

Examining the Use of Braided Funding for Substance Use Disorder Services

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Webinar

3:30-4:30pm EST, February 29th, 2024



SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

Center for Financing Reform and Innovation

CFRI is a SAMHSA contract with Westat that seeks to understand financing mechanisms of behavioral health care to identify opportunities, innovations, and challenges to service delivery and access.

CFRI provides SAMHSA with a dynamic mechanism to further its leadership and the field on immediate and relevant behavioral health financing and delivery issues.

Topics covered through CFRI include Financing Coordinated Specialty Care for first-episode psychosis, Value-Based Payment for SUD treatment, and many others.



Center for Financing Reform and Innovation

<https://www.samhsa.gov/cfri>

Webinar Speakers

Opening and Closing Remarks



Yngvild K. Olsen, M.D., M.P.H.
Director, Center for Substance
Abuse Treatment, SAMHSA

Report Overview



Mustafa Karakus, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President, Westat

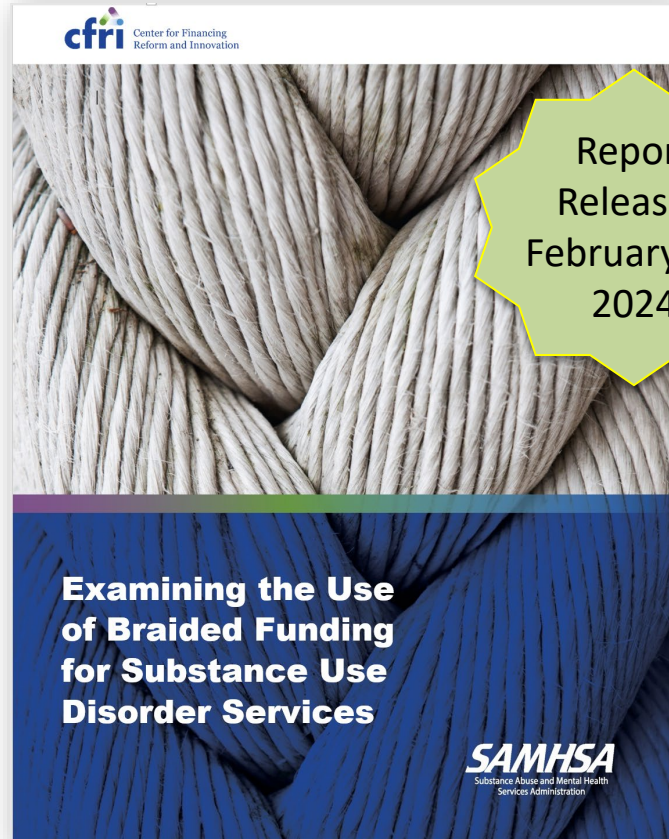
Panel Moderator



John Easterday, Ph.D.
Former Commissioner of
Wisconsin's Division of Mental
Health and Substance Use
Services and SSA, WI DHS

Webinar Overview

- I. Opening Remarks
- II. Report Overview
- III. Panel Discussion
- IV. Open Forum Q&A
- V. Closing Remarks



Report Overview: Key Terms

- **Braided funding** occurs when one or more sources of funding are used in a coordinated fashion to support a single individual or program. The different sources retain their specific spending requirements and are kept separate for reporting purposes.
- **Blended funding** occurs when dollars from multiple funding sources are combined to create a single pool subject to a single set of spending and reporting requirements that is used to fund a program or to purchase one or more specific services to support individuals with SUD.

Report Overview: Case Study Locations

This report presents case studies from eight U.S. states:

Arizona

Kansas

Maryland

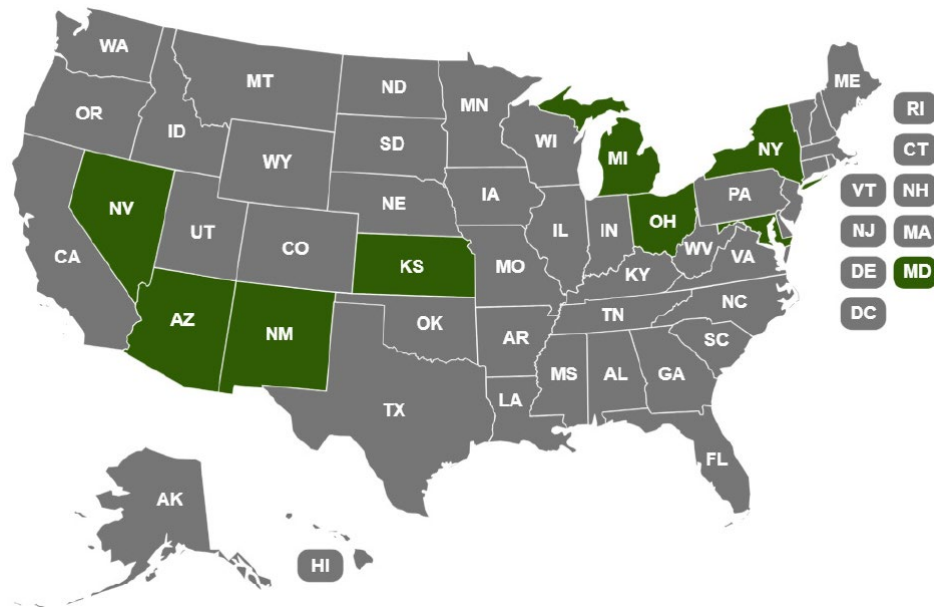
Michigan

Ohio

New Mexico

New York

Nevada



The case studies illustrate how states and programs use braided funding to fund SUD services.

Report Overview: Benefits of Braided Funding

Braided Funds May...

Optimize Resources

by layering different funding sources in a way that maximizes available funding.

Aid Sustainability

by diversifying revenue streams and aligning partnerships for long-term stability.

Improve Outcomes

by creating integrated and flexible systems of care for patients with SUD and funding prevention services that reduce the incidence of substance misuse and SUD.

Address Service Gaps

by working with administrative authorities to monitor spending data and adjusting funding allocations.

Report Overview: Challenges of Braided Funding

Braided Funds May Lead To...

Administrative Burden

associated with fulfilling a multitude of data collection and reporting requirements. Providers may need additional training or support to bill correctly for each service and client type and to avoid duplicate billing.

Unpredictability

of grants or time-limited state or local funding that makes it difficult to plan far ahead.

Reduced Fungibility

of funds because of administrative requirements associated with one or more funding sources.

Evaluation Challenges

associated with measuring return on investment when multiple funding sources are used.

Participant Activity: Poll

Where are you in the process of implementing braided funding for SUD services?

- a) Considering braided funding
- b) In the planning stages
- c) Implementing
- d) This does not apply to me

Participant Activity: Poll Results

Where are you in the process of implementing braided funding for SUD services?

- a) Considering braided funding – 39%
- b) In the planning stages – 9%
- c) Implementing – 22%
- d) This does not apply to me – 30%

Panelists



Stanford Kemp
Operations Director
Behavioral Health
Collaborative



CJ Loielle
Deputy Assistant Director
Arizona Health Care Cost
Containment System



Vickie Walters
Executive Director
REACH Health Services

Thank You

SAMHSA's mission is to lead public health and service delivery efforts that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, and provide treatments and supports to foster recovery while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes.

SAMHSA

Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration

www.samhsa.gov/cfri

1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727) • 1-800-487-4889 (TDD)

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