



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
National Joint Committee

Committee Members

Patrick M. Devine, USPS
Manager, Contract
Administration (NPMHU) &
Employee Workplace
Programs

Debby P. Szeredy, APWU
Executive Vice President

Manuel L. Peralta, Jr., NALC
Director, Safety & Health

Ad Hoc Member

Dr. Deborah J. Atkins, USPS
EAP Administrator

Meeting Minutes

NJC Meeting - Hosted by NALC September 15, 2020

NJC Members present:

Patrick Devine USPS
Manuel Peralta NALC
Debby Szeredy APWU
Eric Leslie NDBH
Mary Milner Assistant EAP
Absent Debbie Atkins
Scheduled Meeting WebEx 11 :00 am - 3:00pm (EST)

DAC - The 1st item raised relates to the number of DAC meetings taking place without all three entities present (APWU-NALC-USPS). The NJC discussed the possible reasons for this issue and it was agreed that we need to address this and will do so through a revision to the Advisory Committee Guidelines.

Of import to this issue is the need to schedule meetings well in advance and to send out reminders to the members of the committee (see comments in the June NJC Meeting Minutes). Last minute scheduling will lead to scheduling conflicts and not being released from other duties to attend the meetings. This responsibility falls on all three entities. Any Advisory Committee Members that are not notified of the schedule of EAP Committee Meetings well in advance should surface the problem during committee meetings, and if necessary elevate the problem through the appropriate management or union leadership. Minutes - NJC reviewed the August 2020 minutes and agreed to make a few minor edits so that they may be posted.

Month End Report: Eric Leslie presented the August 2020 Month End report highlighting 11,913 web hits, 6,721 calls managed, 2,071 Clinical calls managed, 241 My Strength sessions, 475 Online Therapy sessions, and 28 Critical Incident responses, in spite of the fact that July and August generally show less EAP activity. The Average Speed to Answer (ASA) is 7 Seconds and the abandonment rate of 1 % indicates good service as viewed in the industry. The report also focused on the Library Topics indicating an increase in Addictions and Anxiety Disorders. It is anticipated that this will continue throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic. Further there is more activity in the financial calculators section which is often the case when contemplating retirement.

Suicide Prevention: Discussed September - Suicide Awareness Month. Materials developed for this month have been distributed to the field for use. The NALC has highlighted this subject in the Safety and Health column for the September Postal Record. Web App - The EAP Web APP is still in development.

Schedule Next Meeting: The NJC is scheduled to meet on October 13, 2020 and November 17, 2020.



APWU: American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO
1300 L Street NW
Washington DC 20005-4107

USPS: Room 9326
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington DC 20260-9326

NALC: National Association of Letter Carriers
100 Indiana Avenue NW
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