

SAMHSA Block Grant Community Forum

WHEN: Thursday, June 17, 5:00 p.m. (Arizona time)

WHERE: Zoom webinar. Please [click here to register in advance](#).

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

AHCCCS is seeking your feedback on how ARPA SAMHSA grant funds can best be used to address addiction and mental health crisis response in our communities.

What is the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021?

ARPA is an emergency legislative package to fund vaccinations, provide immediate, direct relief to families impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency, and support struggling communities. In addition, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has distributed \$3 billion to block grant programs.

What are the areas of focus for this additional block grant funding?

The Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) program allows states to provide comprehensive services in community based settings to address needs and gaps in existing treatment services for those with severe mental health conditions (SMI/SED). The Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) program allows states to plan, implement and evaluate activities to prevent, treat and help more people recover from substance use disorder.

The goal of this funding is to assist funding recipients to make investments in existing prevention, treatment and recovery infrastructure, promote support for providers and address our unique needs within the state to deliver substance use disorder services.

SAMHSA guidance for additional MHBG funding focuses on supporting a behavioral health crisis continuum; supporting equal access to crisis supports 24/7, anywhere and for anyone. SAMHSA guidance for additional SABG funding includes the use of various evidence-based services and supports for individuals, families, and communities with a focus on health equity.

AHCCCS must submit an application providing details on the use of the additional funding by July 2, 2021.

Public comments can be submitted at this forum or by email to publicinput@azahcccs.gov.

American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation and Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART) captioning services are available upon request. If you require these or other types of accommodations pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), please contact Heidi Capriotti at heidi.capriotti@azahcccs.gov or 602-417-4729 no later than Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

