


NEWSLETTER



Enhancing Mental Health and Competence Restoration with the GAINS Center

Lisa Callahan, PhD, and Shannon Bader, PhD, ABPP, sit down to discuss SAMHSA's GAINS Center's recent work to forward competency restoration in several states across the country. Through learning collaboratives, policy academies, and other collaborative mechanisms, SAMHSA's GAINS Center has worked to tackle nationwide competency restoration barriers such as long waitlists and lack of beds, inpatient care expenses, and service connection challenges. Watch the video by clicking below, and check out [this resource document](#) for additional information on waitlists in the competence to stand trial system.

[Watch Now](#)



SOARing Beyond Barriers in South Carolina: Empowering Individuals with Benefits before Their Release

SOARing Beyond Barriers in South Carolina: Empowering Individuals with Benefits before Their Release

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) provide needed income for people who are unable to work because of serious mental illness or other conditions. SAMHSA's SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) program is dedicated to working with states and communities to help increase access to SSI and SSDI and thereby reduce homelessness and help people on their paths to recovery.

[**Read More**](#)



Announcing New Policy Academy Initiative States

SAMHSA's GAINS Center has launched the 2nd SAMHSA Policy Academy on Advancing Medication for Opioid Use Disorders (MOUD) in State Prisons initiative. This work underscores the critical importance of states providing this lifesaving treatment to people throughout their incarceration. The Policy Academy is a part of the Biden-Harris Administration's efforts to address the opioid overdose epidemic and to support recovery among Americans experiencing substance use disorders. SAMHSA's GAINS Center is pleased to announce five new state departments of corrections that have joined this initiative from Alabama, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, and Wisconsin and will be working with SAMHSA's GAINS Center to create strategic action plans to guide their efforts to expand access to MOUD in their state prisons. These states join an existing cohort of state departments of corrections from Arizona, Michigan, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Washington, that have been receiving technical assistance from SAMHSA's GAINS Center over the past year to implement or expand access to MOUD across their state prison facilities.

FY24 BJA JMHCP and SCA Grant Opportunities **FY24 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program**

Due date: May 1, 2024 (Grants.gov) and May 6, 2024 (JustGrants)

FY24 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

Due date: May 9, 2024 (Grants.gov) and May 14, 2024 (JustGrants)

FY24 Improving Adult and Youth Crisis Stabilization and Community Reentry Program

Due date: April 25, 2024 (Grants.gov) and April 30, 2024 (JustGrants)

FY24 Second Chance Act Pay for Success

Due date: May 13, 2024 (Grants.gov)

FY24 Improving Substance Use Disorder Treatment and Recovery Outcomes for Adults in Reentry

Due date: May 6, 2024 (Grants.gov) and May 13, 2024 (JustGrants)

Solicitation webinar: April 2, 2024, 2:00 p.m. ET

Resource Spotlight

- National Commission on Correctional Health Care's Position Statement on [Anti-Racism in Correctional Health Care \(2024\)](#).
- Health and Reentry Project's [Meeting the Moment: Opportunities to Improve Health and Safety by Changing Medicaid's Role When People are Incarcerated](#)
- SMI Adviser and National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors' [Building New Horizons: Opening Career Pathways for Peers with Criminal Justice Backgrounds](#)
- SAMHSA's [Examining the Use of Braided Funding for Substance Use Disorder Services](#)
- SAMHSA's [Office of Recovery—Policy & Practice Improvement Series Meeting Reports: Peer Workforce, Criminal Justice & Warm Lines](#)



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Disclaimer: SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation develops and distributes this Newsletter with support from SAMHSA. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of SAMHSA.

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