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Contact: Bob Davis

Email: [BDavis@asam.org](mailto:BDavis@asam.org)

Phone: 301.547.4112

## **The Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose Continues to Grow**

*The National Council for Behavioral Health Joins the Fight to Stop Opioid Overdose*

Rockville, MD (March 16, 2018) – The Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose (CSOO) is pleased to announce the National Council for Behavioral Health (National Council) as a new member of the coalition. The National Council for Behavioral Health is the leading voice for health care organizations that deliver mental health, addiction treatment, and support services. Its 2,900-member organizations serve over 10 million adults, children and families living with mental illness and addiction. The National Council leverages policy experts and grassroots outreach to drive their advocacy initiatives and fulfill their mission: for all Americans to have access to comprehensive, high-quality care that affords every opportunity for recovery.

“Every day, our members see the devastating effects of the opioid epidemic in their work with the individuals, families and communities they serve. We know the power of united voices and working with the members of the Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose we will keep fighting for policies that deliver the critical tools needed to end the epidemic,” said Chuck Ingoglia, Senior Vice President, Public Policy and Practice Improvement of the National Council for Behavioral Health.

“We are excited to welcome the National Council for Behavioral Health to the Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose,” said Corey Waller, Chair of the American Society of Addiction Medicine’s (ASAM) Legislative Advocacy Committee. “Behavioral and psychosocial treatment are essential parts of the addiction treatment continuum of care. We look forward to working with the National Council to translate addiction treatment and support service providers’ unified voice into effective advocacy and real policy change.”

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### **About the Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose**

The Coalition to Stop Opioid Overdose is a coalition of local, regional and national groups that are committed to advancing meaningful legislative and regulatory policies in response to the opioid epidemic. The Coalition seeks to address the U.S. opioid epidemic by engaging policy makers, public health leaders, chronic pain and addiction specialists, individuals in and seeking recovery and family members, so that legislation and policies get the support and funding needed.