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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

Katja S. Fox
Director

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August 7, 2024

His Excellency, Governor Christopher T. Sununu
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

REQUESTED ACTION

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Behavioral Health, to **Retroactively** pay the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD) (VC#177758-B002), Alexandria, Virginia in the amount of $8,979 for annual membership dues, effective retroactive to July 1, 2024 upon Governor and Council approval through June 30, 2025. 33.43% Federal Funds. 66.57% General Funds.

05-95-092-922010-41170000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVS, HHS: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIV, BUREAU OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES, CMH PROGRAM SUPPORT

State Fiscal Year	Class / Account	Job Number	Class Title	Total Amount
2025	026-500251	92200000	Organizational Dues	$8,979
			Total	**$8,979**

EXPLANATION

This request is **Retroactive** because the invoice for the membership was received after the expiration of the previous fiscal year membership. Approval of this request will enable the State to continue the annual membership dues to the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025. The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors is a not-for-profit organization that provides assistance to state mental health agencies in presenting viewpoints and concerns of state mental health agencies to Congress, federal agencies and other national organizations by tracking legislation, leading collaborative efforts, initiating proposals to streamline and simplify federal mental health programs and regulations, and educating members of Congress about issues facing state mental health agencies.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Executive Council organization dues and membership approval submissions.

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a

member of this organization?

The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors was formed in 1959. New Hampshire has been a member for at least the last 29 years.

2. Is there any other organization that provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?

   No

3. How many other states belong to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?

   All 50 states, 4 territories, and the District of Columbia belong to the organization. No other New Hampshire state agencies are members of this association.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc.)

   Dues are based on state population, although small states like New Hampshire are capped at $8,979 annually. There is no increase in the annual membership dues from last year.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

   In the past year, the organization helped to increase major funding for the Mental Health Block Grant. Nationally, efforts resulted in an increase in funding while maintaining the set-aside for early intervention for Psychosis and Crisis services. In New Hampshire, this grant totals more than $2.5 million.

   The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors developed position briefs and reports on integration, care coordination, workforce, health information technology, housing, best practices in crisis services, and 9-8-8 which were shared and discussed with high level leaders from key federal agencies, including the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The sharing of these documents helped inform these agencies and other key officials of the issues states face and in building partnerships with organizations, including those related to housing, disabilities, and health. Membership provides the Department with informational and program resources which far exceed the annual costs.

6. Are training or educational/ research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

   The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors provides a wide array of high-quality training and technical assistance to states to ensure their access to best practices and provides the most current knowledge in mental health and related fields. The cost of technical assistance and training is included in the membership.

   The Association directly operates the following federally-funded training and technical assistance centers: the National Technical Assistance Center for State Mental Health Planning, the Alternatives to Seclusion and Restraint through Trauma Informed Care initiative and the Social Marketing/Communications Technical Assistance for the Children's System of Care Program.

   The National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors also serves as a

key partner on a variety of other training and technical assistance efforts, including: the Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance project, the Behavioral Health for Older Americans Technical Assistance Center, the National Technical Assistance Center for Primary Care and Behavioral Health and the Financing Reform and Innovation initiative.

7. Is the membership required in order to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

   No

8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.

   No

9. Which state agency employees are directly involved with this organization? (Indicate if they are members, voting members, committee members, and/or officers of the organization.)

   Director
   Carolyn Lewis — Bureau Chief of Mental Health Services — NH representative to the Mental Health Commissioners/Program Directors group of NASMHPD;

   Children Youth & Families Division
   Rebecca Ross, Director — Bureau for Children's Behavioral Health — NH representative to the Children, Youth, and Families Division of NASMHPD;
   Daryll Tenney, FAST Forward Program Manager — Bureau for Children's Behavioral Health — NH participant on the Children, Youth, and Families Division of NASMHPD;

   Communication Officer
   Jacob Leon, Director of Communications — Department of Health and Human Services — NH representative to the Communications Division of NASMHPD;

   Compact Coordinators
   Cynthia Babonis, Director of Social Work — New Hampshire Hospital — NH representative to the Compact Coordinators group of NASMHPD;

   Finance Policy Division
   Diana Lacey, Behavioral Health Senior Policy Analyst - Division for Behavioral Health - NH representative to the Financing and Medicaid Division of NASMHPD;

   Forensic Division
   Helen Hanks, Commissioner — Department of Corrections - NH representative to the Forensic Division of NASMHPD;

   Hospital Superintendents
   Ellen Lapointe, Chief Executive Officer - New Hampshire Hospital - NH representative to the Hospital Administrators/Superintendents Division of NASMHPD.

   Legal
   Lise Solbeck, Esq., Attorney — Office of Client and Legal Services - NH representative

to the Legal Division of NASMHPD;
Steven Bunker, Esq. Legal Coordinator — NH Hospital - NH participant on the Legal group of NASMHPD;

Medical Directors Council
Mary Brunette, M.D., Medical Director - Bureau of Mental Health Services, NH Department of Health and Human Services, Associate Professor of Psychiatry - Geisel School of Medicine at Dartmouth - NH representative to the Medical Directors Council of NASMHPD;
Jeffrey C. Fetter, M.D., Chief Medical Officer – NH Hospital - NH participant on the Medical Directors Council of NASMHPD;

Recovery Support Services Council
Ayla Kendall, Peer Integration Specialist — Bureau of Mental Health Services - NH representative to the Recovery Support Services Division of NASMHPD;
Colleen Popores, Peer Program Planner — Bureau of Mental Health Services - NH participant on the Recovery Support Services Division of NASMHPD;

State and Territory Disaster Mental Health Coordinators
VACANT, Disaster Behavioral Health Coordinator Designee – Disaster Behavioral Health Response Team;

State Mental Health Planners – Adult & Child
Jessica Howard, Block Grant State Planner Designee— Bureau of Mental Health Services.

10. Explain in detail any negative impact to the State if the Agency did not belong to this organization.

New Hampshire would be the only state that is not a member of this organization. Consequently, New Hampshire would not have a voice at the table to communicate the viewpoints and concerns of our state mental health agencies to Congress, federal agencies and other national organizations. It would severely limit the State's ability to affect national legislation in the mental health field join in collaborative efforts with other states and bring about efforts to streamline and simplify federal mental health programs and regulations. In addition, it would deprive New Hampshire of a valuable resource for current knowledge in mental health and related fields, as well as technical assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

for Lori A. Weaver
Commissioner

NASMHPD

NASMHPD
675 North Washington Street, Ste 470
Alexandria, VA 22314

INVOICE

Federal ID#: 52-0784740

DATE	INVOICE #
7/1/2024	NH2025

BILL TO

State of New Hampshire
Department of Health and Human Services
Office of Medicaid Business & Policy
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES

For professional services and information by the National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors for the year ending June 30, 2025.

State Dues: $8,979.00

Mail check to:

NASMHPD
675 North Washington Street, Ste 470
Alexandria, VA 22314
ATTN: Accounting Dept.

NASMHPD Contact: Jay Meek (703) 682-5186 EMAIL: jay.meek@nasmhpd.org

TOTAL DUE: $8,979.00