



# MOAR

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

Fall News 2009 –Edition 14



**5th New England Ride for Recovery (September 27)** – with support from USD/HHS/SAMHSA/CSAT& MHSa spreading recovery from Somerville, to Maynard Club!



MOAR and Friends 19th Annual Recovery Month Celebration September 23



**5th Annual Allston Brighton Walk for Recovery (September 26)**  
A Recovery Movement



10,000 Recovery Marchers Brooklyn Bridge—



## MOAR News At a Glance

Membership Update	Insert
SAFE-MA Nix on Ads Where?	2
Elizabeth Goes to Brooklyn!	2
Call to Action—911	3
6th Annual BSAS RM Forum	3
NEAAR Conference Highlights	3
Bridgewater Closing?	3
Senator Walsh Recognition	4
MOAR Fundraiser	3

September 2009  
JOIN THE VOICES FOR **RECOVERY**  
CELEBRATING 20 YEARS  
TOGETHER WE LEARN. TOGETHER WE HEAL

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), MOAR is a CSAT National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month Planning Partner. We, persons in recovery, families, and friends celebrate the vision of overcoming stigma, discrimination, and other barriers to treatment and recovery support services.

**MOAR and Friends MA 19th Recovery Month Celebration Day**  
**Wednesday, September 23rd**  
**Over 1000 Recovery Voices with**

**The MA Campaign for Addiction, Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery to Celebrate and Thank Policymakers who are making addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery a capital investment**  
**Your Voices are Being Heard!**

**Alcohol Tax Helped to Maintain Substance Abuse Services**  
**And Now MOAR Than Ever We Need Unite To Protect Our Services**

### Our Message:

- **Up for Prevention, Stop Treatment Wait Lists & Support Recovery Services**
- **Move The Good Samaritan Campaign to Increase 911 Calls to Decrease Drug Overdoses, Stop Witness Arrests When Your Only Crime is Saving a Life**
- **Improve Criminal Justice Services and Policies to Support Recovery**

**Our Invited Speakers:** Lt. Governor Timothy Murray; **Senate President Therese Murray;** Assistant Majority Whip – Senator Steven Tolman, **Majority Whip - Senator Marian Walsh;** **Mental Health & Substance Abuse Committee CoChairs: Rep Liz Malia and Senator Jennifer Flanagan;** Rep Alice Peisch; **Susan Sheehan;** Public Health Commissioner, **John Auerbach;** MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Director, **Michael Botticelli;** **Honorable Robert Ziemian;** **Mayor Thomas Menino;** Boston Public Health Commission **Barbara Ferrer & Rita Nieves;** Boston Substance Abuse Advisor, **Kattie Portis;** **David White,** **MBA Drug Policy Task Force;** **Steve Sweeney – Comedian for Recovery;** **Bob Monahan,** **Recovery Homes Collaborative;** **Vic DiGravio,- MHSACM/CEO,** **Woody Giessmann,** **Right Turn for Recovery;** **Peter Crumb,** **MAADAC;** **Maureen McGlame,** **COASA;** **Stacy Carruth, SAAFE-MA;** **No Drug Coalitions;** **Elizabeth Rodriguez,** **Jim Gillen,** **MA & RI Recovery Delegates;** **Overdose Prevention & Underage Drinking Coalitions;** **3 Recovery High Schools;** **Learn to Cope Parent Support Goup;** **The Improbable Players;** **MOAR Individuals and Families in Recovery**

### A Miracle of Recovery Story, Richard Farrell, author, "What's Left of Us"

Thank you to MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, MA Dept of Public Health, Third Sector New England, The City of Boston, The Boston Public Health Commission NO Drug Coalitions ;USD/HHS/SAMHSA/CSAT, MA Campaign for Addiction Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery, MA Coalition for Addiction Services, MOAR Membership and You! Top Financial Recovery Month Sponsors: Spectrum Health Services, ReckittBenciser, Phoenix House, MBHP, Foundation for Alcohol Education, MHSACM, Modern Assistance Program, HighPoint .All Sponsors are publicized our Recovery Month Brochures and will be listed in future promotions from Recovery Day 2009 to 2010

## What is the Recovery Project?

In 2008, A&E launched The Recovery Project to generate awareness that addiction is a treatable disease and recovery is possible. More than 5,000 people attended the first annual Recovery Rally in NYC. The goal this year was to double the attendance! Together, we can make a difference.

In New York City on September 12th, 2009 over 10,000 people in recovery, families and friends celebrated the 20th Anniversary of National Recovery Month. In partnership with National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence, [Faces and Voices of Recovery](#) and the [2009 Recovery Month Planning Partners](#), thousands of people from across the country made the historic recovery walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. Will Luzier, Substance Abuse Advisory Inter-agency Council Executive Director, The North Shore Recovery High School, The Recover Project (Greenfield, MA), and Every Day Miracles Recovery Support Center joined the marchers

### Meet The Massachusetts Recovery Delegate, Elizabeth Rodriguez, to The A&E Recovery Rally

Elizabeth Rodriguez, 14 years in long term recovery, is The MA Recovery Delegate. She joined over 10,000 Recovery Marchers to proclaim National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month's theme *Join The Voices for Recovery: Together We Learn: Together We Heal*. Elizabeth is a vibrant spokesperson for all persons in recovery, especially persons of Latino heritage. She is a person, who was born in Puerto Rico. She moved to the Lawrence area, and resides in Methuen. She is very concerned about the need for a stronger voice for her community. She sees the challenges of addiction and poverty all around. She knows it is possible to recover from addiction, and to cope with related trauma. She is an educated person, certified and licensed in addiction counseling. She used her voice on a local radio show to outreach to others. Now she is using her voice vibrantly to help others.

She joined MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Consumer Advisory Board, and MOAR to build a strong recovery community in the Lawrence area. She invites you to join the BSAS Consumer Advisory Board by calling Jim Hiatt, BSAS Constituent Liaison, 617-624-5102, and to Join MOAR, go to [www.moar-recovery.org](http://www.moar-recovery.org)

### MA Leads the Nation in Proposing an Act to Protect Young People from Alcohol Advertising Statewide New Bill Proposes Banning Alcohol Advertisements on All State Owned Property

Massachusetts is taking a bold stance on alcohol advertising directed at youth and children and could become the first in the nation to prohibit alcohol advertising on state-owned property. House Bill 1113 was introduced by Representative Martin J. Walsh with support from the collaborative – Supporting an Alcohol Ad. Free Environment in Massachusetts (SAFE MA).

The research is clear: the more alcohol advertisements young people see, the more likely they are to drink and to drink to excess. A 2006 national study demonstrated that when adolescents and children are exposed to alcohol advertising, the more likely they are to drink. The risks are significant; every year in the US, the deaths of more than 5000 young people are connected to underage drinking. The research is also clear that prohibiting alcohol advertising has tremendous benefits, potentially reducing monthly levels of youth drinking by 24% and youth binge drinking by 42%.

**“A publicly funded state agency should not be in the business of undermining public health.”**

Alcohol advertising is widespread in Massachusetts: 25,000 children and adolescents living in Greater Boston depend on the public transportation to get to school and are exposed to alcohol advertising during their daily commute. A national report from Marin Institute showed that the MBTA is one of only two major public transit systems that explicitly allow alcohol advertising.

Massachusetts is one of the top 10 states for underage drinking rates. “It is unfathomable – in the midst of an epidemic of underage drinking in Massachusetts – that a government agency would allow alcohol advertising on public space,” said Amy Helburn of Supporting an Alcohol Advertisement Free Environment in MA. “It is past time for the MBTA to join with other transit agencies around the country in recognizing that the small amount of revenue generated by these ads is not worth the cost to public health.”

“It is disappointing that an agency that was so responsive to concerns about advertising that promotes media violence refuses to acknowledge the negative impact of alcohol ads,” said Josh Golin, Associate Director of the Campaign for a Commercial-Free Childhood. “A publicly funded state agency should not be in the business of undermining public health.”

## **JOIN THE MASSACHUSETTS 911 GOOD SAMARITAN COALITION**

**The Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR) &  
The Massachusetts AIDS Policy Task Force  
Invite You  
to Support Overdose Drug Prevention Policy Proposals**

### **2270 Opiate Overdose Deaths 2004-2007**

The 2270 and more lives might have been saved if 911 had been called. Fear of police involvement is the #1 reason people do not call. The 15 MA Opiate Overdose Prevention Coalitions are all implementing community strategic prevention interventions.

Together we can educate policymakers and the public about Senate Bill 1843 (Sen. Tolman), House Bill 1653 (Rep. Peisch), and House Bill 3992 (Rep. Galvin) offering limited immunity, or protection from drug possession charges against people who call 911 to seek emergency medical attention during an overdose. H1653 & H3992 have been heard before the Judiciary Committee, and S1843 hearing is scheduled for October 27.

**MOAR Thanks Our Partners & Policymakers as  
2010 MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Budget Makes History  
New Alcohol Tax  
Prevents Major Service Cuts — And  
Now MOAR Vigilant Than Ever We Need to Unite  
to Protect Addiction Services Today and for 2011**

## **The 6th Annual Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

**The Focus:** Substance Use and Chronic Disease Management Featuring:

- **Jonathan Scott**, Victory Programs CEO, Moderator, Victory Programs ; VPI's goal is that all clients—even those who relapse, act out, or have other challenging behaviors complete their stay. Emphasis is on maintaining a therapeutic relationship for a successful outcome.
- **Theresa Kim, MD** Boston Medical Center, Associate Medical Director of Clinical Protocols MA Screening. Screening, Intervention & Referral-The project reinforces the value of screening and referral no matter how often a person may come into an emergency room or other service
- **Joseph Finn**, Ex. Director MA Housing & Shelter Alliance, Housing First—a project prioritizing housing stability for homeless persons. This might be helpful for persons on the recovery path, combined with treatment, & is not a treatment substitute.
- **Jesse Mellor**, Director of Recovery Services, Henry Lee Willis Center. Relapse Responsive Treatment emphasis is on treatment plan review of what needs to be included to help prevent relapse in the future.
- **Athena Haddon**, Program Director, Sylvia T., Peer Volunteer, Everyday Miracles Center Spectrum Recovery Support Center Emphasis is peer community agreement to maintain a recovery environment by respectfully referring persons, who are currently in an active state of use to alternative support, and welcoming return when alcohol and other drug free, even if it is for just that day.

## **Right Turn Presents**

### **2nd Annual MOAR Fundraiser**

**An Evening of Comedy and Music**

**Join us for a Reggae Dance Party featuring**

### **“PRESSURE COOKER”**

**Boston's original old-school reggae band.**

**\$20.00 Contribution &**

**Receive a Free MOAR Membership!**

**Local Comedians, Auction, Raffle & Refreshments.**

**When: October 10, 7 PM**

**Where: 299 Broadway, Arlington, MA**

### **Mary Deramo: Learn to Cope Speaks Out & About**

Dept of Corrections planned closing of MASAC, Men's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center, known as Bridgewater. “In the middle of an epidemic, this will result in MORE deaths, more funerals, and more crime in our communities.”

MOAR would agree and “wonders” where the men will be referred. Learn to Cope Parent Support Group and MOAR will raise concerns at the October 1st Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee Oversight Hearing.



## **New England Alliance for Addiction Recovery Recovery Conference,**

**Celebrating  
our Diversity,  
Celebrating our Unity  
August 29 -30  
Nashua, New Hampshire**

Over 100 persons in recovery, families and friends participated in the conference.

### **A Recovery Take Action Experience**

New England Families Building a Voice to Improve Systems and Provide Support

Media Skill Building

Policymaker Education

Youth Engagement for Recovery

“This was really a Recovery Movement Experience” said Ron Budd, MOAR staff member, with much thanks to New England Institute for Addiction Studies, Faces and Voices of Recovery, Addiction Technology and Transfer Center, FOR New Hampshire, Patty McCarthy—NE FAVOR Rep, and Denise Devlin for support.



# MOAR

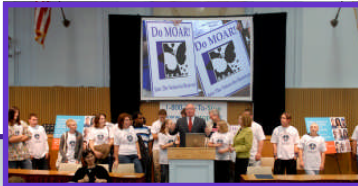
## Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery



(right) Senate President Therese Murray,



(below) Mental Health and Substance Abuse Committee Co-Chairs Senator Jennifer Flanagan and Representative Elizabeth Malia. They really listen to the concerns of the recovery community.



Above: Senator Tolman & Senate President Murray with the 3 Recovery High Schools, making education support, & a future for the students. Senator Tolman has heard their and other testimony, at Oxycontin Commission hearings....We will get results!!!

Right—Top L— MOAR congratulates Ivette Torres, CSAT for 20 Recovery Month Years!

Right—Top R— Caroletta Shaw Boyd, MOAR member, speaks out for CORI Reform

Right—Recovery Month March— Celebrating Voices for Recovery

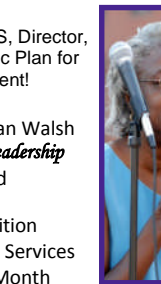


Recovery Day Sponsor Every Day



(above) Michael Botticelli, MA BSAS, Director, needs your help for BSAS Strategic Plan for addiction services development!

Kattie Portis, City of Boston Mayor's Substance Abuse Policy Advisor - Visible, Vocal, Valuable (below)



The Honorable Robert Ziemian, a Recovery Month Star, started MA Drug Courts to help build a structured path for recovery for people struggling with addiction and crime. It works!

Senator Marian Walsh Exemplary Leadership Award

MA Coalition for Addiction Services Recovery Month Celebration 9/23/09



### A.R.E.A.S. Addiction Recovery Education Access Services

Learn How to Be a  
MOAR Peer to Peer Facilitator  
**Monday, November 23, 9:00 AM**  
Interested?  
Call MOAR at (617) 423-6627



MOAR  
c/o Boston ASAP, 3rd. Floor  
30 Winter Street  
Boston, MA 02108