

MOAR



Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

8th Annual Public Policy Forum Direction

From Alcohol Tax Loss to Finding The Best Funding Strategy for Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery

Thank you to Assistant Majority Leader Senator Tolman, Mental Health SA Chair: Rep Liz Malia, & Rep Gloria Fox, for encouraging all to educate our legislators about the value of addiction prevention, treatment, & recovery.

What do We Do- You Heard it at The MOAR & Friends Boston Public Policy Forum

<u>Short Term Goal</u> – Educate Legislators to Support <u>No Cuts</u> to Substance Abuse Services 2012 Budget

Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services' Association for Behavioral HealthCare's Connie Peters and Vic DiGravio, Bob Monahan of Recovery Homes Collaborative and Paul Kusiak, MOAR, asked everyone to

- Educate your elected legislators to educate new House and Senate Ways Means (Budget Policy)
- Chairmen: Senator Stephen Brewer (Barre) & Rep Brian Dempsey (Haverhill).
- House Speaker Robert Deleo (Revere) and Senate President Therese Murray (Plymouth)

Message:

"As a constituent, who knows very well the impact of addiction, I am asking that MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, Department of Public Health be funded at MA Coalition for Addiction Services Request at the 2011 level, and supported in House1 (Governor's Budget).

The Line Item Request for Consideration is:

- 4512-0200 at \$75,185,802 for most of the continuum of care
- 4512-0201 at \$ 4,800,000 for post detax step down
- 4512-0202 at \$ 2,000,000 Jail Diversion, secure treatment for opiate dependence
- **4512-0203** at \$ 1,500,000 for Family Intervention
- Total: \$83,485,802

Why? The state legislature has enhanced funding for a really improved continuum of care; we still need to build in a stronger capacity to support prevention, treatment, and recovery. With 3859 persons dying from opiate overdoses from 2002-2008; underage drinking killing 4 times as many youths than all illegal drugs combined; we have an epidemic that needs our undying attention."

Who are Your Elected Legislators? Go to wheredolvotema.com on the web
State House Contact Information:
The State House
Boston, MA 02133
617-722-2000

Your Voice Counts Throughout The Budget Process

- Please know that House budget proposal is expected April 13th
- *If changes need to be made, we will ask for amendments*
- The Senate Budget usually comes out in May.
- The House and Senate Budget must be reviewed and consolidated as one by June 30th.
- The Governor must review, sign, or veto (reject) by line item;
- The House must decide to override (reject) vetoes first, then the Senate- by a 2/3 vote.
- By Mid- July a 2012 Budget Becomes Real