



How Do You Measure A Year? NASTAD's Response to the NHAS

Even before the [National HIV/AIDS Strategy](#) (NHAS) was released last July, NASTAD weighed-in heavily, communicating with the Obama Administration around key recommendations that underscore the central role of state health departments in the nation's response to HIV/AIDS. NASTAD continues its leadership role, advocating on behalf of the diversity of states in implementation. Additionally, NASTAD is in regular communication with the [Office of National AIDS Policy](#), the Department of Health and Human Services and members around critical NHAS issues for consideration during the implementation phase. The following is a review of top-line priority activities NASTAD has undertaken during year-one of implementation:

Winter 2010- Spring 2011

- **February 2010:** NASTAD sends [NHAS input letter](#) to Jeff Crowley, Director of the White House Office of National HIV/AIDS Policy.
- **2010:** The Institute of Medicine (IOM) holds a series of three workshops on HIV screening and access to care as part of the data gathering to incorporate into the development of the Strategy. Beth Scalco (LA) and Liisa Randall (MI) represent states as members of the IOM panel. NASTAD Executive Director Julie Scofield presents [NASTAD recommendations](#) during the fall 2010 IOM workshop.
- **July 2010:** NASTAD sends a [letter to ONAP Director Crowley](#) upon publication of the NHAS.
- **August 2010:** NASTAD publishes the [Role of States](#) document outlining states' role in implementing the NHAS.
- **October 2010:** NASTAD weighs in on state plans in its [National HIV/AIDS Strategy & Federal Implementation Plan Issues for Consideration](#) document, sent to all federal implementing partners.
- **October 2010:** Julie Scofield presents on state budget cuts and the role of states in implementing the NHAS at a [Funders Concerned About AIDS](#) meeting.
- **November 2010:** Julie Scofield presents, [Non-Federal Perspective on Funding Formulas and Policies](#), at an HHS consultation on HIV/AIDS funding formulas and resource allocation.
- **November 2010:** NASTAD attends the ECHPP Grantee Orientation held for the 12 grantees funded through PS10-10181 for the [Enhanced Comprehensive HIV Prevention Planning and Implementation for Metropolitan Statistical Areas Most Affected by HIV/AIDS \(ECHPP\)](#) project, a key activity outlined in the NHAS.
- **January 2011:** Julie Scofield represents NASTAD at a meeting on the NHAS convened by the Coalition for a National AIDS Strategy in Los Angeles, CA.

- **February 2011:** NASTAD publishes its *United in HIV/AIDS: A Guide to Understanding How Faith Communities Can Make A Difference*, another key aspect of the NHAS strategy.
- **February 2011: NASTAD** releases its policy statement on HIV criminalization in response to the NHAS imperative to examine and report on HIV-sentencing laws, policies and implications for people living with HIV.
- **March 2011:** NASTAD Executive Committee meets with Ron Valdiserri on NHAS implementation and federal coordination.
- **March 2011:** NASTAD Executive Committee meets with BPHC staff to discuss the NHAS.
- **March 2011:** Terrance Moore, Director of Policy and Health Equity, represents NASTAD at a meeting on the NHAS implications for LGBT communities convened by HHS.
- **March 2011:** NASTAD Executive Committee meets with BPHC staff to discuss the NHAS.
- **April 2011:** NASTAD shares with its members communications from the HRSA Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) to Primary Care Associations (PCAs) regarding the NHAS.
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- **April 2011:** NASTAD surveys members on the level of involvement and collaboration that state HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis programs have with their state correctional facility counterparts in providing HIV/STD and viral hepatitis related services to inmates in prison or in transition. This assessment will help gain an understanding of states' readiness to implement a key NHAS goal of achieving a more coordinated national response to the HIV epidemic in the U.S., particularly with state and local law enforcement.
- **May 2011:** ONAP announces they have commissioned the IOM to examine data gaps in monitoring access and quality of HIV care that will result in a report at the end of 2011. ONAP asks the IOM to examine and provide suggestions on "how to obtain meaningful national level estimates of access to care and services utilization by people living with HIV." NASTAD Executive Committee member Carmine Grasso (NJ) is on the IOM panel.

PRESENT: Summer 2011

- **May-June 2011:** Natalie Cramer, Associate Director of Prevention, identified to represent NASTAD as liaison to Ron Valdiserri's office on state plans.
- **June 2011:** Murray Penner, Deputy Executive Director, represents NASTAD at an HHS consultation on *Priority Approaches to Use of Potential New NHAS Funding*.
- **June 2011:** Julie Scofield, Terrance Moore and Chris Taylor, Senior Manager of Viral Hepatitis, represent NASTAD at a CDC consultation on *Prevention Through Health Reform* along with NASTAD members Heather Hauck (MD), Kathy Hafford (VA), Jacqueline Clymore (NC), Daniel Daltry (VT), Maria Courogen (WA), and Michelle Roland (CA).

- **June 2011:** Julie Scofield, Natalie Cramer, Randy Mayer (IA), Kathy Hafford (VA) and Heather Hauck (MD) discuss perspectives on state plans at an OMB/White House meeting on the development of state plans.
- **June 2011:** NASTAD sends a [letter](#) to ONAP Director, Jeff Crowley, around the on-going state plans discussions and conveying thoughts based on conversations with many state AIDS directors.
- **June 2011:** CDC Prevention Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is released.
- **July 2011:** NASTAD co-sponsors a workshop on Modeling and Evidence Based Decision Making with amFAR, Kaiser Family Foundation, The Foundation for AIDS Research and the Urban Coalition for HIV/AIDS Prevention Services.
- **July 2011:** Terrance Moore represents NASTAD in an HHS consultation with persons living with HIV/AIDS.
- **September 2011:** Natalie Cramer, Randy Mayer (IA), Ann Robbins (TX), Liisa Randall (MI) and Hope Cassidy-Stewart (MD) participate in an HHS meeting on determining common indicators to determine NHAS success.
- **September 2011:** Julie Scofield participates in HHS' Region II National HIV/AIDS Strategy Meeting.

ONGOING/FUTURE

- NASTAD provides regular communications to members via email memos updating them on NHAS.
- NASTAD is in regular phone and email communications with HHS Deputy Assistant Secretary for Health, Infection Diseases, Ron Valdiserri, who has been tasked with leading the development of NHAS implementation plans by all relevant federal agencies.
- NASTAD meets with the Bureau of Primary Health Care (BPHC) and the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) on the NHAS and health care reform.
- NASTAD provides technical assistance to members in their implementation of CDC FOA upcoming projects.
- NASTAD intends on continuing its strong participation in NHAS implementation discussions and activities and to support ongoing and frequent communication with and from members on the NHAS.

For more information on NASTAD's NHAS response, please contact [Julie Scofield](#), [Murray Penner](#), [Ann Lefert](#), [Terrance Moore](#), [Natalie Cramer](#) or [Chris Taylor](#).