



MOAR NEWS

MASSACHUSETTS ORGANIZATION FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY

SEPTEMBER 2007

EDITION 10



SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH

Sponsored by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (USD/HHS), Substance Abuse Mental Health Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT). The 2007 theme: "Join The Voices for Recovery: Saving Lives, Saving Dollars", celebrates individuals and families in recovery from alcohol and other addictions. MOAR is a CSAT National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month Planning Partner. We celebrate the vision of overcoming stigma, discrimination, and other barriers to treatment and recovery support services. We celebrate the hope of recovery for individuals and families who need support. So join the Voices for Recovery across Massachusetts to make Recovery Month 2007 Celebrations the best ever!



YOU ARE MOAR WANTED

17th Annual Recovery Celebration Day (September 26)

March from Boston City Hall to the State House with support from

Greater Boston Council on Alcoholism MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, MA Department of Public Health and the Boston Public Health Commission with legislative sponsorship from Senate President Therese Murray, House Speaker Salvatore DiMasi, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee Chairpersons Senator Gale Candaras and Representative Ruth Balsler with Committee Members... with a cast of stars. Followed by a MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Public Policy Discussion, *Stigma of Addiction in the Media*.

MOAR Recovery Celebration, Contact Maryanne Frangules, 617-423-6627

BSAS Public Policy Discussion, Contact James Hiatt, 617-624-5102



3rd New England Ride for Recovery (September 16)

with support from USD/HHS/SAMHSA/CSAT, Greater Boston Council of Alcoholism, with Middlesex Human Services spreading recovery from Somerville, MA to Maynard Sports Club
Contact: Stephanie Almeida, mongotatoomadness@gmail.com

3rd Annual Allston Brighton Substance Abuse Task Force Walk for Recovery (September 15)

with MOAR and Addiction Treatment Center of New England and you.

Contact: Helen Connolly, Helen.Connolly@caritaschristi.org

RECOVERY MONTH CELEBRATIONS

9/11–Worcester

9/14–Springfield

9/15–RECOVER Project, *Sober Jam*

9/19–New Bedford

9/30–MOAR & AdCare Hospital

MOAR Info: MOARfran@aol.com



Read MOAR Inside

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MOAR is pleased to be or have been a recipient of MA BSAS /DPH, CSAT, Greater Boston Council on Alcoholism, Boston Foundation, & Boston Public Health Commission funding via Third Sector New England

MOAR is an affiliate of NEAAR, New England Alliance for Addiction Recovery, and involved in the national recovery movement via FAVOR, Faces and Voices of Recovery.

This newsletter is funded by



MOAR is further funded by membership dues and activities and is responsible for this newsletter's contents. All newsletter contributions are reviewed by our authorization process.

MOAR website <http://www.neaar.org/MOAR>

For information, please call Maryanne Frangules, 617-423-6627

MOAR Mission Statement

To organize recovering individuals, families, and friends into a collective voice to educate the public about the value of recovery from alcohol and other addictions.

MOAR Vision Statement

To envision a society where addiction is treated as a significant public health issue and recovery is recognized as valuable to our communities.

DESIGN CianoDesign www.cianodesign.com



New England Motorcycle Ride for Recovery. Somerville City Hall to Maynard Sports Club. *Ending Discrimination by the Mile.*



Allston Brighton Substance Abuse Task Force Walk for Recovery. Herter Park, Brighton. *Ending Stigma by Each Step.*

MOAR thanks all our sponsors, especially CSAT, MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, Greater Boston Council on Alcoholism, Middlesex Human Services Agency, AdCare Educational Institute, Third Sector New England, MA Behavioral Health Partnership, Adcare Hospital, Modern Assistance Program, CASA Esperanza, and others to be listed in our next edition, and broadly thanked Recovery Day, September 26th, 2007



Senator Gale Candaras, Mental Health Substance Abuse Committee Senate Cochair '07. She Listens and takes action.

Join The Voices for Recovery; Saving Lives, Saving Dollars Take Action Facts:

- Massachusetts would save \$6 to \$25 million with Insurance Parity
- Alcohol and drug related Medical visits decline 53% following addiction treatment
- Addiction treatment reduces criminal activity by 80%



Lynn Bratley founder of Improbable Players, acting out the value of real recovery to end stigma.



Kattie Portis, Substance Abuse Policy Advisor to Boston Mayor Thomas Menino, speaking up for recovery



Horace Small, MA Alliance to Reform CORI, Mobilizing to End Criminal Offender Record Information Discrimination

Do MOAR!



Join The Voices for Recovery!



A Living Memorial for Jack Leary (above), John Dorsey, Bob Pisani, James Sweeney Ellie Bornman. All have passed away, and their memories survive for supporting so many to recovery.



Recovery High School Students from Beverly, Springfield, Boston—in 2006, with Michael Botticelli, MA DPH Director, Substance Abuse Services) rally again Recovery Day 2007.



Learn to Cope Parent Support Group will lead a state wide vigil to end drug overdoses... and support Long Term, Quality Treatment on Demand, Recovery Day and everyday.



Senate President Therese Murray, Recovery Month Lead Sponsor. We are MOAR grateful to her.



Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services, represented by MOAR, Maryanne Frangules, MHSACM Jonathan Scott, Connie Peters, honoring 2006 Mental Health Substance Abuse Committee Cochairs, Senator Steven Tolman and Representative Ruth Baiser for prioritizing addiction prevention treatment and recovery.



Central Massachusetts Making Recovery Month Plans, Maryanne Frangules, MOAR, BSAS Central Region Director, Ray Kosinski, Prevention Advocate Jose Rivera, Adcare Hospital Rich Harris.



Judah Dorrington - Sings with a Voice for Recovery.

National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month

Let's end stigma

With SBIRT

Screening Brief Intervention Referral Treatment

SBIRT allows early identification of people who use alcohol or drugs in ways that may put them at risk for negative social or health consequences; encourages them to change their behavior; and refers them for assessment or treatment as appropriate.

SBIRT is a 5-year federally funded initiative that supports local implementation of SBIRT.

At Boston Medical Center patients are being screened in their hospital beds, in the emergency department and during annual physicals in the outpatient clinics. Seven Health Promotion Advocates, funded by SBIRT, work closely with Hospital staff to incorporate SBIRT into each of these settings.

MA **SBIRT** is enhancing referral connections between health care institutions and professionals and addiction treatment providers.

Three Massachusetts colleges have federal funds to implement SBIRT.

BSAS is funding other SBIRT projects in Massachusetts:

Over 30 Community Health Centers across the state will screen adolescents and women of child-bearing age during their annual physicals.

The 6 hospital emergency rooms initially selected for alcohol and drug screening are:

- Children's Hospital, Boston
- St Anne's Hospital, Fall River
- Mercy Medical Center, Springfield
- Athol Memorial Hospital and Heywood Hospital- Gardner
- South Shore Hospital, Weymouth
- Whidden Hospital, Everett

Twelve Health Promotion Advocates, all in addiction recovery, have been trained by Project ASSERT, an SBIRT pioneer with Edward Bernstein, MD Boston Medical Center.

SBIRT Saves \$\$\$

SBIRT in Primary Care settings saves \$6 for every \$1 spent.

Yet in general doctors don't identify risky substance use, particularly in the early stages.

Excerpted from MA BSAS SBIRT News, Summer 2007.

Contact Carol Girard, BSAS SBIRT Coordinator, 617-624-5189

With our recovery stories



Woody Giessmann Recovery Story

Woody Giessmann, LADC-I, CADAC (CEO and founder), an addiction counselor, and former Del Fuegos drummer, started Right Turn in March of 2003. Right Turn supports artists to enhance one's creativity by learning to live alcohol and other drug free, with new wellness skills. Through his experience, as a creative person moving from a drug addiction history to becoming a drug

addiction clinician, he has developed a unique treatment approach incorporating creative expression into recovery models. Right Turn brings creative people together into a safe haven where they can explore their art and preserve their creative gifts.

Woody is a licensed and certified addiction counselor. Woody has worked in many treatment modalities. His membership with MOAR, Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery, and the Massachusetts MA Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, demonstrates his commitment to spread the value of addiction recovery.

So Woody has created Right Turn, a vision of becoming the leading provider of drug, alcohol, and psychiatric treatment to the creative community, disseminating their unique treatment approach in settings all over the country. Creative people join together at Right Turn Inc to share ideas and develop an incredible sense of community. This is how and where the healing begins.

For more Right Turn Information: Call 781-646-3800 or go to info@right-turn.biz.

My Recovery Story, Mellisa Herren

Today, I am in recovery from heroin addiction. I am grateful that I was coerced into treatment. Because of long term treatment I am able to be a daughter, a sister, and a girlfriend. I had been struggling with my Heroin addiction for 6 years only to find myself homeless, living on Boston streets, in and out of detox. I felt completely hopeless.

I was so desperate to stop but I didn't know how...It was life or death.

Through the Cambridge Drug Court Program I was court mandated into Meridian House, which is structured therapeutic community residential treatment. Drug Court and Meridian House taught me there are consequences to my actions. I learned to be held accountable for my choices. Long term treatment and active participation in 12th step groups helps me live in recovery. My community service participation with MOAR, is now my part time working position. As a MOAR, MA Organization for Addiction Recovery, member, I am helping to end discrimination surrounding drug addiction recovery.

Deb Lavoie's Parent Recovery Story & Office of Patient Protection Chapter

My story began like most of our stories do...you slowly start to sense something is wrong, seeing changes in your child or family member that you do not understand. My daughter is currently nineteen year old. A few years ago, when her grades began declining and her interest in participating in sports waned, I wondered if this was attributable to "normal teen development." It really was the beginning of her descent into addiction.

Traumatizing does not even begin to do justice to what you feel when you are watching your child dying before your eyes. In the midst of this crisis, I had to fight for insurance coverage and justify why treatment is necessary.

Despite a history of relapses, overdoses, and depression, my insurance company denied payment for her detox and rehabilitation stay. I found my way to the Office of Patient Protection. MOAR and the Parent Support Group of Western Massachusetts referred me. Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Office of Patient Protection's Stephanie Carter walked me through the appeal process. Ultimately my insurance company had to pay the eligible benefits. My daughter is "benefiting" from long term treatment, too!

We all need to stand up and end insurance discrimination. I encourage all to join parent support groups and MOAR! I hope that by our stories, we can increase resource awareness, such as the Office for Patient Protection.

If your insurance company denies necessary treatment coverage, call the Massachusetts Dept of Public Health, Office of Patient Protection, 1-800-436-7757

Talk About Addiction: Anti-Stigma Campaign

A Recovery Month premier interview with Michael Botticelli, Director, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, MA Department of Public Health

“Stigma in our society creates tremendous impediments to prevention and treatment of substance related disorders.

Stigma is about being ashamed.

Stigma leads to a Don't Talk About It cultural phenomenon.

Stigma is a major barrier to recovery.”

“Talk About Addiction” is a MA Department of Public Health (DPH), Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) campaign premiering this September for National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. The public will now have access to a website detailing information about addiction, recovery, and referral resources. The positive message campaign is featured in other media outlets. We can replace stigma with the value of prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Michael Botticelli emphasized;

- Many people do not understand the science of addiction.
- “It is a disease with chemical and physical components like other chronic diseases such as cancer or diabetes”
- Lack of understanding spreads stigma with
Message: “If you are strong willed, you should be able to beat it”.
Impact: Shame is experienced, and treatment is not sought.
- Evidence demonstrates that treatment works as it does for other chronic illnesses, and it is cost effective.

“Let’s get the truth out. Let’s educate everyone about how to access treatment services, and address the challenges involved. We can educate key community leaders and legislators to treat substance use disorder as a chronic condition. The MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, also, will highlight our mission to integrate substance use disorder with primary care. In a preventive mode, we can best help the most vulnerable and their families.”

Assistant Commissioner Botticelli envisions a time when

- Communities look forward to treatment facilities in their neighborhoods.
- Our field messages are clear and consistent with more neutral terminology. Substance Use Disorder will replace Substance Abuse, which is negative.
- All recovery paths are respected. We will recognize medication assisted treatment, such as methadone or suboxone.
- Criminal justice is about rehabilitation with emphasis on society re-entry.
- Youth experience the message of living drug free.
- Telling our personal and family recovery stories is recognized as valuable.
- Anonymity is respected. Anonymity means we do not share 12 step membership at the public level because it may result in revealing information about others.

Thank you, Michael Botticelli, BSAS Director for making “Talk about Addiction” possible. We envision a successful campaign!



When you were young,
did you dream of
becoming an addict?

Addiction is a disease. Recovery is possible. talkaboutaddiction.org

Stigma of Addiction in the Media

Recovery Day Afternoon—September 26th

sponsored by MA Bureau of Substance Services, DPH, in collaboration with MOAR and Adcare Educational Institute.

The Recovery Day Policy Forum line up of stars; Jim Gogek, University of California, San Diego, Monica Brady-Myerov from National Public Radio Donna Latson-Gittens representing Causemedia, provide the portrayal of substance use in the media. A person in recovery shares the impact stigma has had upon their recovery process. John Auerbach, MA Public Health Commissioner introduces all, as well as, unveiling the BSAS Stigma Media Campaign. You walk away with an experience to continue to “Talk about Addiction”—as we view billboards, hear PSA’s and peruse the website... into the future where stigma is history.

New MA MA Public Health Commissioner John Auerbach Shares His Thoughts

“Substance use disorder is a major public health problem in Massachusetts, as it is around the nation. While in recent years we have seen increased overdoses and deaths from heroin and from opioid prescription medication abuse, they are far from the only addictive substances that we need to combat.

To address substance and addiction we need a multi-faceted approach—expanding our prevention and education efforts and increasing the amount, the types and the accessibility of various treatment modalities. This can help to reduce stigma.

To reach these goals we need the strength and insight of the recovery community and the active involvement of MOAR and its membership.”

Thank you Commissioner, John Auerbach! We welcome you!

Meet Jim Hiatt, MA BSAS Constituent Services

Jim Hiatt is MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Constituent Services Officer. His main scope of service is to ensure the voice of recovery is incorporated in all aspects of the continuum of care.

In the past year, Jim has enhanced the MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Consumer Advisory Board with member designed by laws and invitations to participate in focus groups, RFR – Request for Response – (BSAS funded grant application review opportunities).

“Our Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Consumer Advisory Board developed our first statewide Annual Consumer Conference, No Wrong Door to Recovery. It was a standing room only event!

We will repeat it for next year!” Jim Hiatt reported.

It was a great pleasure to sit with Jim Hiatt, Constituent Services. He made me all the MOAR aware that our voices, unified, can help change the social norm, and shatter the stigma that surrounds alcohol and other drug use. As I left my talk with Jim, I thought of the words of noted author and recovery historian William White: “By our silence, we allow others to define us.”

Want to join The MA Bureau Consumer Advisory Board?

Any Constituent Related Concerns? **Call Jim Hiatt, 617-624-5102.**

By Dana Moulton, MOAR member

Recovery High Schools Highlights of The First Year's Journey

The Recovery High Schools are designed to meet the needs of high school students who have had a history of substance use disorder and a firm commitment to recovery. Ninety students have journeyed through the doors of The Massachusetts Recovery High Schools in Springfield, Boston, and Beverly. Let's get a glimpse of that experience.

William J. Ostiguy Recovery High School Boston

MOAR took a rewarding trip to visit William J. Ostiguy Recovery High School, operated by ABCD, Action for Boston Community Development, Inc. in collaboration with The Gavin Foundation. We spoke with Roger Oser, William J. Ostiguy High School principal, and students.

When first talking to Roger Oser, it becomes clear about the ever present sense of pride. "We are in our first year, and it has been a very positive experience. We have 6 students that have graduated. There is no way they would have graduated in the public school system. Our real goal is to build a long term foundation so that they will experience lifetime recovery skills."

Student Expression of The Recovery High School Experience

"Just finding people in recovery that are my age with the same amount of recovery time has been very amazing."

"I live back home and my mom trusts me. She lets me go to meetings at night. People trust me now."

"Every time we get a new student, I relive my favorite experience of welcoming him or her to our school. It makes me feel so good."

"We are learning and living in recovery. We support each other."

Roger adds, "There is a strong link between success of a young person and family support. We are very pleased with the level of parental support and involvement."

Ostiguy Recovery High builds a foundation for education, communication with families, in a strong caring recovery environment. The plan is to register 50 students for next year. These students will have hope for a positive future!

The Springfield Recovery High School

The Springfield Recovery High School is one of the programs within the alternative school system in Springfield known as the Springfield Academy for Excellence (SAFE). Dr. William J. Cosgriff is Executive Director of Support Services. Michael Ellis is the Springfield Recovery High School principal. They work as a team inspiring education, recovery, and innovation.

Michael Ellis talked about the unique challenges that were encountered in its first year of operation. First, and foremost, the eligibility requirements for acceptance into the program had to be revised to fit the realities of the Springfield population. According to Ellis, almost 80% of Springfield youth are living below the poverty line. They are unable to access treatment services due to lack of transportation. As a result, an in-house Psycho-Intensive Intervention Program was developed to support recovery motivated candidates. The therapeutic curriculum consists of a three days, six hours per day of recovery learning skills. Of the 38 students this year, 28 went into this program.

The school is proud to reflect Springfield's diverse community. African American and Latino students make up most of this school's population, which reflects the Springfield area.

The Northshore Recovery High School

The North Shore Recovery High School is operated by The Northshore Education Consortium. Michele Lipinski is the very vibrant, dedicated principal. She shares very proudly about the 30 students, and the 7 graduates! The school can boast of a successful prom where recovery behavior surpassed expectation!

Michele noted just returning from a Lincoln, NH retreat. The students prepared for another year (as well as kayaking, water parks, 12 step meetings, and a talent show).

"Everything is growing and everyone is helping. Our staff is growing in response to the needs of the students. Students' parents are involved. We are forming a strong parent support group. Students have been working really hard to remain recovery focused. In response to this, we have had to expand our after school programs to include fun activities for the students to stay engaged. We have had an overwhelming response by the recovery community to help these children succeed. I, personally, could not do my job as effectively without the help of the recovery community who have embraced these children. If there were one thing I would like to see happen over the next year, it would be to find more mentors for these adolescents." Thank you, Michele.

Interview with Paul Kusiak, MOAR Parent Member

As a result of Paul Kusiak's experience of having a child in the Minnesota recovery high school system, he clearly is glad to have Massachusetts do the same. In fact, as a Beverly native, he has become actively involved in the North Shore Recovery High School. Within the school's first year, he witnessed powerful positive changes in the students. This September, Paul's child attends this safe and supportive environment.

During his son's recovery, Paul recognized that parents and family need support to:

- Realize that they cannot control their child's disease
- Learn how to lovingly detach, and not enable their child's self destructive behaviors
- Attend parent support groups where they can share experiences, learn to live their lives knowing that their child's recovery is hopeful and a real possibility.

He looks forward to supporting efforts to make prevention and treatment more accessible to all. Ending insurance discrimination is near and dear to his heart, too.

CONTACT INFORMATION

William J. Ostiguy High School, Boston

Roger Oser, Principal
19 Temple Place
Boston, MA 02111
617-348-6250

Springfield Recovery High School

Mike Ellis, Principal, Bill Cosgriff, Director
334 Franklin St.
Springfield, MA 01104
413-787-6998

Northshore Recovery High School

Michelle Lipinski, Principal
502 Cabot St.
Beverly, MA 01915
978-922-3305

Boston is experiencing a New Kind of High! Ostiguy “Recovery High” in Downtown Boston

Would you put an alcoholic in a bar? That is essentially how Boston Fire Department Employee Assistance Professional (EAP) Director, Lt Will Ostiguy related his experience of referring firefighters’ adolescent daughters and sons into treatment, only to relapse right after discharge. The inevitable is to return to same behavior of the same crowd... at the same school.

In looking for a solution he discovered that since 1989, Minnesota developed Sobriety High Schools. Currently Minnesota has 600 adolescents dispersed among 10 Recovery High Schools. These schools have a 90% graduation rate and 50% go on to college. Those statistics motivated Will Ostiguy!

Thus, Ostiguy has been the catalyst for creating the Massachusetts recovery high schools. Believing that these adolescents need to be with peers focused on recovery and education, he sought out community and political support to make it a reality. In 2006, three recovery high schools were born in Boston, Beverly, and Springfield. The Boston program is rightly named after him, Ostiguy High School. He can proudly say, that 75%-80% of graduates are continuing on to college. He knows many Massachusetts areas could benefit by recovery high schools

Ostiguy shared that there needs to be

- A state supported crisis stabilization and rehabilitation center so that the adolescents can safely transition from detox to next level of care, to be able to transition with a minimum of 30 days recovery to meet the schools eligibility criteria. The 30 day time period, also, allows for residential treatment assessment.
- A process to stay in touch with Recovery High School students who graduate or leave.
- A recovery high school outreach plan to enlist Afro-American and Hispanic youth.
- A parent education effort that teaches how to procure appropriate treatment and school services
- A prevention education curriculum for the 4th, 5th and 6th grades.

Thank you, Will Ostiguy, for your advocacy for our young people—our future adults.



Senator Steven Tolman, Recovery High School Supporter.



Will Ostiguy, Recovery High School catalyst.



Ostiguy Recovery High School Graduation 2007.

Greg Hughes, Giving the MA Substance Abuse Services Strategic Plan a Youth and Family Focus

Greg Hughes, Governors Interagency Substance Abuse Services Council, has “the job” to execute Massachusetts Strategic Substance Abuse Services Strategic Plan.

This means providing the means to a seamless continuum of care based on evidence based prevention and treatment services. Substance use disorder “is a family disease and we need to focus on the entire family.” Building our adolescent services with family involvement is one facet of the strategic plan.

New or future Adolescent Continuum of Care Services with outreach to the family:

- CASA Start: Programs for at risk youth now in six Massachusetts schools. Skilled care coordinators work with students in their school and home environments to mentor youth.
- Diversion: Programs for youth where delinquency can be altered with treatment versus criminal record.
- Crisis Stabilization Units: Programs supporting detox, and inpatient stay allowing for further evaluation.

One of the biggest challenges is to support adolescents into treatment. Racial and gender disparities are major challenges. We would like to assist all cultures, as well as males and females about the treatment access inclusive of type and choice.

The three new Recovery High Schools are models for creating a recovery environment. In just one year of operation, Massachusetts has demonstrated leadership in the use of evidence based programming.

We are on a learning curve, as we strategically make positive changes. Our communities will become prevention, treatment, and recovery informed!

Are you or someone you know looking for services?

MA Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline:
1-800-327-5050

Need Help for Your Child?

Youth Central Intake at the Institute for Health and Recovery
617-661-3991

MOAR and Friends Take Action Opportunities

COMING THIS NOVEMBER

MOAR and FAVOR

Building Our Media Skills Learning Seminar

ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11TH

MOAR Annual Meeting and Celebration –

Location to Be Determined

SPEAK UP FOR ADDICTION RECOVERY

Join MOAR—Go to WWW.NEAAAR.Org/MOAR

MOAR Take Action Meetings

Boston – East Boston and Jamaica Plain,
Marshfield, New Bedford, Worcester, Springfield

Call 617-423-6627

GET NATIONAL – JOIN FAVOR –

FACES AND VOICES OF RECOVERY

Go to www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

SUPPORT AND TAKE A RIGHT TURN FOR CREATIVE PEOPLE

2nd Annual Celebrating John Belushi Concert Right Turn

Benefit Friday, November 2nd, 7 PM, Regent Theater,

Arlington. Contact Information- www.right-turn.org

COMING FEBRUARY 2008

Boston Public Health Commission's
Annual Families in Recovery
Celebration, The State House



MOAR Thanks Stephanie Almeida,
MOAR Board Member, for sharing
her inspiration, as she moves on
in her life endeavors.



Boston and Springfield Recovery Community Take Action News

Boston BPHC Coalitions on The Move

According to the Boston Public Health Commission reports, while drug use remains a major issue, there are indications of positive development. MOAR believes that Boston Public Health Commission NODrug Coalitions collaborative efforts are a positive catalyst for this change. All 14 coalitions collaborate with neighborhood residents, policymakers, schools, and businesses to raise awareness about prevention and treatment for drug addiction.

Examples of communities working together for positive change:

Allston Brighton Substance Abuse Task Force

Educational Summit for about 800 area students at Boston College

Charlestown Substance Abuse Coalition

Youth and Family Outreach Support

Jamaica Plain and Roxbury Coalition

Collaboration efforts to Address Disparities

South Boston Hope and Recovery Coalition

Quarterly Forums with Youth Outreach

Dorchester Substance Abuse Coalition

Joins Allston Brighton and Charlestown in receiving federal prevention grant

Healthy Roslindale

Sponsors "Rossie Reps" a youth group, who raise community awareness

MOAR is pleased to participate with the coalitions. The Healthy Communities of Greater Boston provide technical assistance. Boston Public Health Commission's Rita Nieves and Jan Quiram are the coalition's project directors. Thank you to new MA Public Health Commissioner, former Boston Public Health Commission Executive Director John Auerbach and Andy Epstein for being a driving force in this initiative. We welcome new BPHC Executive Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer, who will oversee all of the commission's projects for a healthier Boston.

Springfield Recovery Community Takes Public Policy Action

On September 6th, Springfield recovery advocates held a policy forum highlighting priorities. Treatment on Demand, CORI Reform, Insurance parity, and cultural disparities are priorities. Public Health Commissioner John Auerbach, former Governor Michael Dukakis, and Springfield Public Health Department Helen Caulton Harris were featured speakers. A public policy institute assisting the community to build a strong voice for addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery will be a major outcome. MOAR is very pleased to be asked to take a strong role in this endeavor. Interested? Call James Florek, 413-364-4593.



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