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Jeffrey A. Meyers
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Director

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

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October 2, 2019

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

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health, to make a **retroactive payment** of annual membership dues to the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) Vendor #177758-B002, 66 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 302, Alexandria, VA 22314, in an amount not to exceed \$8,979, **retroactive** to July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2020, upon approval of Governor and Executive Council. 70% General Funds, 30% Federal Funds.

Funds are available in the following account for State Fiscal Year 2020:

05-95-92-922010-4117 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, HEALTH AND HUMAN SVCS DEPT, HHS: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH-DIV, BUREAU OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, CMH PROGRAM SUPPORT.

Class/Object	Class Title	Activity Code	FY 2020
026-0251	Organizational Dues	92200000	\$8,979

EXPLANATION

This request is **retroactive** because the invoice, dated July 1, 2019, was received on July 9, 2019, after the effective date of membership.

Approval of this payment will allow the Department to continue the annual membership dues to the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors for the period July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. 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 their viewpoints and concerns to Congress, federal agencies and other national organizations. The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors tracks legislation, leads collaborative efforts, initiates proposals to streamline and simplify federal mental health programs and regulations, and educates members of Congress about issues facing state mental health agencies.

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 which 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. This is a renewal membership; there is no increase in the annual membership dues from last year.

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

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors' mission is to organize, reflect, and advocate for the collective interests of state mental health authorities and their directors at the national level. In the past year, the organization, through its advocacy efforts in Congress, helped to maintain major funding for the Mental Health Block Grant. In New Hampshire, this grant totaled more than \$2.4 million.

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors developed position briefs and reports on integration, care coordination, workforce, health information technology, and housing, which were shared and discussed with 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 about the issues that are important to the states. National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors provides assistance with building partnerships with organizations, including those related to housing, disabilities, and health. Membership provides the Department with informational and program resources which far exceed the annual costs.

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

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

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: Support for the Nation's Suicide Prevention Lifeline, the Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance project, SAMHSA's Homeless and Housing Resource Network that provides support and TA to PATH grantees, 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:

- a. Improving Disaster Mental Health Planning and Preparedness;

- b. Closing the gap of cultural disparities in mental health services systems;
 - c. Preventing violence and trauma in inpatient mental health settings;
 - d. Facilitating peer-run recovery-oriented services systems;
 - e. Developing evidence-based practices for older persons, adults, and children;
 - f. Assuring for the full inclusion of consumers, families and advocates in service development and operations;
 - g. Redesigning funding and finance mechanisms;
 - h. Integrating person-driven treatment planning into mental health hospitals;
 - i. Supporting states' strategic planning efforts;
 - j. 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
 - k. Workforce development materials for mental health leaders and the direct care workforce.
7. Is the membership required 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 fee 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).
- Members are:
- Philip Bradley, Esquire – Bureau of Mental Health 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 Senior Policy Analyst - NH representative to the Finance and Medicaid Division of NASMHPD;
- Paula Mattis, Director – Division of Medical and Forensic Services Department of Corrections - NH representative to the Forensic Division of NASMHPD; and
- Lori Shibinette, 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.

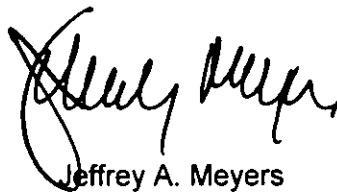
Consequently, New Hampshire would not have a voice at the table to communicate the viewpoints and concerns of our state mental health agencies to Congress, federal agencies and other national organizations. It would severely limit the State's ability to affect national legislation in the mental health 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.

Area served: Statewide.

Source of funds: 70% General Funds, 30% Federal Funds.

In the event that the Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Meyers", written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey A. Meyers

Commissioner