

Legislative and Advocacy Updates

Congress Unanimously Passes Bipartisan Bill to Strengthen Federal Juvenile Justice Law

In final days of the 115th Congress, lawmakers reauthorize the Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act, updating key provisions that strengthen protections for justice-involved youth and improve public safety.

ACT 4
JUVENILE JUSTICE

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A)

- After 16 years the bill was reauthorized
- Advocates say the reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP A) is a huge victory, since its funding has drastically declined over the years and its provisions have become outdated, putting youth charged with crimes at risk.

The bill is expected to be signed into law by the President.



Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP)



The law remains the only federal statute that sets out national standards for the custody and care of youth in the juvenile justice system and provides direction and support for state juvenile justice system improvements.



Under the newly passed legislation, the core protections will be strengthened, and critical, research-based improvements will be made that reaffirm a national commitment to the rehabilitative purpose of the juvenile justice system

JJDPA
has
Policies
and
Requirements
that

Addresses racial disparities by requiring data collection and a plan to address the problem

Keep youth out of adult jails and separate from adult inmates

Ensure children and youth aren't detained for [status offenses](#) such as skipping school or possessing alcohol

Would dictate that states employ trauma-informed screening for youth who enter the system

Promote community-based alternatives to detaining young offenders

Medicaid 115 Waivers



<https://familiesusa.org/state-waiver-resource-and-tracking-center>

- A waiver is a state request that the Secretary of Health and Human Services waive certain federal health care program requirements, usually in Medicaid (Section 1115 waivers) or the marketplaces (Section 1332).
- Families USA's Waiver Strategy Center tracks the changes states make to health care programs using 1115 and 1332 waivers. These changes can be good or bad for consumers. You can explore waivers on a state-by-state basis, at



The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) has approved Wisconsin's Medicaid waiver proposal, which will significantly restrict Medicaid coverage for low-income adults in a number of significant ways. For starters, Wisconsin is the first state allowed to take coverage away from people with incomes below the poverty line if they don't pay \$8 monthly premiums. Those with incomes as low as 50 percent of the poverty line — or about \$500 per month for an adult without dependents — who don't pay premiums will lose Medicaid for up to six months. Wisconsin also became the fifth state allowed to take Medicaid coverage away from people who aren't working or engaged in work-related activities, which could cause many people to lose coverage. In addition, low-income adults will be required to complete a health risk assessment (HRA) in order to get or maintain their coverage.



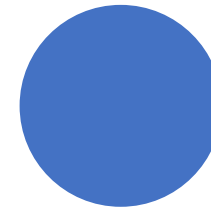
The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) re-approved Kentucky's request to add work requirements to the state's Medicaid program. These changes would require the population covered by Kentucky's Medicaid expansion to report 80 hours of work or "work-related activities" each month, or face losing their coverage for a six-month lockout period. The approved 1115 waiver, which takes effect April 1, 2019, is almost identical to the state's previously overturned application, and has been projected to result in at least 95,000 Kentuckians losing Medicaid coverage over the next five years.



On October 19, 2018, the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) approved **North Carolina's** 1115 Medicaid waiver demonstration to implement integrated managed care ending the state's behavioral health carve-out, phase in tailored vertical health plans for certain populations, expand addiction treatment benefits, and address the social determinants of health.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has published its strategic plan for fiscal years (FY) 2019 to 2023. Read the full plan [HERE](#).

SAMHSA Strategic Plan



In order to achieve its mission, SAMHSA has identified five priority areas to better meet the behavioral health care needs of individuals, communities, and service providers.

- Combating the Opioid Crisis through the Expansion of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Services.
- Addressing Serious Mental Illness and Serious Emotional Disturbances.
- Advancing Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Services for Substance Use.
- Improving Data Collection, Analysis, Dissemination, and Program and Policy Evaluation.
- Strengthening Health Practitioner Training and Education.

SAMHSA's work is guided by five core principles that are being infused throughout the Agency's activities. The five core principles are:

- Supporting the adoption of evidence-based practices.
- Increasing access to the full continuum of services for mental and substance use disorders.
- Engaging in outreach to clinicians, grantees, patients, and the American public.
- Collecting, analyzing, and disseminating data to inform policies, programs, and practices.
- Recognizing that the availability of mental health and substance use disorder services are integral to everyone's health.

Free Grants Management Training



Free training from the White House Office of Management and Budget's Chief Financial Officers Council includes five modules that provide general information on grants and cooperative agreements. Grant recipients and their staff, pass-through entities, and potential grant recipients can use this training to develop an understanding of grants management.

<https://cfo.gov/grants/training/>



Bill Tracker

- Nonpartisan children's policy experts rate the current bills in Congress. Do they help kids or harm kids? See also [key votes in the 115th Congress](#) that would impact the well-being of our nation's children.
- <https://campaignforchildren.org/billtracker/>

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