



**EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**  
*National Joint Committee*

**Committee Members**

Susan M. Carney, APWU  
Human Relations Director

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

Allen E. Mohl, USPS  
Manager, Contract Administration  
(NPMHU) & Employee Workplace  
Programs

The meeting of the EAP National Joint Committee (NJC) was held on April 8, 2015 at Headquarters.

Attendees included Manny Peralta, (NALC), Sue Carney, (APWU), Allen Mohl (USPS), Deborah Atkins (USPS EAP Administrator), Christine Leslie (Executive Director, MH), Tom Lamkin (Clinical Director of Field Operations, MH), and Debbie Ore (USPS EAP Coordinator).

The minutes from the March 25<sup>th</sup> NJC meeting were not in a final draft form for the committee to review. However, the preliminary notes were discussed and will be forwarded soon to review, agree, and get posted on-line.

The staffing analysis discussion that took place in the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting was further reviewed by the NJC in order to take a comprehensive look at things, and to ask any questions that came up for members after the last meeting. Two of Magellan Health, Inc. (MH) executives were there in case any new questions arose.

The end of month report for March had been assembled early by MH for the benefit of the NJC meeting, as the report is not usually done by this date and is not due until the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month. Noteworthy to the report was that March had the highest number of calls to the service center ever remembered. Between high promotion and the number of change elements going on in the organization would appear impacted the number. Number of suicides not subsiding, plans for next wave of prevention coming up in this meeting.

The NALC showed an article that had been prepared with MH. It was titled, *Silent No More*, and was the story from an NALC local president on his experience of tragically losing his son to chemical dependency. The article was excellent and carried a powerful message, and the EAP Administrator asked about the idea of carrying this story on a national level. Further information is noted about this in the preliminary planning of the next wave of suicide prevention information.

Quarter 3 suicide prevention actions were presented by MH and the EAP Administrator. They include the following possible actions:

- Letter to all advisory committees on the feedback we got from the url questionnaire sent out in the first quarter
- Poster focusing on the highest risk group for suicide, working aged men
- Information sheets on latest suicide data for the country



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- Web movie focusing on de-stigmatizing EAP use, emphasis on reaching out is okay
- Silent No More: Let's Talk About Mental Health (Extension of NALC's article)
- Update and new layout for military handouts for employees and managers

The NJC will continue to discuss suicide prevention measures and work to get DACs engaged, and particular attention will be paid to advisory committee activities in this month's EAP Awareness Month efforts.

The Exchange newsletter was discussed. A few revisions will be made and it will go out next week.

The next NJC meeting will be held at the NALC Headquarters on May 13, 2015.