



EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM **National Joint Committee**

Committee Members

Susan M. Carney, APWU
Human Relations Director

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

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

Ad Hoc Member

Dr. Deborah J. Atkins, USPS
EAP Administrator

The National Joint Committee (NJC) held a meeting on February 6, 2019 at the NALC Headquarters. In-person attendees included Manny Peralta (NALC), Sue Carney (APWU), Patrick Devine (USPS), Deborah Atkins (USPS EAP Administrator), Barbara Council (WEI Assistant) and by phone, Tom Lamkin (Magellan Executive Director).

- 1) The NJC agreed that the corrected July 2016 NJC Minutes will be posted as approved.
- 2) The NJC again discussed the April 2018 Meeting Minutes that are still not yet posted. They have already been approved and distributed seven times (which is a critical threshold).
- 3) The October 2018 NJC Minutes have not been drafted. APWU will provide the NJC with those minutes as soon as possible.
- 4) We discussed the agreement made as reflected in the March 22, 2018 NJC Minutes on the subject of the Dakotas DAC. Patrick Devine agreed to communicate the decision made and re-affirm the decision that was made by the NJC.
- 5) The NJC believes that the Boston DAC letter still needs to go out. This had been reviewed and finalized during the October 2018 NJC Meeting. [Note: NALC emailed an unsigned copy of the letter following the meeting.]
- 6) The NJC owes the Gulf Atlantic District feedback on the video that they provided for our review and approval. This item is long overdue.
- 7) The NJC reviewed the December 2018 Month End Report.
- 8) The NJC agreed that from this point forward, all commitments and agreements reached shall be memorialized and initialed by the NJC members.
- 9) The Unions expressed concern over being completely excluded from the selection process. The Unions were informed that the Vendor Solicitation was sent to a select number of vendors but the USPS was unable to identify the recipients. The USPS were unable to identify who these vendors were other than Magellan and New Directions.

The USPS advised that supply management does the decision making. We reached no accord on this subject.

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- 10) The NJC discussed the status of the Philadelphia JCEAP, which currently has no counselors available. The USPS advised that they have begun a large-scale communication effort (voice-mail messages, signs, Stand Up Talks and other methods) to make sure that all employees are provided EAP services when they reach out. The JCEAP has selected two counselors who will be on board very soon.
- 11) The NJC discussed the awarding of a contract to the new EAP Services Provider. That vendor, New Directions Behavioral Health, shall take over beginning on April 1st 2019, covering all services formerly provided by Magellan Health Services. There is much work going on behind the scenes to make sure that all necessary materials are in place on time. Further, the new provider is in the process of contracting the necessary counseling staff so that there is a smooth transition of services.
- 12) The NALC took the NJC to its website (nalc.org) to show the materials relating to EAP services. Deborah Atkins will have all the items reviewed to replace any items mentioning Magellan Health Services.
- 13) The NJC agreed that our next meeting will be on 2/26/2019 at 12:30 at the USPS.
- 14) Whereas April is EAP Awareness Month, we agreed to identify the following three topics for activity.

Suicide Prevention - PTSD for the affected and the family - Mindfulness