

**Edition 18, Fall 2013**

**Annual Edition**



# MOAR

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

# News



**9th Annual Bob Herne  
Motorcycle Ride for Recovery  
with Middlesex Human  
Services Agency**

**August 24, 2013**

Chairs: Frank Azzariti, Rocco Antonelli Jr. &  
Stephanie Almeida with Maryanne Fran-  
gules. Thank you to DPH- BSAS, MHSA,  
Recovery Connections and You!



## September is National *Recovery Month*



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## You Are MOAR Wanted

### **MOAR and Friends 23rd Annual Recovery Celebration Day Thursday, September 26, 2013**

#### **Good Samaritan Campaign to Save Lives from Overdoses**

#### **Recovery Access to Healthcare**

- 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

#### **“ Culturally Linguistically Appropriate Services In Action”**

**Making Health Services Accessible to People with  
Different Backgrounds, Needs and Expectations**

- 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, Sen-  
ate President Therese Murray— Celebration Sponsors:  
High Point Treatment Centers, Spectrum Health Systems & many more.

#### **Hear from our Invited Speakers:**

Cheryl Bartlett—DPH Commissioner, Hilary Jacobs-BSAS Director, House Speaker Robert DeLeo, Senate and  
House Chair Mental Health & Substance Abuse Committee: Senator Joan Lovely & Rep. Elizabeth Malia,  
Rep. James O'Day, Rep. Marty Walsh, Rita Nieves -Boston Public Health Commission,  
William Luzier, Woody Giessmann and The Residentials, Improbable Players, Haner Hernandez,  
Matt Ganem, Rick Dyer, Rocco Antonelli Jr, Joanne Peterson-Learn to Cope,  
Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services, SAFE\_MA  
Good Samaritan Campaign, Deborah Delman -RAH! Recovery Access to HealthCare, Coalitions,  
Recovery High Schools



## At Least 5529 people died from Opioid Overdoses from 2002-2010

### Spread The Word

### Become a Good Samaritan—Call 911 to Save a Life



#### The Good Samaritan Law

builds a path for hope and action for anyone witnessing or experiencing an opioid overdose. Everyone who is suffering from opioid addiction, family members, communities, schools, law enforcement, and medical professionals is included!

#### Background

An overdose is a medical emergency. It requires an immediate call to 911. Fearing arrest for illegal drug use causes witnesses not to call 911.



Opioid Overdoses Kill 2 People a Day  
Hear This!

The Good Samaritan Law provides protection from drug possession arrest when calling 911.  
Be a Good Samaritan!  
Not calling 911 is #1 reason overdose victims die!

#### How It Works

The Good Samaritan Law provides legal action for all to call 911 with hope that a life can be saved!

(Yes- Law enforcement can still secure the scene of an overdose, and arrest for heavy drug trafficking or outstanding warrants)

#### Narcan (Naloxone) Prescription

The law helps spread the word about Naloxone (Narcan), a medication that can reverse opioid overdoses.

(Yes, The Massachusetts Department of Public Health has provided grants for Narcan distribution)

Now— medical professionals may prescribe Narcan to a family member or acquaintance of someone suffering from opioid addiction. In the event of an overdose, both the person who administers the Narcan and the prescribing professional have legal protection.

Over **19,000** persons were trained to prevent, recognize and respond to an opioid overdose and administer naloxone (Narcan®).

At this time, DPH has documented reversal of over **2000** potentially fatal overdoses.



## Good Samaritan Campaign Action for Awareness More to Come—Join Us!

#### Law Enforcement Good Samaritan Activities:

- Good Samaritan Fact Sheet included in law enforcement updates
- Chief William Brooks, (Norwood ) and Chief Terrence Cunningham (Wellesley) met to explore further improved Good Samaritan awareness
- Quincy Police Department supported by Lt Detective Patrick Glynn used Narcan to reverse more than 170 overdoses. Quincy Police are Good Samaritan educated!

#### School and Community Good Samaritan Steps:

- Notice to school districts to inform students about Good Samaritan law
- Health Education Bill in state legislature to include alcohol and drug prevention
- 15 state funded Opioid Overdose Prevention Coalitions provided support
- 71 MA communities will receive support to reduce opioid abuse and misuse
- Weymouth, Saugus, and Revere Fire Departments now carry Narcan
- Learn to Cope Parent Group Training Families to use Narcan

#### Healthcare Professionals Take Good Samaritan Action

- Boston Medical Center's Dr. Alex Walley leads the Narcan Project
- Boston Medical Center Colleen Labelle, RN, educating nurses
- Website <http://prescribeto prevent.org> on Narcan created

#### Thank You to

#### Good Samaritan Members

Melissa Weiksnar (mother/author), Susan and Larry Sheehan (parents/Good Sam movers), Louellyn Lambros (concerned citizen), Katy Sugarman (Revere Cares Coalition) Gary Langis (MassTAP), Rebecca Bishop, Lisa Conley, Berto Sanchez, Sarah Mackin (all of Boston Public Health Commission), Emily Camin (Northeastern University Law Student) and Lisa Whynott(Tapestry), Quincy Lt Detective Patrick Glynn

Thank you to

Sarah Ruiz

& Thera Meehan

for DPH support



Join The Good Samaritan Campaign to  
Spread the Word



Interested?  
email [Maryanne@moar-recovery.org](mailto:Maryanne@moar-recovery.org)

## Recovery Community - News About Health Care for You

### National Health Care Reform Affordable Care Act

The 2010 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act often referred to as ACA is our national health reform law.

**ACA supports parity.** Parity means insurers must offer addictions and mental health services at same level of benefits they do for general medical services. Many more people are to access services. Until it is real, we move to enforce parity.

**ACA provides many opportunities** to develop and implement Peer Recovery Support Services. Stay Tuned and Get Involved!

### ACA is to Provide All with Good Care So in 2014....

- **People with income** less than \$43,000 (or \$88,000 for a family of 4) could be eligible for financial help to pay for insurance.
- **Pre-existing conditions** like addiction or mental health must be insurance covered.
- **Annual or lifetime limits** on our health plan coverage cannot be capped
- **Addiction and Mental Health Services** are to be included in a list of "Essential Health Benefits", when we seek insurance through a Health Insurance Exchange.
- **Health Homes** are to offer us one stop shopping for health care.
- **More school-based health centers** are to offer mental health and addictions services.
- **Long term disability needs** are to be met by more community-based care choices. (if Massachusetts adopts certain ACA programs).

### Massachusetts Payment Reform

- **Is Supposed** to limit healthcare costs without quality loss
- **Supports a team approach** to health care from prevention to recovery support services
- **Establishes A Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund** to be administered by the Department of Public Health; funded by health plans for community prevention by a competitive grant process

**MOAR participated in a Behavioral Health Task Force** Committee, which recommended to the state Legislature, Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor insurance reimbursement, inclusion of peer recovery support services, & increased addiction and mental health curriculum for physicians.

**RAH!**  
Peer Recovery Communities  
Coming Together

**MOAR** (Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery) and **The Transformation Center** as part of our Recovery Access in Healthcare (RAH!) grant developed this healthcare reform update.

**RAH! is funded** by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) through a 2013 Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy (BRSS-TACS) Grant.

**We are bringing our communities together** to educate peers on their new health care options, support peers' informed decision making on health plan choices, and educate stakeholders on the benefits of peer-driven recovery support services.

Interested; Call **MOAR** at 617-423-6627 or **Transformation Center** at 617- 442-4111

### One Care for Persons with Disabilities on Both MassHealth and Medicare

- **Enrollment begins October 1st.** Massachusetts One Care (previously referred to as the Duals Initiative) is for people with disabilities between the ages of 21 and 64.
- **People with mental health and/or addiction conditions** represent more than 67% of those who may participate.
- **Coordinated care is to be improved** with increased quality, and unnecessary emergency room and hospital use avoided
- **Choice in medical provider and health plan** is to be offered. Services are to include dental, vision, prescriptions, home based personal care services, and expanded addiction and mental health services (including peer services). **Questions:**

**MassHealth Customer Service** 1-800-841-2900  
**Medicare Contact** 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227)

### Next— Massachusetts Medical Marijuana Law

- **Massachusetts is now 1 of 20** states with a medical marijuana law, managed by The Department of Public Health.
- **Patients are** permitted a 60-day supply of 10 ounces of marijuana.
- **One dispensary** (clinic) is allowed in each of our 14 counties, but limits each to 5.
- **State rules require** dispensaries to be at least 500 feet away from places that serve children, including schools and community centers.
- **Boston changed its zoning rules** to prohibit dispensaries in residential areas and to require a hearing before the Zoning Board of Appeals.
- **MOAR** is concerned about youth access, and is very supportive of prevention efforts.
- **Research has found that 1 in 11** of all marijuana users will become addicted to the drug. If use begins under age of 18, that number rises to one in six people.
- **Learn about**







**"Visible, Vocal, Valuable"**

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**Like MOAR on Facebook**

### Upcoming Event



**Annual Holiday  
 Celebration  
 December 3rd  
 Mechanics Hall,  
 Worcester**

**MOAR Recovery Action**  
**[www.moar-recovery.org](http://www.moar-recovery.org)**

**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.



### **Some of Our Invited Guests MOAR to Come**

**DPH Commissioner Cheryl Bartlett, BSAS Director Hilary Jacobs, BPHC Addiction services Director Rita Nieves, House Speaker Robert DeLeo, MHSA Chairs—Senator Joan Lovely & Rep Elizabeth Malia, Rep Martin Walsh, Rep James O'Day, Matt Ganem—Recovery Poet, Haner Hernandez Recovery Advocate, The Improbable Players, Right Turn's Woody Giessmann, Joanne Peterson—Learn to Cope, and Vic DiGravio-ABH**

### **MOAR BOARD**

**President:** Amos Marshall  
**Vice President:** Tom Delaney  
**Clerk:** Rocco Antonelli Jr.  
**Treasurer:** Joe Kelleher

#### **Board Members:**

James Direda  
 Rick Dyer  
 Woody Giessmann  
 Maureen Harvey  
 Paul Kusiak  
 Kate McHugh  
 Daniel O'Connor  
 Rob Pezzella  
 Vicente Sanabria

#### **Staff**

Maryanne Frangules, Pat Cronin,  
 Mellisa Prefontaine, Tom Scott,  
 John Frazier, Mark Muhammad,  
 Cathy Connell, John Fortes

MOAR Support from MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, MA Dept. of Public Health – *Prevent, Treat, Recover for Life* –via Third Sector New England, The City of Boston, The Boston Public Health Commission NO Drug Coalitions and major supporters :USD/HHS/SAMHSA/CSAT, Highpoint Treatment Center, Spectrum Health Systems, Membership and You!

**Thank you**



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