the services. The map includes labels for various neighborhoods and landmarks like Phoenix Sonoran Preserve, South Mountain Park and Preserve, and several highways.

Substance Abuse Coalition Leaders of Arizona



Coalitions Activate in Response to Fentanyl Crisis

Substance use prevention coalitions from across Arizona are working together in a first-of-its-kind effort to save lives in Arizona. With the alarming rise of fentanyl and counterfeit pill deaths, coalition leaders created a toolkit to aid communities in preventing and reversing overdoses. The toolkit contains educational materials and resources that can be customized for each community the coalition serves.

The following substance use prevention coalitions contributed to this toolkit and are utilizing the materials and resources to prevent and reduce overdoses and build healthier communities across Arizona.

- Apache County Youth Council
- BeMedSmart
- Casa Grande Alliance
- Chandler Coalition Against Youth Substance Abuse
- Copper Basin Coalition
- Fountain Hills Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- Graham County Substance Abuse Coalition
- Help Enrich African American Lives
- HOPE Coconino
- LPKNC
- Marana Prevention Alliance
- MATFORCE
- Mayahuel Prevention Consortium
- Mesa Prevention Alliance
- Mohave Substance Abuse Treatment & Education Partnership
- Nexus Coalition for Drug Prevention
- PAACE Coalition
- Pima County Community Prevention Coalition
- South Mountain W.O.R.K.S. Coalition
- Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and Drug Use
- Safe Out LGBTQ+ Youth Coalition
- Santa Cruz County Drug Free Community Coalition
- Way Out West Coalition

In addition, the following organizations contributed to the contents of this toolkit. Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System, Health Choice, Arizona High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, and Compass Evaluation and Research.

<https://saclaz.org/toolkit/>

Arizona 988 State and Territory Cooperative Agreements Grant

- **Awarded:** 04/15/2022
- **Funding Period:** 04/30/2022 - 04/29/2024 (2 years)
- **Amount:** \$1,953,661
- **Area served:** All Regions
- **Focus:** Enhance Lifeline Center staffing and infrastructure capacity to ensure that Lifeline Centers can respond to 988 contacts (including calls, chats, and texts) originating in Arizona.

Office of Individual and Family Affairs Updates

Susan Kennard
Bureau Chief

Office of Individual and Family Affairs (OIFA)
Division of Community Advocacy and
Intergovernmental Relations (DCAIR)



Oversight Overview

A State-level Peer Support Program in a Managed Care Model

Evolution of Arizona's Peer Support Program

2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CMS gives state Medicaid programs the authority to develop peer support programs by setting certification, training and supervision standards (SMDL 07-011)
2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peer Support Services added to State Plan - Rehabilitative Services
2010-2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Stakeholder workgroups collaborated with ADHS/DBHS on Arizona's response to SMDL 07-011
10/1/2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ADHS Provider Manual Section 9.2 (PM 9.2, Peer Support/Recovery Support Training, Certification and Supervision Requirements) published. ● PM 9.2 is Arizona's plan of compliance with SMDL 07-011
2013 - 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DBHS OIFA collaborates with AHCCCS Health Plan OIFAs in implementing PM 9.2; including a statewide recertification exam for all currently employed PRSS to ensure certifications are universally recognized in all Contractor networks.
2015 - 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ADHS/DBHS phases out State provider manual ● PM 9.2 is renamed and restructured as ADHS/DBHS Policy 404 ● Growth of training organizations and credentialing
2016 - 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ADHS/DBHS undergoes administrative simplification with AHCCCS ● Policy 404 becomes AMPM 961-A. Major changes post transition in how policy is framed ● this included changing "certifying" to "credentialing"
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Government Accountability Office releases report - Leading Practices for States to Certify Peer Support Specialists. Listed 6 best practices ● Policy AMPM 961-A becomes AMPM 963 - AHCCCS OIFA begins to incorporate best practices from GAO (such as best practice 5 for continuing education requirements) into the Policy.
2019 - 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AHCCCS launched the Peer Support Development Workgroup to begin creating Arizona's first standard application form for trainings (GAO best practice 1, systematic screening and application process) and other programmatic supports. ● Publication of Attachment C requiring training programs to report all graduates from every program to AHCCCS OIFA at completion of each class.
2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Template of application for peer support training (GAO best practice 1) was published and distributed to prepare agencies for standardized application process.
2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peer Support Training Application will take a standardized and auditable form ● Contractors will ensure application is being used to screen potential trainees. ● AHCCCS OIFA incorporates physical health and wellness into continuing education requirements (GAO best practice 3)



Government Accountability Office

*Leading Practices for States to Certify Peer Support
Specialists
(GA-19-41, 2018)*

Click on the image to the right to see the full report



PRACTICE 1: Systematic screening of applicants

The program should have a systematic and objective screening process to assess the applicant's understanding of recovery and the peer role.



PRACTICE 2: Conducting core training in-person

The program should offer—or ensure approved training vendors offer—in-person core training to foster relationship building and allow peers to develop and practice their interpersonal skills.



PRACTICE 3: Incorporating physical health and wellness into training or continuing education

The program should ensure that peer support specialists are trained during core training or continuing education to help others manage their physical health in addition to their mental health.



PRACTICE 4: Preparing organizations to effectively use peers

The program should have efforts in place to educate staff at provider organizations about the peer support role and should help ensure that supervisors are prepared to supervise peers.



PRACTICE 5: Continuing education requirements specific to peer support

The program should ensure that peer support specialists take continuing education that is specific to the peer support role.



PRACTICE 6: Engaging peers in the leadership and development of certification programs

The program should ensure that peer support specialists who have been certified and are working in the field are involved throughout the certification process, including helping screen applicants, providing training, or developing curricula.



Source: GAO analysis of information from interviews with six selected states. | GAO-19-41

Asking for Mental Health Awareness Events to Share in our Friday Newsletter for May!

Please send to
OIFA@azahcccs.gov



Peer to Peer Coaching Program

**Life and Wellness Coaching for Peer and Family
Support Specialists**

Group or 1:1 Coaching offered by specially trained
Peer and Family Support Coaches



UPCOMING EVENTS

- AHCCCS Community Forum 5/2 @ 12 - 2 PM
 - [Registration Link](#)
- AHCCCS Hot Topics 5/16 @ 11:00 - 11:30
 - [Registration Link](#)
- NoAZ OIFA Listening Session 6/1 @ 11:30 - 1:00
 - bit.ly/3K3bca3
 - In-person location: The Guidance Center Inc. 2187 N. Vickey St., Flagstaff, AZ 86004

Questions, Discussion & Wrap Up

Thank you!

- See the [Behavioral Health Task Force](#) web page for meeting past meeting presentations
- Send future topics you want to discuss to lauren.prole@azahcccs.gov