



**RCSP Grantee Activities
National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month
September 2001**

Always Working Toward Advancing Recovery Environments (AWARE)
A Project of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE)
Sacramento, California

AWARE is focusing on their Recovery Month Self Advocacy Conference scheduled for September 22, 2001 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. at Los Angeles City College (LACC). The Conference is designed by members to encourage interaction with guest speakers and workshop panelists. AWARE is currently anticipating 300 - 500 participants!

Plenary Sessions include: *Featured* Afternoon Speaker: Dr. H. Westley Clark, Director, CSAT; *Keynote* address from LACC Psych Dept. Chair: Rochelle Seechooler, " *The Impact of Stigma on Addiction and Recovery*"; *Tentative*: US Senator Barbara Boxer: Treatment on Demand.

Issue Briefings from experts involved will include discussions on: *CA Substance Treatment Parity & CA-Substance Abuse Crime Prevention Act (Prop 36)*.

Workshops include: Perspectives on Addiction and Treatment; Family/Significant other Approaches to Addiction and Treatment; Cultural Diversity and AOD Treatment and Recovery; Partners in Research; Workplace Approaches to Addiction, Treatment, and Recovery; Teens Breaking the Silence; Bringing It All Together-Community Mobilizing; Taking Care of Self in Advocacy; A Map Towards Improvement: Assessing Our Needs; Harm Reduction: Meeting Drug Users Where They Are.

Association of Persons Affected by Addiction (APAA)
A Project of Dallas Helps, Inc.
Dallas, Texas

On Sunday, September 23, 2001 from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., APAA will host a Walk and Rally in Celebration of Recovery. APAA members and guests will gather at the steps of City Hall and then walk to Pegasus Plaza - in the heart of downtown Dallas - where they will hold a Rally. Invited guest speakers include Searcy W. with 55 years in recovery, and DD Lewis, former Dallas Cowboys player. City, county and state office holders have also been invited. There will be music, Tee shirts, and bags of goodies!

Circles of Recovery
A Project of White Bison, Inc.
Colorado Springs, Colorado

The "Strengthening Our Families" Conference will be held in Rapid City, South Dakota on September 20-23, 2001. This four-day gathering and conference concerned with the recovery and healing of Native American Families will be the second of White Bison's Circles of Recovery Conferences. There will be

speakers and presenters giving traditional teachings about Native American family wellness, and various workshops on other topics.

White Bison has also designated 19 other Native American individuals/groups to coordinate Recovery Month events in 19 cities across the country. Each of these local coordinators have received packets of information containing the CSAT Recovery Month materials, National Native American Wellbriety Month posters, a video of the Sacred Hoop Journey, and a proclamation to have their community declare every September as Native American Recovery Month.

Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)
Fiduciary: Lower Fairfield County ACT
Wethersfield, Connecticut

CCAR is planning their second annual Recovery Walks! for Sunday, September 16, 2001 at Bushnell Park in Hartford, Connecticut. This year the walk will start at the bandshell. Entertainment begins at 10 a.m. and the walk will start at 1 p.m. CCAR staff and members are expecting a large turnout. More "kid friendly" activities have been added this year, including entertainment such as face-painting, balloons and refreshments.

El Paso Alliance, Inc.
A Project of Alliance NO-AD, Inc.
El Paso, Texas

El Paso Alliance is planning several events to Celebrate Recovery Month, including:

- # A four Mile Walk-a-thon Saturday, September 15 from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m.;
- # A Recovery Celebration on Monday, September 17 from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with keynote speaker, William L. White. Members have also invited several politicians who will also be guest speakers. Included in the festivities will be recognition awards to a few members with a reception to follow the celebration.

Missouri Recovery Network (MRN)
A Project of the Missouri Department of Mental Health
Jefferson City, Missouri

Missouri Recovery Network is celebrating Recovery Month by hosting a "walks for recovery" across Missouri. On September 8, 2001 at 10 a.m. members and community supporters in five cities will come together to celebrate recovery while advocating for needed services. The walks will take place in St.

Louis, Kansas City, Springfield, Joplin, and Jefferson City. Each local chapter has formed committees to plan and carry out details of arranging media coverage and marketing the event to the community. PSA tapes sent by CSAT have been copied with dubbed-in local chapter telephone numbers for those community members who wish to participate. Each chapter has a designated spokesperson, who will introduce policy makers or celebrities and will also have a script of identified issues and strategies being put forth by the MRN.

Each walk will end with hotdogs, sodas, and ice-cream. Each registrant will be offered an opportunity to join MRN and to make donations and receive an MRN tee shirt. (The walk is free.) Also each of the first 200 registered for the walks will receive a plastic water bottle with the MRN logo and name. The guidelines for the walks gave lots of room for local chapters to do special things in conjunction with the walk. For instance, the St. Louis chapter has solicited and received additional dollars from other sources and will give out tee shirts to all participants, which will have a statement about recovery. The Springfield chapter will partner with inner city agencies serving indigent addicted individuals and will use the recovery walk to draw attention to funding needs, which support recovery in the area. Each chapter is asked to solicit donations from their communities for MRN.

In addition to Recovery Walks, the Jefferson City chapter is also planning a "jeans day for recovery" event in which employees of a large local hospital will be offered an opportunity to purchase a sticker to wear in support of recovery while getting the privilege of dressing down (wearing jeans) to work. The price of the sticker is \$2.00. The money raised will be used by the local chapter to off-set expenses for food, beverages and other expenses for monthly meetings and other planned activities. Furthermore, community forums called "Creating Solutions" are being planned for several cities around the state with special guests consisting of city and state policy makers, noted leaders in the addictions field, and MRN recovery community members to address the recovery community's identified issues and needs. The purpose: Getting buy-in on solutions. The issues identified fall into three categories: Access to services; Quality of Services (are individuals getting what they need to recover?); and Recovery support services.

**New England Alliance for Addiction Recovery (NEAAR)
A Project of the New England Institute of Addiction Studies (NEIAS)
Augusta, Maine and Manchester, New Hampshire**

**Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR)
A Project of NEAAR/NEIAS
Boston, Massachusetts**

MOAR is planning a September 26 walk to the State House from Boston City Hall Plaza. The walk starts at 8:30 a.m. At 9:00 a.m. Mayor Merino greets the walkers, and at 10:00 a.m. the Speaker Celebration (with awards) begins, featuring a keynote address by Dr. Westley Clark, CSAT. Lunch time will bring a performance by the Improbable Players. The afternoon (12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.) will be highlighted by a Community Dialogue on the National Treatment Plan.

Other Recovery Month highlights for MOAR include:

- # September 10 - First Annual Statewide MOAR Meeting with Recovery Month Celebration (Worcester, Massachusetts)
- # September 12 - Recovery Month Cookout- Tewksbury State Hospital
- # September 19 - Recovery Month Open House- Phoenix House (Springfield, Massachusetts)
- # September 14 or 21st- Recovery Month Open House - Reflections (New Bedford, Massachusetts) (Date not yet confirmed.)

Friends of Recovery — New Hampshire (FOR-NH)

A Project of NEAAR/NEIAS

Manchester, New Hampshire

Several important awareness activities will take place throughout the month of September: A Concerned Citizens' Forum will take place on September 17th at 6:30 p.m. at Southern NH Medical Center in Nashua, NH. The presentation will focus on designer drugs, street drugs, date rape drugs, and the Internet. Jeffrey Stewart, BS, NREMT-P will be the keynote presenter.

A Celebration of Recovery will take place on September 29th at the University of NH. A variety of music and theater groups will be performing and community organizations have been invited to set up booths and provide participants with information.

A series of forums will take place from September to October in Manchester. Topics include Domestic Violence, The Brain Chemistry of Addiction, What to do if You Suspect Your Kid's Friends are Using, and Kids and Drugs—What You Should Know. The theme of the series is the National Recovery Month theme: *We Recover Together: Family, Friends, and Community*. At each of the forums there will be an interactive demonstration focusing on the lack of treatment options in the state. Dates have not yet been confirmed.

Rhode Island Community for Addiction Recovery Efforts (RICARES)

A Project of NEAAR/NEIAS

Providence, Rhode Island

September 20th RI Communities for Addiction Recovery Efforts (RICAREs) will be hosting a Legislative Day from 5-7 p.m. at the State House in the House Lounge. Two legislators will speak on their plans for addressing alcohol and other drug issues in the state, and representatives from several local treatment centers will discuss their program and future goals. Two members of the recovery community will tell their personal stories and the Improbable Players will provide a dramatic performance.

Friends of Recovery — Vermont (FOR-VT)

**A Project of NEAAR/NEIAS
Montpelier, Vermont**

Friends of Recovery - Vermont is sponsoring its second annual, drug and alcohol-free "Celebrate Recovery" event. It will be held at the Bethany Church in Montpelier on Thursday, September 20th.

Registration begins at 1:30 p.m. A "Wellbriety Movement" video will be followed by talking circles, a legislative update on recovery issues, and a silent auction. A lasagna dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Reservations by September 15th are requested, and contributions of salads and desserts will be welcomed. Entertainment begins at 7:30 p.m. including music and dancing until 10:30 p.m. (Mark LeGrand and the Joy Junkies.)

**Maine Advocates for Addiction Recovery (MAAR)
A Project of NEAAR/NEIAS
Wenfield, Maine**

The Maine Alliance for Addiction Recovery will be presenting a Recovery conference titled "From Survival to Thriving". It will be held at the Harraseeket Inn in Freeport, Maine on September 25 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Lunch and refreshments are included. The keynote guest speaker will be Earnie Larsen, author of *Stage II Recovery* and other material published by Hazelden Foundation. Other presenters will be Dr. Stanley Evans, MD of the Mercy Recovery Center of Portland, Maine and Pam Nelon, RN of the Women's Project of Maine.

**Partners in Recovery Alliance (PIRA)
A Project of the Contra Costa County Health Services Department
Martinez, California**

PIRA members are working to secure City and County proclamations about Recovery Month and to include presentations to elected board, city, and municipal councils. One hundred and sixty PIRA members, including youth clients from Edgar Transition Center and Orin Allen (juvenile detention facilities) are planning to attend the AWARE Conference in Sacramento.

Other activities include:

- # Second Annual Celebration of Recovery Heroes;
- # County-wide Carwash Initiative - PIRA members, clients, alumni, staff and families from recovery programs will wash cars for free to let the public know that recovery people live in their neighborhoods and give back to their communities; and
- # Recovery Walk and Candlelight Vigil.

Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance (PRO-A)
A Project of Gaudenzia Foundation, Inc.
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

PRO-A is organizing several events for Recovery Month. On September 23-24, 2001 PRO-A will hold their Annual Conference. The Conference will include a keynote address by *The Fix* author, Michael Massing, and workshops on Understanding and Identifying Addiction, Restoring Hope in Recovery, Recovery Empowerment, and Media Training. The Conference will also host a Town Hall meeting where participants can ask questions of panel members including, Gerald Radke, Deputy Secretary of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (Department of Public Welfare), Gene Boyle, Director of the Office of Drug and Alcohol Programs (Department of Health), and Larry Otter (invited), Attorney General's Office, Health Care Unit.

On September 25 PRO-A will host Substance Abuse Awareness Day at the Capitol. (CSAT's Cr. Clark has been invited to attend this event.) PRO-A staff hope to have representatives from every County in Pennsylvania attend this event.

Additionally, PRO-A is coordinating two other Recovery Month events. Recovery Walks will be held in conjunction with two other recovery community organizing groups, one in Easton, Pennsylvania, and one in Vallejo, California.

People With Recovery and Disabilities (PWRD)
A Project of Pima Prevention Partnership
Tucson, Arizona

PWRD is spearheading their third annual *Recovery Expo* (2001)!

When: Saturday September 22, 2001

Where: El Con Mall

What to Expect: Speakers include:

Honorable Leslie Miller: Drug Court

Dr. Michael Scott: Medical Aspects of Addiction

Dr. Cheryl Toner: Eating Disorders

Dr. George Stavros: Narcotic Issues including Methadone and Oxycontin

Other topics include: Ecstasy, Dual Diagnosis, Acudetox

Panels include: People with Disabilities in Recovery, People in Recovery, Youth in Recovery

Other events: Coming To: Kids talking openly about addiction and hourly Recovery Support Meetings

Project Vox

A Project of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Michigan Lansing, Michigan

Project Vox is focusing its efforts on the First Annual "Celebrate Recovery" event, which will take place in Lansing on September 29, 2001. It is hoped that this event will draw individuals from every area of the state, including people who are part of the recovery community, family members, and other supporters.

This event will combine a community picnic and celebration with a formal presentation on the steps of the State Capitol. The event begins at 10 a.m. at the Lou Adado Riverfront Park in downtown Lansing. A group walk to the Capitol will begin at 10:30 a.m., followed by a 90 minute speaker program. At the conclusion of the presentation, participants will return to Riverfront Park for food, music, games and other forms of entertainment. The event ends at 6 p.m.

Speakers for the event include: Dr. H. Westley Clark, CSAT; Jerry Stanecki, Detroit television personality and author of the book, "Life is a Joke and God Wrote It"; Charisse Strawberry, wife of former professional baseball player Darryl Strawberry and President of NCADD/Tampa; Dr. Marvin McIntosh, Medical Director for General Motors; State Representative Paul DeWeese; and three Project Vox advocates. Project Vox staff and advocates are estimating that approximately 2000 people will attend the event!

Advocates from around the state are also being asked to act as local spokespersons with the media and other groups to promote this event and seize the opportunity for addiction education. The CSAT "National Recovery Month" kits have been distributed to advocate chapters, NCADD/Michigan member programs, and interested church groups to assist in promotions.

Promoting Recovery Organizations - Achieving Community Togetherness (PRO-ACT)

A Project of the Bucks County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Members of PRO-ACT are planning an awards ceremony to celebrate Recovery Month. The STAR Awards (for those who **S**et **T**he **A**genda for **R**ecovery) will be held on September 16, 2001 at the Wyndham Hotel in Philadelphia. Awards will be presented to those who publicly promote recovery, including Stephen Gaghan, Oscar-winning screenwriter of the movie "Traffic" and public advocate for reducing stigma and promoting recovery. Other awards will also be presented and Dr. H. Westley Clark will be a featured speaker.

Recovery Association Project

A Project of Central City Concern

Portland, Oregon

On September 4, 2001 RAP and Central City Concern will host a Policy Discussion on Recovery. The discussion, to be held at the Hooper Detox Center, will feature conversation especially useful to policy makers and members of the media.

Recovery Communities United (RCU)

A Chicago affiliate of NCADD

Chicago, Illinois

RCU is hosting a dinner in celebration of recovery on September 14 at 7 p.m. William White, author of *Slaying the Dragon* will be the featured speaker and will provide the latest insights and information about the emerging "new recovery movement." There will also be an awards ceremony. Other invited guests include: Governor George Ryan, Congresswoman Judy Biggert, and Melanie Whitter, Director of OASA.

In addition to the dinner and awards, RCU is participating in several other celebrations of recovery throughout greater Chicagoland, including those sponsored by various treatment centers, the Illinois Department of Human Services, Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, Aurora University, and the Office of Danny K. Davis, U.S. Congressman.

Sacred Circle Project

A Project of Native Family Resource Center

Sioux City, Iowa

No information provided.

Santa Barbara Community Recovery Network

A Project of Santa Barbara Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

Santa Barbara, California

On September 29, 2001 Community Recovery Network in Santa Barbara will be having a "Walk Your Talk" Walkathon, followed by a rally that will include live entertainment and speakers. The Walkathon will begin at Vera Cruz Park at 11 a.m. and end at the County Courthouse Sunken Gardens.

SpeakOUT: LGBT Voices for Recovery

A Project of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center

New York, New York

To celebrate and honor National Recovery Month, SpeakOUT will explore the theme *We Recover*

Together: Family, Friends and Community in their Fall 2001 issue of *Clean and Queer*.

On Saturday, September 29th, from 2-5 P.M., SpeakOUT will host a community forum and speak out entitled, "Connecting With Others: Relationships in Recovery (*Friends, Lovers, Family, Work, Community*)." The event will feature a panel of community speakers, various games to explore the theme and break-out workshops. The theme will encompass multiple facets of building, mending and maintaining relationships in the context of recovery. These include: being single, dating, romance, sexual liaisons, intimacy, partnering, parenting, friendship circles, building families of choice, dealing with families of origin, relationships in the workplace, spirituality, giving back to and establishing expectations from community. Community education and public policy issues and concerns will be addressed throughout the event.

STAR Project

A Project of the University of Wisconsin, Madison Madison, Wisconsin

The STAR Project is co-sponsoring the 10th Annual Conference on Women, Addiction, and Recovery on September 21, 2001. The conference will focus on direct, positive, and creative approaches for simple strategies for living. Topics include:

- # Being witness to women's stories through a panel discussion;
- # Discovering barriers and obstacles that prevent you from enjoying true intimacy; and
- # Exploring play and the role it takes in nurturing the parent/child relationship.

Other STAR Recovery Month events include:

- # The 2nd Annual Recovery Works Picnic - Waukesha, September 8
- # Sobriety Feast - Bayfield County and Redcliff Reservation, September 8
- # Partners in Recovery Picnic - Ashland, September 23
- # Recovery Picnic - Menomonee, September 7
- # Recovery = Life, A Celebration of Life without Drugs and Alcohol - Madison, September 15
- # Celebration of Recovery Picnic - Waushara County, September 18-19

STAR has also arranged for press coverage of Recovery Month, including weekly articles in the *Daily Press*, a full page of stories on recovery to be published in the *Evergreen Press*, and banners on STAR and Recovery Month to be hung in public buildings.

Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance (SAARA) Falls Church, Virginia

In honor of National Recovery Month, SAARA will be hosting the 1st Annual Meeting of SAARA of Virginia, *A Vision for the Future...Working Together to Make a Difference*. The meeting, scheduled for

Saturday, September 15, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Richmond, Virginia, will feature workshops on Citizen Advocacy for Addiction Treatment Programs, Working Together (exploring the needs and expectations of the localities and the statewide organization), and engaging and Retaining the Recovery Community in SAARA Activities. CSAT's Rick Sampson will close the meeting by addressing "where do we go from here?"