



Treatment Communities of America

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant

Treatment Communities of America (TCA) is a non-profit association comprised of community based substance abuse treatment providers throughout the United States and Canada. For the past 36 years, TCA's mission has focused on ensuring access to a continuum of care for individuals and families suffering from a Substance Use Disorder (SUD).

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funds populations and services not covered under the Affordable Care Act.

The Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant program is currently the primary funding source utilized by States to provide substance abuse prevention and treatment services. With the implementation of the ACA, funding for core treatment services has begun to shift to the health care system.

However, even after its implementation, the ACA does not provide coverage for many of the critical and supportive services necessary to ensure optimal outcomes, nor will it provide access to care for populations that will continue to be without insurance.

TCA believes the SAPT Block Grant is a fundamental part of the network of treatment and supports for those who lack access to care that took decades to develop. Only by combining funds through ACA and the SAPT will a full continuum of services and supports be available for individuals and families with SUD. TCA recommends that the SAPT be maintained and aligned with the ACA to ensure that all populations have access to a comprehensive range of services and supports necessary to achieve recovery.

TCA thanks Congress for providing an additional \$3 billion in emergency funding for SAMHSA via the Block Grant to address the immediate, urgent needs for SUD treatment amid the COVID pandemic. The \$1.5 billion in for the SAPTBG program in American Rescue Plan funding is vital during this time of crisis. This sorely needed funding will go toward repairing and building out our nation's behavioral health infrastructure to ensure that American have timely access to the full continuum of SUD treatment and care.

TCA urges Congress to provide \$2.35 billion for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant in the FY22 Labor, HHS, and Education Appropriations bill – a \$500 million increase over FY21.

The demands for treatment are growing. The resources must match these needs.

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