



HEADLINE DC

MARCH 15, 2013

HILL & LEGAL HAPPENINGS: POLICY AND POLITICS

- **The Budget Act.** While Democratic leaders continue to work with the Administration to set a budget in place for the first time in 4 years, Republicans apparently remains mired in a pre-election mindset. Despite broad support for the ACA, the budget measure proposed by Rep. Ryan's House Budget Committee assumes *repeal* of the Act; the Senate defeated an amendment on the floor to do the same to its budget measure.
- **Sequester: The Sky Hasn't Fallen, Yet.** Sequester-related cuts don't all kick in at once. The effect will be felt down the road. For info on the potential impact on States, check out the White House web site. Go to: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/sequester/interactive-map>
- **2014 Labor/HHS Appropriations Hearings.** On March 5, the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor/HHS and Education began hearings on the FY 2014 appropriations for HHS. For some reason, SAMHSA was not on the list of invited HHS witnesses nor was a SAMHSA representative at the table on the day of the hearing. Is this a harbinger of trouble for SAMHSA? Stay tuned.
- **Another Senator Retiring.** Long-time Senator Carl Levin (D-MI) will not seek re-election in 2014.

AROUND THE AGENCIES: NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

- **FY 2014 BUDGET RELEASE DATE SLIPS.** The Administration will present its FY 2014 budget to Congress in early April, around 2 months later than expected.
- **NEW SAMHSA ACA INFO CENTER.** The SAMHSA Center for Finance Reform and Innovations' resource center will answer questions about the ACA and behavioral health. E-mail questions to CFRI.info.samhsa@samhsa.hhs.gov. A response will be forthcoming within 48 hours.
- **ACA MARKETPLACES KEEP MOVING FORWARD.** HHS has granted conditional approvals to IA, MI, NH and WV to operate State Partnership Marketplaces, in which state governments and HHS share responsibility for setting up the marketplaces. Thus, to date, partnership exchanges or fully state-run marketplaces in 24 states and Washington, DC have won a conditional ok; 26 states will rely on HHS run-marketplaces.

ORGANIZATIONALLY SPEAKING

- **ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION.** *How Will Health Reform Impact Rural Communities? Assessing Challenges and Opportunities of Implementing Health Reform in Rural America.* Go to: <http://www.rwjf.org/en/research-publications/find-rwjf-research/2013/02/how-will-health-reform-impact-rural-communities-.html>
- **HEALTH CARE COST INSTITUTE.** *Issue Brief: The Impact of the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act on Inpatient Admissions.* Go to: <http://www.healthcostinstitute.org/issue-brief-impact-mental-health-parity-and-addiction-equity-act-inpatient-admissions> .
- **NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE.** *The Oregon ACO Experiment—Bold Design, Challenging Execution.* (E.C. Stecker, March 14, 2013) Go to: <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1214141>
- **SAMHSA.** *Substance Use among 12th Grade Aged Youth by Dropout Status* shows higher rates of substance use by school drop-outs than others in 12th grade. Go to: <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k13/NSDUH036/SR036SubstanceUseDropouts.htm>

ETCETERA

- **ACMHA SUMMIT.** *Leadership for the Triple Aim: Better Care, Better Health, Lower Cost*, April 3-5, 2013, Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina, Tampa, FL. Go to: <http://www.acmha.org>
- **NATIONAL RX DRUG ABUSE SUMMIT.** April 2-4, 2013 | Omni Orlando Resort, Champions Gate, FL. Go to: <http://nationalrxdrugabusesummit.org>
- **NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH.** 2013 Annual Conference, April 8-10, 2013, Las Vegas, NV. Go to: <http://www.thenationalcouncil.org/cs/conference2013>
- **ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES IN ILLINOIS.** *Spring Legislative Conference*, April 17-18, 2013, Springfield, IL. Go to: <http://www.acmhai.org>
- **GLOBAL ADDICTION. AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF OPIOID DEPENDENCE.** *Joint 2013 Conference*, May 7-10, 2013, Pisa Italy. Go to: <http://www.globaladdiction.org>.
- **NATIONAL RURAL INSTITUTE ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE.** June 9-13, 2013, Menomonie, WI. Go to: <http://www.uwstout.edu/profed/nri/index.cfm>.
- **AMERICAN PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION.** *141st Annual Meeting*, November 2-6, 2013, Boston, MA. Go to: <http://www.apha.org/meetings/AnnualMeeting>.
- **AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF OPIOID DEPENDENCE.** *2013 National Conference*, November 9-13, Philadelphia, PA. Go to: <http://www.aatod.org/national-conference/2013-aatod-conference-philadelphia/conference-at-a-glance/> ###