To establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2020

Mr. TRONE (for himself and Mr. MEUSER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To establish a grant program for family community organizations that provide support for individuals struggling with substance use disorder and their families.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Family Support Services for Addiction Act of 2020”.

SEC. 2. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.

Part D of title V of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 553. FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR INDIVIDUALS STRUGGLING WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

“(1) the term ‘family community organization’ means an independent nonprofit organization that—

“(A) mobilizes resources within and outside of the community of families with individuals living with addiction, to provide a support network, education, and evidence-informed tools for families and loved ones of individuals struggling with substance use disorders; and

“(B) is governed by experts in the field of addiction, which may include—

“(i) experts in evidence-informed interventions for family members;

“(ii) experts in the impact of addiction on family systems;
“(iii) families who have experience
with substance use disorders and addiction;
and
“(iv) other experts in the field of ad-
diction; and
“(2) the term ‘family support services’ means
resources or programs that support families that in-
clude an individual with substance use disorder.
“(b) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary shall
award grants to family community organizations to enable
such organizations to develop, expand, and enhance evi-
dence-informed family support services.
“(c) FEDERAL SHARE.—The Federal share of the
costs of a program funded by a grant under this section
may not exceed 85 percent.
“(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under sub-
section (b)—
“(1) shall be used to develop, expand, and en-
hance community and statewide evidence-informed
family support services; and
“(2) may be used to—
“(A) build connections between family sup-
port networks, including providing technical as-
sistance between family community organiza-
tions and peer support networks, and with
other family support services, focused on enhancing knowledge of evidence-informed interventions for family members and loved ones of individuals living with substance use disorders, or problematic substance use, and reducing harm by educating service providers on current evidence regarding addiction and the family, including—

“(i) behavioral health providers, including such providers focused specifically on family and couples therapy in the context of addiction;

“(ii) primary care providers;

“(iii) providers of foster care services or support services for grandparents and other extended family impacted by addiction; and

“(iv) other family support services that connect to community resources for individuals with substance use disorders, including non-clinical community services;

“(B) reduce stigma associated with the family of individuals with substance use disorders by improving knowledge about addiction and its treatment, providing compassionate sup-
port, and dispelling myths that perpetuate such stigma;

“(C) conduct outreach on issues relating to substance use disorders and family support, which may include education, training, and resources with respect to—

“(i) building a resilience- and strengths-based approach to prevention of, and living with, addiction in the family;

“(ii) identifying the signs of substance use disorder;

“(iii) adopting an approach that minimizes harm to all family members; and

“(iv) families of individuals with a substance use disorder, including with respect to—

“(I) navigating the treatment and recovery systems;

“(II) paying for addiction treatment;

“(III) education about substance use disorder; and

“(IV) avoiding predatory treatment programs; and
“(D) connect families to evidence-informed peer support programs.

“(e) **DATA REPORTING AND PROGRAM OVERSIGHT.**—With respect to a grant awarded under subsection (a), not later than 90 days after the end of the first year of the grant period, and annually thereafter for the duration of the grant period, the entity shall submit data, as appropriate and to the extent practicable, to the Secretary regarding—

“(1) the programs and activities funded by the grant;

“(2) health outcomes of the population of individuals with a substance use disorder who received services through programs supported by the grant, as evaluated by an independent program evaluator through the use of outcomes measures, as determined by the Secretary; and

“(3) any other information that the secretary may require for the purpose of ensuring that the grant recipient is complying with all the requirements of the grant.

“(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026.”.