

Press Release

March 18, 2024

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Dr. Sharon Harris

516- 676-2008

safeglencove@yahoo.com

SAFE Glen Cove Coalition: SAMHSA's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Seeks \$8.1 Billion to Support Mental Health and Substance Use Services Across US

The 2025 Presidential budget recently released includes \$8.1 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), \$612 million more than the agency's FY 2023 enacted budget. The budget proposal continues to support the President's Unity Agenda to address the nation's ongoing mental health crisis and overdose epidemic by funding programs that promote mental health, prevent substance misuse, provide treatment and recovery supports, while ensuring equitable access and better outcomes for Americans.

Investments focused on preventing substance use and overdose include:

- State Opioid Response (SOR) grant program — \$1.6 billion, an increase of \$20 million, which disperses funding to states and territories to address the public health crisis caused by escalating opioid misuse and substance use disorder across the nation. Of the \$1.6 billion, \$60 million would go to the corresponding Tribal Opioid Response (TOR) grant program. Since the SOR program began, approximately 1.2 million individuals have received treatment services, including more than a half-million who have received an FDA-approved medication for opioid use disorder. The budget increase would enhance states' ability to address stimulants (such as methamphetamine and cocaine), as well as other issues related to the overdose epidemic.
- Community Harm Reduction and Engagement Initiatives — \$10 million to this new program that would fund state, local and territory governments, as well as tribal and nongovernmental efforts to address the gap in substance use care by supporting broad-based community harm reduction activities and linkages to services. The program would reach approximately 181,000 people with harm reduction and low-threshold treatment services through resources for community-based organizations, community harm reduction and engagement expansion grants, and a technical assistance center.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. 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. For more information please visit www.samhsa.gov.

SAFE is the only alcohol and substance use prevention agency in the City of Glen Cove. Its Coalition is conducting an opioid prevention awareness campaign entitled, "Keeping Glen Cove SAFE," to educate and update the community regarding opioid use and its consequences. To learn more about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition please follow us on www.facebook.com/safeglencovecoalition or visit SAFE's website to learn more about the Opioid Epidemic at www.safeglencove.org.