

Recovery Month
Edition 17, Fall 2012



8th Annual Bob Heme
Motorcycle Ride for Recovery
In Memory of
Michael Roe O'Donnell Jr.
August 19, 2012



Lieutenant
Governor
Timothy
Murray
Celebrates
Recovery Day

Your Voice Counts
Saving Lives; Providing Hope

- Good Samaritan Law
- Prescription Drug Control
- Improved Drug Sentencing
- Young People in Recovery
- South Bay Peer to Peer Overdose Prevention
- National Award Goes to **MOAR!**
- Recovery Support Counts!



MOAR

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

News

JOIN THE VOICES
FOR RECOVERY
**It's
Worth It**

National
Recovery Month
Prevention Works • Treatment is Effective • People Recover
september 2012

US Dept of Health/Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), The Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), National Sponsor & MOAR, CSAT National Recovery Month Partner, Invite You to:

"Join the Voices for Recovery: It's Worth It"

-Celebrate the Hope and Reality of Recovery-

September is National *Recovery* Month

You Are **MOAR** Wanted!

MOAR and Friends 22nd Annual Recovery Celebration Day

Tuesday, September 18, 2012

9:00 AM

Meet- Boston City Hall Plaza, Government Center

Hear Teen Challenge Recovery Choir

9:30 AM

March to Gardner Auditorium, The State House

10:15 AM

Recovery Month Celebration

12:30 PM

Policymaker Education Visits and Lunch in Great Hall

1:30 PM

MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

Public Policy Forum in Gardner Auditorium

"Emerging Recovery Supports: Recovery Coaching"

3:30 PM

Adjourn with Enthusiasm to Speak up for Recovery

Thank You to City of Boston, MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, Dept. of Public Health, Greater Boston Council on Alcoholism, Senate President Therese Murray- Legislative Sponsor; and contributions from High Point Treatment Center, Spectrum Health Services, & many more.

Recovery Day Thank You Action

Celebrate The Positive Change in Conversation,

Good Samaritan Call to 911 and Prescription Drug Control to Save Lives!

No More MBTA Alcohol Ads - Thank You SAFE MA-

Improved Funding for Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery

And "Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale"— with

The Visible, Vocal, Valuable Vigor from Our Recovery Day Stars

Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray,

Michele Monroe, SAMHSA; DPH Commissioner John Auerbach, BSAS Interim Director

Hilary Jacobs, House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Senator John Keenan,

Representative Liz Maffia, Kattie Portis,

BPHC Director Barbara Ferrer, plus the Faces and Families of/for Recovery.



Prescription Drug Policy to Help Save Lives Becomes Law— Why?

“10 Massachusetts residents die every week from prescription drug misuse!”

Senator John Keenan, Legislative Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee Chair, with Co Chair, Representative Liz Malia and leadership from House Speaker Robert DeLeo and Senator President Therese Murray with many other legislators improve prescription drug policies! They heard your stories! Some of what the new law will do!

- Prescribers for controlled substances, such as opiates, will be registered in the Prescription Monitoring Program
- Prescribers will utilize the program prior to seeing a new patient. Client histories will be checked. Clients' names will be confidential.
- Pharmacists will learn how to use the Prescription Monitoring Program and it will be part of licensing requirements.
- Pharmacists will check for prescription validity.
- The MA Bureau of Substance Department of Public Health will issue an easily-understood pamphlet concerning prescription drugs, where to turn for help, and how to safely store and dispose of the medications.



HELP SAVE LIVES IN THE COMMONWEALTH

Good News - Good Samaritan Proposal Becomes Law!!!

Why? 4500 Persons Dead from Opioid Overdoses 2002-2009

Massachusetts joins: New Mexico, New York, Rhode Island, Washington, and Illinois to

1. Protect both witnesses and overdose victims from being charged or prosecuted for possession of a controlled substance when calling 911 during an overdose. (Protection excludes a warrant or the presence of significant drug distribution.)
2. Provide legal protection for prescribing of Naloxone (Narcan) (opioid overdose reversal agent) and for those (such as family members) who possess and/or administer Naloxone to someone having an opioid overdose.
3. Save lives by making it more likely that someone witnessing an overdose will call 911.

MOAR Special Thanks to:

- Susan and Larry Sheehan, who as parents alerted Representative Alice Peisch (thank you) that our state needs a Good Samaritan Law.
- Massachusetts Department of Public Health for responding to the 15 Mass Call2 Opioid Overdose Prevention Coalitions finding the #1 reason people do not call 911 is fear of being arrested;
- Senator Cynthia Creem, Senator John Keenan and Representative Elizabeth Malia.... All the legislators led by Senate President Therese Murray and House Speaker Robert DeLeo.
- The Boston Public Health Commission for being first in the state to use Narcan
- Good Samaritan Campaign co led by AIDS Action Committee—with Debbie Silva! And You!

Next steps - Good Samaritan Campaign must now build community awareness! You are MOAR Wanted!



Speaking up to Save Lives



Boston Overdose Vigil

**Good Samaritan
Next Steps
Spreading
The Word!**

Learn about The 2012 Massachusetts Drug Sentencing Law!

This new law, as of August 2nd, makes the following changes to the mandatory minimum sentences for drug offenses

- Reduces drug-free school zones, down from 1000 feet to 300 feet
 - Reduces mandatory minimums for many drug offenses
 - Improves eligibility for parole, work release and earned time
 - Increases earned "good time" for all prisoners, not just drug offenders
 - This is not an "early release" law. While it allows many drug offenders serving mandatory minimums to go before the Parole Board at an earlier date, it does not guarantee any particular results. The Parole Board will decide if, when and under what conditions someone will be paroled.
 - Due to changes in drug sentencing, some offenders who have been serving long mandatory minimum sentences have been released. These men and women had earned "good time" to make this move happen. We would, also, advocate for re-entry support.
- MOAR** Information-Families Against Mandatory Minimums (FAMM) has provided a fact sheet on the new law www.famm.org
Contact Barb Dougan, FAMM's Massachusetts project director, at (617) 543-0878 or bdougan@famm.org.

**Know Your
Rights!**

Meet Positive Action on The Move— Young People in Recovery _ YPR Mission:

"YPR is a national movement united at all levels to empower young people to find and sustain recovery. We use our voices and lived experience to Educate, Advocate, and Collaborate. We envision a world where we don't have to bury any more of our friends due to drugs and alcohol." Matthew Donovan, former Ostiguy Recovery High School Student, is an active member, who just joined The MOAR Board!

South Bay Peer Overdose Prevention Program Provides Hope!

- **Roxbury Jamaica Plain Coalition**, is one of 4 Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC) No Drug coalitions, and one of 15 Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Department of Public Health Mass Call 2 grantees, funded to reduce fatal and nonfatal opioid overdoses. In the beginning, community assessments determined persons released from incarceration were at particularly high risk of opioid overdose.
- **The coalition partnered with MOAR**, BPHC programs and the Whittier Street Health Center in collaboration with the **Suffolk County House of Correction**. The collaboration resulted in a focused training program for South Bay House of Correction (SCHOC) incarcerated. The project **initially trained volunteers to provide overdose prevention material** and encouraged inmates to follow-up after their release at the Whittier Street Health Center to arrange for treatment services. Inmates were encouraged to go BPHC's **AHOPE (Addicts Hope Opportunity Prevention Education)** project to learn more about overdose prevention. and BPHC's Men's Recovery Center!
- After the program's initial success, **John Dolan, SCHOC Caseworker Supervisor, instituted a peer (prisoner) to peer (prisoner) Opioid Overdose prevention curriculum**. Result: **more than 300 incarcerated individuals** have gone on to provide Overdose Prevention instruction to more than **900 prisoners in the Suffolk County House of Corrections**. Presently, **MOAR** and the coalition partners are in the process of documenting and developing a peer curriculum to be offered in other prisons.
- Some of the **men upon release have started to become involved in MOAR**, as part of an overall recovery plan. A little bit of help can help a lot of people, who deserve an opportunity for a life in recovery!



Congratulations!
South Bay Peer to Peer Overdose Prevention Provides Hope



Mark Muhammad, Dan O'Connor, Pat O'Brien, Maryanne Frangoules, Paul Kusiak

Faces and Voices of Recovery Honors MOAR - Thank You!

MOAR Received the Joel Hernandez Award for Excellence in Addiction Recovery Advocacy from Faces & Voices of Recovery, the nation's leading addiction recovery organization. This award honors a grass roots community organization that continually advocates for the rights of people and their families in or seeking recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs. Joel Hernandez was a trailblazer in addiction recovery, dedicating his life to removing barriers to individuals and families who are affected by addiction.

On June 22, 2012, **MOAR** was honored at an awards benefit and ceremony at the Carnegie Institute of Science in Washington, D.C. featuring members of Congress, federal officials, and leaders of the nation's addiction recovery movement. Award recipients were selected from nominees submitted by organizations and advocates from across the United States, to foster excellence in advocacy related to addiction recovery. Thank you **MOAR** members for your

"Visible, Vocal, Valuable Voices" to make this award reality!



Boston City Council Honors MOAR, too!

MOAR Speaks Up and Stands Up for Addiction Recovery

- **MOAR**, as a Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services (MCAS) Member, educated policymakers about need for improved addiction services. The coalition, chaired by Connie Peters, Association for Behavioral Healthcare, with at least 10 other organizations educated policymakers with stories, facts and stats to improve state supported services with \$3.67 million.
- **MOAR**, as a member of the Campaign for Better Care, facilitated by Paul Williams, Health Care for All, educated policymakers that a statewide **Behavioral Health Council** for Accountable Care Organizations should include a **voice for addiction recovery**. Accountable Care Organization development is a movement to develop health care teams which would be reimbursed by global payment versus fee for service. "Integrating" addiction services with other health care services in ACO's is very important to **MOAR**!
- **MOAR** is pleased that Accountable Care Organizations will include
 - *Licensed Alcohol and Drug Clinicians (only licensed professional with requirement for addiction experience, knowledge, and skills)
 - ***Recovery Coaches** and Peer Navigators to help individuals and families to become familiar with supportive services
 (**MOAR**, in fact, has 2 peer **Recovery Coaches** via the state's **Access To Recovery** Program)

Let's all participate in the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Bureau of Substance Abuse Services 9th annual Policy Forum – Emerging Recovery Supports: *Recovery Coaching* – on Recovery Day, September 18th, 1:30 to 3:30pm

8th Annual Bob Herne Ride for Recovery (in Memory of Michael Roe O'Donnell Jr.) August 19, 2012

The 2012 **Bob Herne Ride for Recovery** was a rousing success. Over 250 bikers, friends and families joined in this celebratory event. Festivities included a tasty barbeque, volleyball, music by DJ Joe Pet, fishing for kids and many generous prizes donated by a large group of sponsors. Prize highlights included guitars from Jackson Browne, Steven Tyler of Aerosmith and a fiddle from Charlie Daniels. Stephanie Almeida, a ride co-chair, lost her brother Michael this past April. His death was related to his alcoholism and cocaine addiction. Stephanie's family and friends came out in full force, hitting home that addiction effects many families from all walks of life. We heard from Matt Ganem, a young man from Somerville who shared the trauma of his addiction and the hope of recovery with his beautiful poetry -- He is five years and alcohol and other drug free and has published a book of his poetry, "The Shadow of An Addict". **MOAR** thanks Ride Co-Chairs Rocco Antonelli Jr., Frank Azzariti and Stephanie Almeida plus Cory Mashburn (City of Somerville) for leadership and volunteers especially Recovery Connections Recovery Center plus, Middlesex Human Services Agency's Alex and Mike! Our sponsors are listed on www.moar-recovery.org!



MOAR

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

MOAR mission is 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 envisions a society where addiction is treated as a significant public health issue and recovery is recognized as valuable to our communities.

Upcoming Events

MOAR Annual

Holiday Celebration

Tuesday- December 11, 2012

Mechanics Hall, Worcester

For Local Recovery Action
Meetings and Updates
Go to www.moar-recovery.org
Like **MOAR** on Face Book!

Call 617 -423-6627

Some MOAR Recovery Day Stars



Jared Hamre
National
Recovery
Month
Speaker



YPR - Young People in
Recovery



Hilary Jacobs,
Interim
MA BSAS
Director



House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Mental
Health & Substance Abuse Chairs,
Senator John Keenan & Rep. Liz Malia



Thank You to



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John Frazier, Mark Muhammad



Recovery Voices Count

Election Day is

November 6th

Register to Vote by

October 17

JOIN THE VOICES
FOR RECOVERY
**It's
Worth It**

National
Recovery Month
Prevention Month Treatment & Recovery People Matter
september 2012

High Point Treatment Center's (HPTC) mission is to prevent and treat chemical dependency and provide therapeutic services for mental health issues. Our goal is to help an individual achieve personal change and accept responsibility toward an improved quality of life.



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