

# 2026 Current Fiscal Year Report: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Advisory Council

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<b>1. Department or Agency</b>	<b>2. Fiscal Year</b>
Department of Health and Human Services	2026
<b>3. Committee or Subcommittee</b>	<b>3b. GSA Committee No.</b>
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration National Advisory Council	183

<b>4. Is this New Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>5. Current Charter</b>	<b>6. Expected Renewal Date</b>	<b>7. Expected Term Date</b>
No	06/15/2024	06/15/2026	

<b>8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?</b>	<b>8b. Specific Termination Authority</b>	<b>8c. Actual Term Date</b>
No		

<b>9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year</b>	<b>10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?</b>	<b>10b. Legislation Pending?</b>
Continue	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

**11. Establishment Authority** Statutory (Congress Created)

<b>12. Specific Establishment Authority</b>	<b>13. Effective Date</b>	<b>14. Committee Type</b>	<b>14c. Presidential?</b>
42 U.S.C. 290aa-1	07/10/1992	Continuing	No

**15. Description of Committee** National Policy Issue Advisory Board

**16a. Total Number of Reports** No Reports for this Fiscal Year

**17a. Open** 0 **17b. Closed** 0 **17c. Partially Closed** 0 **Other Activities** 0 **17d. Total** 0

**Meetings and Dates**  
No Meetings

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Next</b>
	<b>FY</b>	<b>FY</b>
<b>18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18c. Administrative Costs (FRNs, contractor support, In-person/hybrid/virtual meetings)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18d. Other (all other funds not captured by any other cost category)</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>18e. Total Costs</b>	\$0.00	\$0.00
<b>19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)</b>	0.00	0.00

**20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) National Advisory Council (NAC) accomplishes its purpose through advising, consulting with and making recommendations to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use, SAMHSA,

concerning activities and policies related to the SAMHSA's programs and policies. During this reporting period, no meetings were held. One meeting was scheduled for February 2025 and later cancelled.

**20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?**

The membership of the SAMHSA NAC consists of 12 voting members appointed by the Secretary. The charter calls for nine of the members to be leaders in health disciplines (including public health and behavioral and social sciences) relevant to the substance abuse and mental health activities of the agency. Three of the members are from the general public (i.e., leaders in the fields of public policy, public relations, law, health policy economics or management). The SAMHSA NAC also has nonvoting ex-officio members - the Secretary of HHS; the Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs; the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs (or the designates of such officers); the Chief Medical Officer of SAMHSA; the Directors of the National Institutes of Mental Health; the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, and the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and such additional officers or employees of the United States as the Secretary determines necessary for the SAMHSA NAC to effectively carry out its functions. Appointments of voting members are made by paying close attention to their experience. Committee membership is free from all forms of discrimination. Council members participate fully in policy and program development, and on issues brought by agency before the council.

**20c. How frequent and relevant are the**

### **Committee Meetings?**

Regularly, the council meets twice per fiscal year. The council did not meet on FY 2025. The council provides guidance to the agency regarding programmatic policies and priorities. The meetings are relevant to SAMHSA because they provide an opportunity for the Agency to secure the professional expertise necessary to accomplish its mission and maintain the public trust.

### **20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?**

The Council is composed of professional and public members who provide advice on all aspects of SAMHSA's activities related to substance abuse and mental health services. The direction, scope, balance and emphasis of the advice received from this group of experts cannot be obtained from SAMHSA staff or from other established sources, because the membership of the Council is constituted to meet specific requirements of the mandated mission of the SAMHSA NAC.

### **20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?**

N/A

### **21. Remarks**

No Reports required for FY 2025

### **Designated Federal Officer**

Carlos R. Castillo DFO

<b>Committee Members</b>	<b>Start</b>	<b>End</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Member Designation</b>
Atherall, Tina	08/05/2022	11/30/2026	Social Worker, PsychArmor	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

Bailey, Rahn	11/10/2020	11/30/2025	psychiatrist	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Beckel-Michener, Andrea	01/21/2025	01/21/2027	Acting Director, NIMH	Ex Officio Member Special Government
Gone, Joseph	03/01/2025	11/30/2029	Professor, anthropology, psychology	Employee (SGE) Member Special Government
Howard, Laura	11/30/2019	11/30/2025	Secretary, KS DCF	Employee (SGE) Member Special Government
Johnson, Andre	08/05/2022	11/30/2026	psychologist	Employee (SGE) Member Special Government
Keatley, JoAnne	08/05/2022	11/30/2026	Social Worker	Employee (SGE) Member Special Government
Kennedy, Robert	01/21/2025	01/20/2029	HHS Secretary	Ex Officio Member Regular Government
Kleinschmidt, Arthur	01/21/2025	01/21/2027	PDAS	Employee (RGE) Member Ex Officio Member
Koob, George	03/22/2023	03/31/2027	NIAAA	Ex Officio Member
McGuire, Marsden	03/22/2023	03/31/2027	VAffairs	Ex Officio Member Special Government
Melendez-Cintron, Luis	03/01/2025	11/30/2029	MHSA	Employee (SGE) Member Special Government
Neal-Walden, Tracy	11/30/2019	11/30/2025	psychologist Cohen Veterans Network	Employee (SGE) Member Special Government
Rabadan-Diehl, Cristina	11/10/2020	11/30/2025	Pharmacy/Scientist	Employee (SGE) Member

Rodriguez-Fraticelli, Francisco	11/30/2019	11/30/2025	President, Coalicion de Coaliciones	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Szew, Sophie	08/03/2023	08/30/2027	Youth leader	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Volkow, Nora	03/22/2023	03/31/2027	NIDA	Ex Officio Member
Warren, Barbara	11/30/2019	11/30/2025	psychologist, Director, LGBT Program and Policies, Mount Sinai Hosp	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Yue, Cynthia	08/03/2023	08/30/2027	Youth leader	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member

**Number of Committee Members Listed: 19**

**Narrative Description**

Mission: SAMHSA leads public health and service delivery that treat mental illness, especially serious mental illness, prevent substance abuse and addiction, and provide treatments and support to foster recovery while ensuring access and better outcomes for all. Vision for a Future SAMHSA: SAMHSA is transforming to be a focused, more efficient, and high-impact agency to align with the Secretary’s vision to Make America Healthy Again. SAMHSA will accomplish this by promoting innovative programs and interventions that address the rising rates of mental illness and substance abuse conditions, overdose, and suicide and their connections to chronic diseases, homelessness, and other challenges our Nation’s communities face. A key component of this effort is innovations in grant making – developing grants tailored to states and communities that provide services and supports to effect immediate and positive health changes in the people and communities we serve; and to measure our success. As these projects drive effective change, we will replicate or scale these projects to expand the reach of effective behavioral health services. Although no formal recommendations were made in FY 2025, and no meetings were held, as a body, SAMHSA's National

Advisory Council members have played a critical role in advising the Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use on the Agency's Strategic Priorities. SAMHSA's Strategic Priorities can be found at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/about/strategic-priorities>.

**What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?**

	Checked if Applies
Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Outcome Comments**

NA

**What are the cost savings associated with this committee?**

	Checked if Applies
None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Cost Savings Comments**

Council recommendations and suggestions may lead to savings over time. However, the savings may not be realized for years and are difficult to determine.

**What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?**

55

#### **Number of Recommendations Comments**

Between FY 1994 and FY 2025, the SAMHSA National Advisory Council produced 55 recommendations. Recommendations include advocacy for supported housing and employment; using evidence based programs that reduce recidivism in the criminal justice system; continued involvement with Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the interagency council to address barriers, such as employment and housing; integration of children's health services into schools and participation with the Education Department in its Promising Neighborhood program; further support of prevention programs; establishing school-based mental health services; and deliberations on a consensus definition of trauma. Although no formal recommendations in FY 2025, members encouraged SAMHSA to continue its current mission and work.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?**

75%

#### **% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments**

During the life of the Council, approximately 75% of its recommendations were fully implemented by the agency. SAMHSA moved towards Evidence-Based Practice implementation efforts through targeted technical assistance and training in affected communities. Other recommendations included changes in the SAMHSA program and principles priorities; an increase in the interaction between SAMHSA, the three National Institutes of Health advisory councils, the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Department of Justice with respect to substance abuse and mental health issues; the inclusion of individuals with dual diagnoses to be included in the ONDCP's strategic goals and objectives; the identification of a set of steps to reduce stigma and discrimination; the development of cultural competence standards and performance measures; the provision of targeted communications to SAMHSA's constituents and the public to promote the Agency's mission and its activities; a decision to address the needs of children in welfare reform measures; and an increase in collaboration between the pharmaceutical industry and primary care physicians regarding psychotropic drug prescriptions.

**What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or**

**will be Partially implemented by the agency?**

25%

**% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments**

During the life of the Council, approximately 25% of its recommendations were partially implemented, because of restrictions imposed by legislative/fiscal/programmatic concerns and/or superseding Agency priorities.

**Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to implement recommendations or advice offered?**

Yes  No  Not Applicable

**Agency Feedback Comments**

The Agency provides feedback to the members in the SAMHSA’s Assistant Secretary for Mental Health and Substance Use report to the Council, which is presented at each meeting. The Agency ensures that complete meeting minutes are prepared and circulates them to the members for clearance and for approval at the next official meeting. The public can access the meeting minutes in the SAMHSA Website. Status reports on actions by the Agency on matters that have come before the Council are provided at Council meetings. Summaries of information may be sent to Council members. Communications from SAMHSA staff to SAMHSA NAC members may include: issue papers, fact sheets, press releases, reports and other documents. Council members also have access to senior management and technical experts, when needed.

**What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?**

Checked if Applies

- Reorganized Priorities
- Reallocated resources
- Issued new regulation
- Proposed legislation
- Approved grants or other payments
- Other

**Action Comments**

NA

**Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?**

No

**Grant Review Comments**

The SAMHSA NAC did not review grants.

**How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?**

Checked if Applies

- Contact DFO
- Online Agency Web Site
- Online Committee Web Site
- Online GSA FACA Web Site
- Publications
- Other

**Access Comments**

N/A