



Lori A. Shibiante  
Commissioner

Katja S. Fox  
Director

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DIVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

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July 17, 2020

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu  
and the Honorable Council  
State House  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**REQUESTED ACTION**

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health, to **Retroactively** pay the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) (Vendor #177758-B002), Alexandria, Virginia in the amount of \$8,979 for annual membership dues, effective retroactive to July 1, 2020 upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2021. 100% General Funds.

**05-95-092-922010-41170000 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVS, HHS: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIV, BUREAU OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, CMH PROGRAM SUPPORT**

State Fiscal Year	Class / Account	Job Number	Class Title	Total Amount
2021	026-500251	92200000	Organizational Dues	\$8,979
			<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,979</b>

**EXPLANATION**

This request is **Retroactive** because the invoice for the membership was received after the expiration of the previous fiscal year membership. Approval of this request will enable the State to continue annual membership in the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors is a not-for-profit organization that provides assistance to state mental health agencies in presenting information and education on behalf of the state mental health agencies. The Association works with federal agencies, members of and other national organizations by tracking legislation; leading collaborative efforts; initiating proposals to streamline and simplify federal mental health programs and regulations; and educating members of Congress about issues facing state mental health agencies. It also provides opportunities for state agencies to learn from each other about evidence-based practices and emerging models of care.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Executive Council organization dues and membership approval submissions.

- 1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?**

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors was formed in 1959. New Hampshire has been a member for at least the last 26 years.

- 2. Is there any other organization that provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?**

No.

- 3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?**

All 50 states, 4 territories, and the District of Columbia belong to the organization. No other New Hampshire state agencies are members of this association.

- 4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)**

Dues are based on state population, although small states like New Hampshire are capped at \$8,979 annually. There is no increase in the annual membership dues from last year.

- 5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?**

In the past year, the organization, helped to maintain major funding for the Mental Health Block Grant. In New Hampshire, this grant totaled more than \$1.8 million. In joint meetings with Congressional and federal agency staff, the organization provided impact statements on the effect state budget cuts have on individuals with mental illnesses, and the related impact on various sectors, such as the criminal justice system; emergency department care; and the overall healthcare system.

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors developed position briefs and reports on integration, care coordination, workforce, health information technology, and housing. The briefs and reports were shared and discussed among high level leaders from key federal agencies, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS); the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The sharing of these documents helped inform these agencies and other key officials of the issues states face and in building partnerships with organizations, including those related to housing, disabilities, and health.

- 6. Are training or educational/ research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.**

The cost of technical assistance and training is included in the membership. The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors provides an array of high-quality training and technical assistance to states to ensure access to best practices and provides the most current knowledge in mental health and related fields.

The Association directly operates the following federally-funded training and technical assistance centers: the National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning; the Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint through Trauma Informed Care initiative; and the Social Marketing/Communications Technical Assistance for the Children's System of Care Program.

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors also serves as a key partner on a variety of other training and technical assistance efforts, including: the Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance project; the Behavioral Health for Older Americans Technical Assistance Center; the National Technical Assistance

Center for Primary Care and Behavioral Health; and the Financing Reform and Innovation initiative.

The National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning has led national initiatives on the following:

- Improving Disaster Mental Health Planning and Preparedness;
- Closing the gap of cultural disparities in mental health services systems;
- Preventing violence and trauma in inpatient mental health settings;
- Facilitating peer-run recovery-oriented services systems;
- Developing evidence-based practices for older persons, adults, and children;
- Assuring for the full inclusion of consumers, families and advocates in service development and operations;
- Redesigning funding and finance mechanisms;
- Integrating person-driven treatment planning into mental health hospitals;
- Supporting states' strategic planning efforts;
- Implementing co-occurring disorder services for persons with mental health conditions and substance abuse issues, intellectual disabilities, and persons who are deaf or hard of hearing; and
- Workforce development materials for mental health leaders and the direct care workforce.

**7. Is the membership required in order to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.**

No.

**8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.**

This membership does not include any travel.

**9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.)**

Philip Bradley, Esquire – Office of Client and Legal Services - NH representative to the Legal Division of NASMHPD.

Julianne Carbin, Director – Bureau of Mental Health Services - NH representative to the Adult and Older Adult Division of NASMHPD;

Erica Ungarelli, Director – Bureau for Children's Behavioral Health – NH representative to the Children's Division of NASMHPD;

Mary Brunette, M.D., Medical Director - Bureau of Mental Health Services, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Associate Professor of Psychiatry -

Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth - NH representative to the Medical Director's Council of NASMHPD;

Kelley Capuchino, Behavioral Health Medicaid Policy Analyst - NH representative to the Finance and Medicaid Division of NASMHPD;

Helen Hanks, Director – Division of Medical and Forensic Services Department of Corrections - NH representative to the Forensic Division of NASMHPD; and

Heather Moquin, Chief Executive Officer – New Hampshire Hospital - NH representative to the Hospital Administrators Division of NASMHPD.

**10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.**

New Hampshire would be the only state that is not a member of this organization. Consequently, New Hampshire would not have a voice at the table to communicate the viewpoints and concerns of our state mental health agencies to Congress, federal agencies and other national organizations. It would severely limit the State's ability to affect national legislation in the mental health field, join in collaborative efforts with other states, and bring about efforts to streamline and simplify federal mental health programs and regulations. In addition, it would deprive New Hampshire of a valuable resource for current knowledge in mental health and related fields, as well as technical assistance.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori A. Shibanette  
Commissioner



**NASMHPD**

**NASMHPD**  
**66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 302**  
**Alexandria, VA 22314**

**INVOICE**

**Federal ID#: 52-0784740**

**DATE**

**INVOICE #**

7/1/2020

NH2021

**BILL TO**

State of New Hampshire  
Department of Health and Human Services  
Office of Medicaid Business & Policy  
129 Pleasant Street  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES**

For professional services and information by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors for the year ending June 30, 2021.

**State Dues: \$8,979.00**

**Mail check to:**

**NASMHPD**  
**66 CANAL CENTER PLAZA, SUITE 302**  
**ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314**  
**ATTN: ACCOUNTING DEPT.**

**NASMHPD Contact: Jay Meek (703) 682-5186 EMAIL: jay.meek@nasmhpd.org**

**TOTAL DUE: \$8,979.00**