CONCURRENT WORKSHOP #3

11 A.M.-12:30 P.M.
WILSON / ROOSEVELT

CHAIR
Alexandra Ginsberg, MPH
Senior Director of Congressional and Federal Relations, APA

PRESENTERS
Sara Jo Nixon, PhD
APA Advocacy Coordinating Committee

Scott Barstow, MS
Senior Director of Congressional and Federal Relations, APA

Chuck Hollister, PhD
Chief Executive Director, Missouri Psychological Association and Member, APA Advocacy Coordinating Committee

The Drug Overdose Epidemic

Psychology has a unique role to play in addressing the opioid and other drug overdose crisis, particularly when it comes to informing policy decisions to improve prevention, treatment and recovery services. This session looks at the current data and science on drug overdose and opioids in America and how APA and state psychological associations are addressing this major national issue through state and federal advocacy efforts.
The Missouri Psychological Association Addresses the Missouri Opioid Crisis: A Cautionary Tale
The Missouri Opioid Crisis

MO Department of Health and Senior
The Missouri Opioid Crisis

**Insurance Payers**

**Missouri Opioid Misuse Emergency Room Discharge (2014-2018)**

- Medicaid: $31,011,129
- Medicare: $15,756,300
- Other Governmental: $1,201,429
- Self Pay/No Charge: $50,979,817
- Governmental: $47,968,858
- Commercial: $16,648,039
- Other: $936,861

**Estimated Emergency Room Charge Total:** $116,733,575*

* 2018 data is provisional and subject to change

MO Department of Health and Senior
Black males twice as likely to die from an overdose than White males.
SPTA BY SIZE

300 or less (31)
301-800 (11)
801+ (18)
“DON’T DO NOTHING BECAUSE YOU CAN’T DO EVERYTHING. DO SOMETHING. ANYTHING.”

- Colleen Patrick-Goudreau
RECOMMENDATIONS

HAVE A VIABLE GENERAL APPROACH WITH CLEAR GOALS FOR ADDRESSING LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY ISSUES THAT CAN BE APPLIED TO SPECIAL ISSUES

• ACCESS
• REIMBURSEMENT
• Improving the STANDING of psychologists
• TRAINING and improving competency
RECOMMENDATIONS

USE EXISTING ASSOCIATION RESOURCES

• Legislative team
• CE programs
• Relationships with regulatory groups
• Relationships with similar thinking organizations
• Expertise in the science of psychology and behavior
RECOMMENDATIONS

SEE THE PROBLEM IN HOLISTIC WAYS, BUT CONSIDER TAKING SMALL, PRAGMATIC STEPS

It is better to do something than to do nothing while waiting to do everything.

— Winston Churchill —
RECOMMENDATIONS

KEEP YOUR EAR TO THE GROUND
AND LOOK FOR OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP

Luck is what happens when preparation meets opportunity.

~Seneca
RECOMMENDATIONS

RIDE THE ENERGY OF PASSIONATE MEMBERS

• PSYCHPACT and a place for our board on the rules committee
• Medicaid reimbursement for interns
• Health and behavior codes
• Updating of our post-doctoral requirements for the benefit of our students
• Increases in Medicaid reimbursement
MANY OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN MISSOURI IN ADDRESSING THE OPIOID PROBLEM ARE FOUNDATIONAL.

WE LACK ADEQUATE INFRASTRUCTURE TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES.

According to the Health Resources and Services Administration,

• All of Missouri's 99 rural counties face shortages of mental health professionals.
• There are 57 rural counties in the state that have no licensed psychologists or psychiatrists, which creates large areas of "mental health deserts."
• Missouri only has 3.7 percent of the recommended supply of mental health professionals necessary to serve its population, according to the Health Resources and Services Administration

News Tribune, 2/9/2020
ENCOURAGE THE STATE OF MISSOURI TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE

• Supported two bills on opioid treatment and prevention
• Supported a bill to help homeless adolescents who would be vulnerable to addiction problems to secure mental health services
• Shook hands and congratulated legislators and their aides for the fine work they were doing protecting our state
• Joined with other groups and coalitions that were concerned about the opioid crisis
ENCOURAGE IMPROVED ACCESS AND BETTER REIMBURSEMENT FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND INTEGRATED CARE SERVICES

• Helped our Medicaid program with provider recruitment (barriers, reimbursement, audits)
• Supported our Medicaid program when they rolled out a new pain management program
• Blocked the early adoption of the enhanced EPPP that would have made Missouri one of the most difficult states in the country in which to be licensed.
IMPROVE THE STANDING AND VISIBILITY OF PSYCHOLOGISTS SO THEY CAN MORE EASILY ADDRESS ADDICTION, MENTAL HEALTH, PSYCHOSOCIAL, AND BEHAVIORAL AND PAIN MANAGEMENT ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH OPIOID ABUSE

• Will support the Medicare Mental Health Access bill at PLC
• Recruited a new sponsor for the bill
• Gaining support for pay parity with psychiatry under Medicaid
• Legislative work has helped educate our politicians about what psychology has to offer
• Partnering with other organizations in holding our workshops, particularly those in the academic community (e.g. Diversity Committee)
HELPED WITH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

• Will provide training with Dr. Skillings on new Health and Behavior Codes at next conference
• Just completed a workshop with the American Diabetes Association
• Encouraging membership to bill the Health and Behavior codes
• Will be working with Legal and Regulatory to make sure that providers can be reimbursed under our CPT codes.
• Talked to APA about pain management workshop
• Arranged for our Medicaid program to promote our workshops
• Supported our Medicaid system when they began to roll out pain management strategies
• Supported the advancement of integrated care in MO with an integrated care committee and special workshops and events
• Scheduled an opioid prevention and treatment workshop with presenters who had a SAMSHA grant
In Missouri there are

27,000 physicians
6,000 social workers
6,000 LPCs

And only 1,800 psychologists.
A DIFFERENCE MAKER

The Missouri Psychological Association recognizes and celebrates the diversity of professional identities psychologists have in the many roles they play.
UNITY IS EVERYTHING