



## Virtual Opioid Task Force Meeting – Update September 8, 2021

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Dear Colleagues:

I look forward to seeing you all on September 22nd. Until then, here are a couple of reminders for you:

From our partner at NE HIDTA, Jim Cormier:

CDC forwarded the below funding opportunity for a grant application focused on addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's) as they relate to Substance Use Disorder (SUD). If you or someone you know has a program or an idea for a program centered around ACE's this may be an opportunity for funding. Feel free to share this information.

[CCAPS-RFA-2021\\_final.pdf \(naccho.org\)](#)

ALSO from Jim: Here is the link to sign up for the October 7th Prevention Strategies Conference: [https://events.zoom.us/jv/AP5zdqb28\\_XJ8u4rzRejh-fCYbvJL9ISU2CsGHW2c0RL7PMWGzfZ1Jf6-0yXVZL2NBul1\\_k](https://events.zoom.us/jv/AP5zdqb28_XJ8u4rzRejh-fCYbvJL9ISU2CsGHW2c0RL7PMWGzfZ1Jf6-0yXVZL2NBul1_k)

At this virtual conference, they will share strategies related to how to: Communicate the power of prevention; Make environments more nurturing; Advance prevention systems; and Normalize prevention.

On the same day, September 22, from 2-3, the National Council on Mental Well-being (our October speaker) will present: **Solutions for Teen Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges**

Today's younger generations are facing seemingly insurmountable odds – from the impact of COVID-19 on their mental wellbeing to stigma, access to care and the increasing reliance on substance use. Join us for “[Teen Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges](#)” on Wednesday, September 22, from 2-3 p.m. ET, the fourth episode in our “[Wellbeing Wednesday](#)” virtual learning series, as we bring the best minds in health care together to discuss these issues.

I'm excited that Ashley Hall will join us on September 22nd to give us an update on what's happened and is being done in the fight to address vaping and tobacco. IN that context, [here is a link](#) to a frightening article about the long term serious impact on lung function from a short vaping session.

Finally, September is national Suicide Prevention Month. We would like to have a conversation about effective tools to prevent suicide. Please come to the meeting with your thoughts and any concerns about tool that are available. Recently, the Veterans' Administration released a new campaign encouraging gun-owning veterans with suicidal ideation to use firearm locks. As they said, “...though it may seem like a small barrier, a simple lock puts space between the thought and the trigger,” the ad's narrator

says. While Americans who die by suicide use a gun in [about 50 percent of cases](#), the number rises to [70 percent for veterans](#). *[If you are having thoughts of suicide, help is available 24 hours a day: Call the [National Suicide Prevention Lifeline](#) at 1-800-273-8255 or text 741741 to reach the Crisis Text Line.]*

With warm regards,

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