

Road to Recovery Month

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SAMHSA

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AGENDA 2009:

Planning Partners Meeting Washington, DC	Jan 27
Planning Partners Meeting Washington, DC	Mar 25
Planning Partners Meeting Teleconference (call-in to be sent)	Jun 10
Planning Partners Meeting, CADCA Recovery Month Luncheon	Sept 9-10



Welcome 2009 New Partners!

By Wilmarie Hernandez

Guided by the desire to promote treatment and recovery from alcohol and drug addiction, each year new organizations around the country join *Recovery Month Planning Partners*.

This year we are pleased to have four new partners. You probably met them at the Planning Partners Meeting held in the Washington Court Hotel in January. We want to share with you a bit more information about some of our new partners.

Welcome Psychology Today!

Turned into a mental health-centered magazine eight years ago, Psychology Today has been addressing the message of health for the whole person. The magazine covers addiction treatment and mental health issues which can be found in the online version as well as in their online addiction center: <http://www.psychologytoday.com/topics/addiction.html>

One of the biggest issues patients face when looking for treatment is to find the best therapist that works for them. In order to make this process easier, Psychology Today has created a comprehensive, friendly, and very helpful Therapy Directory on its web site http://therapists.psychologytoday.com/rms/prof_search.php

The directory has 20,000 therapists that can be searched by religion, gender, cost, specialty, ethnicity, and even by the insurances they accept. This is

only part of the commitment Psychology Today has with the addiction recovery treatment community.

Psychology Today President, Lawrence Rose, notes that future plans for the magazine will include the creation of a Residential Treatment Directory. "We are very excited about this new feature and are currently looking for potential partners", he added.

For more information about Psychology Today contact <http://www.psychologytoday.com/pto/about.html>

Welcome Addiction Survivors!

In this era of new technologies when the information is mostly addressed through the internet, it seems like a great tool to spread any message, including addiction recovery.

This is the focus of Addiction Survivors, a peer to peer online community that brings support to those in recovery. They do this by keeping people up to date on the most recent treatments; linking them to treatment programs, offering peer support, and educating people of what is out there that can be helpful for them.

Nancy Barmashi, representative of Addiction Survivors, said "we are very happy to be part of this group and work with SAMHSA to help people to find the best treatment program".

The web site started in August 2008 focused on addiction to

stimulant and gambling, incorporating later alcohol addiction. Today the web site has with 6,700 members.

For more information visit www.addictionsurvivors.com

Welcome National Alliance to End Homelessness !

Statistics show that every year between one-million and 1.5 million adolescents experience homelessness each year. A relevant number of family members and veterans also experiment homelessness annually, in many cases, due to addiction and mental health issues.

For the National Alliance to End Homelessness it is imperative to provide them with a home in order to begin the process of recovery.

Peggy Bailey, Health Policy Analyst of the National Alliance to End Homelessness, said "It is hard to recover if you are living on the streets [...] the first step in recovery is to find them a house to live".

As Bailey pointed out, the Alliance wants to create a stronger connection between the housing community and the treatment community and raise the issue of homelessness among the members of the recovery community.

For more information visit: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/>

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“to give of your time is something everybody should do.”

“For 20 years this celebration of recovery has been addressing the message of treatment and recovery ...”

Recovery Month Planning Partners Meeting
March 25, 2009
Washington, DC”

Welcome the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA!

Voluntarism is the best word to describe the largest fraternal organization in the nation: The Benevolent & Protective Order of the Elks of the USA (BPOE).

The rich history of the Elks includes members that go from U.S. presidents, to sport stars, to Hollywood stars, to common men and women with a deep sense of community service.

In 1918 the Elks built what would become the first veterans’ hospital in the United States. The Elks Reconstruction Hospital was turned over to the federal government as a donation.

Due to their presence in situations when help has been

really needed and their willingness to contribute, it is common that people turn the BPOE acronym into a new meaning: “Best People on Earth.”

The Elks, founded in 1868, now counts with one-million members. They are known, among other things, for focusing on helping the children.

These are the main focus of the Elks Drug Awareness Program which is strictly voluntary. They address this message through educational tools for the kids and their parents. This year the program released a Spider-Man comic book and next year it will be through Iron-Man that they will get this message to the future of the nation, our kids.

Kent Gade from the Drug Awareness Program feels that, “to give of your time is something everybody should do.”

“I keep it secret everything I do. I don’t like awards. Any recognition should be given to the kids and the volunteers. For me, what we do is a moral obligation,” he added.

Among their activities, the Awareness Program produced a video covering the presentation of the motivational speaker Milton Creagh. The DVD will be shipped for free to those who order it.

For more information visit: <http://www.elks.org/>.

Recovery Month’s 20th Anniversary!

This year is *Recovery Month’s* platinum anniversary and we want to celebrate it!

It started in 1989 as Treatment Works! Month. For 20 years this celebration of recovery has been addressing the message of treatment and recovery through out the nation.

With this purpose in mind we are developing an exhibition of the 20 years. It will show the history, growth, and achieve-

ments *Recovery Month* has made through all these years.



We are gathering all the information possible for this spectacular celebration.

We encourage all of you who have any videos, pictures, articles, or programs of this past 20 years to contact the *Consumer Affairs Unit, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, SAMHSA* at 240-276-2750.

Please be sure to send in your materials no later than May 31st.



Editor's Column



Happy 20th
Recovery Month!

I am so pleased to share with you this first “Road to Recovery Month” quarterly news-letter. It is the brainchild of one of our HACU interns, Wilmarie Hernandez, who has done a wonderful job of putting this issue together. Our goal is to feature new Planning Partner members each quarter, as well as to cover significant activities and issues of concern to all of our partners.

This first issue is very special because it is being released during Recovery Month’s 20th Anniversary Observance. What a ride this has been for us all. Many of you were present more than 11 years ago when we changed the name of the observance from Treatment Works! Month to the current National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month.

The name change helped to usher in a new emphasis on Recovery and the need to focus on individuals in recovery as part of the treatment protocol.

All of these efforts throughout these years have greatly contributed to the

advancement of this field and all of you have made that happen. For this SAMHSA is eternally grateful and bids you the best for the coming twenty years and beyond.

Peace,

Julette Torres

Associate Director for Consumer Affairs
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
SAMHSA

2009 EVENTS

White Bison **May 16 – 21**

Event:

**Wellbriety Journey for
Forgiveness**

Info:

<http://www.whitebison.org>
<http://www.wellbrietyjourney.org/>

Contact:

kateri@whitebison.org

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**National Alliance to End
Homelessness**

Washington, DC July 29 – 31

Event:

**Annual Conference on
Ending Homelessness**

Info:

<http://www.endhomelessness.org/>

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INTNSA **Sept 30- Oct 3**
Albuquerque, NM

Event:

**Annual Educational
Conference**

Info:

<http://www.intnsa.org>
<http://intnsa.org/events.php>

Contact:

fornili@son.umaryland.edu

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The Recovery Project
Brooklyn, NY **Sept. 12**

Event:

**2nd Annual Recovery
Rally**

Info:

<http://www.therecoveryproject.com>

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Department of Labor
Oct. 19 – 25

Event:

**Drug-Free Work Week
2009**

Info:

<http://www.dol.gov/drugfreeworkweek>
<http://www.dol.gov/workingpartners>

Contact:

tajudeen.renee@dol.gov

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EAP
Dallas TX **Oct. 22-24**
Hyatt Regency Dallas

Event:

**EAPA’s 2009 Annual World
EAP Conference: “Meeting the
Challenges of a Changing
World”**

***Pre-conference Trainings
Oct. 20-21**

Info:

Please visit the conference website via <http://www.eapassn.org> or contact Debbie Royal, Operations Administrator, at 703-387-1000 Ext 310 or opsadmin@eapassn.org



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Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
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Fax: 240-276-2710

**“Join the Voices for Recovery
Together We Learn, Together We Heal”**



- ◆ **Recovery Month** is an annual observance that takes place during the month of September.
- ◆ The **Recovery Month** observance highlights the societal benefits of substance abuse treatment, lauds the contributions of treatment providers and promotes the message that recovery from substance abuse in all its forms is possible. The observance also encourages citizens to take action to help expand and improve the availability of effective substance abuse treatment for those in need. Each year a new theme, or emphasis, is selected for the observance.
- ◆ **Recovery Month** provides a platform to celebrate people in recovery and those who serve them. Each September, thousands of treatment programs around the country celebrate their successes and share them with their neighbors, friends, and colleagues in an effort to educate the public about treatment, how it works, for whom, and why. Substance abuse treatment providers have made significant accomplishments, having transformed the lives of untold thousands of Americans. These successes often go unnoticed by the broader population; therefore, Recovery Month provides a vehicle to celebrate these successes.