



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 Date: January 26, 2021

Present - Patrick Devine, Debby Szeredy, Manny Peralta, Mary Milner & Eric Leslie

The NJC was introduced to Marybeth Peters who has been appointed as the Clinical Director for New Directions.

We agreed to post the November 2020 minutes that we have all approved.

Eric reported on activity as reflected in the November 2020 and the December 2020 month end reports. He reminded the NJC that Talk Space has ended and on line therapy will be provided by Betterhelp. He further explained that in many cases, employees who were seeking online therapy, were advised that USPS EAP counselors, who have more experience/knowledge of the USPS are available by video conferencing and telephonically. Many callers took the opportunity to speak with these counselors, which may in part explain low online therapy numbers.

The December web hits were through the ceiling as a result of the EAP notice on Lite Blue. Huge success. Placing EAP links on the Lite Blue landing page in "HotTopics". This has resulted in 26,678 web hits in one month which the highest number of web hits we have on record.

We discussed that materials have been prepared for our Suicide Prevention Program and will be shared with the NALC and the APWU for review and feedback before release.

Eric demonstrated the use of the web portal on smart phones. This will be rolled out on February 11, 2021.

We discussed issues with the 4 Districts that have JCEAPs in that the corresponding DACs in those districts are not meeting. This issue needs attention as well as many other DACs that have not been meeting or that have not been posting their minutes. Set up meeting presentation for April 9th DAC with Greater Indiana as a refresh for new members coming on board.

We discussed the next "Spotlight". The bulb appears to need replacing. We will continue to review and make a spreadsheet of those DAC/JCEAP Committees displaying monthly or quarterly committee meetings. This information will assist in making selections for a Spotlight Report.

The NALC agreed to compile an updated listing of the DACs as relate to not meeting and will distribute as soon as possible.

Eric will work with NALC and APWU on introduction page for websites that provide easy access to specific PDFs.

The NJC scheduled their next 2 meetings for Fe



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