



THE CORE

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WELCOME TO MAY, 2008
-DE-LAP/LAC News Page 4-



Support Screening and Brief Intervention in America's Hospital

As Lawyers, What Do You Think? We who work in the addiction, health care, social services, or mental health fields have an opportunity to influence the U.S. health care system's approach to unhealthy alcohol use and drug problems. The Joint Commission is considering adopting quality standards for the practice of Screening and Brief Intervention (SBI) in medical settings.

This is a big deal. The Joint Commission accredits U.S. hospitals and sets standards for the quality of care. Hospitals must be accredited in order to receive Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, so when the Joint Commission adopts standard, hospitals everywhere work very hard to meet it.

Screening and Brief Intervention for alcohol and drug problems has now been implemented in enough hospitals to show that SBI is feasible at low cost and is of high benefit to patients and hospitals. Routine screening of patients for alcohol and drug problems is recommended by many experts and medical groups, including the American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma, which has made it a standard of care in Level 1 trauma centers. [CLICK ON THIS LINK](#) to learn more.

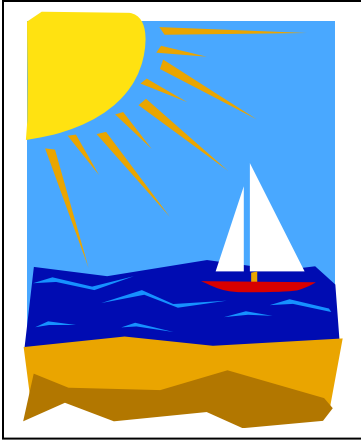


Life Beyond Treatment: Focusing on Recovery

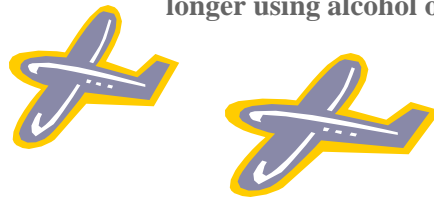
The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD), the State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS), and Faces & Voices of Recovery (Faces & Voices) are embarking on a joint project that will educate state legislators and legislative staff about recovery-oriented systems of care (ROSC) for people with addiction. There are two overarching goals: to significantly raise the level of awareness and knowledge among legislators and legislative staff regarding recovery-oriented systems of care; and to provide the necessary information for state legislators to examine the policy options that will be required and to begin to take the policy actions necessary to use a recovery-oriented systems of care approach.



Life Beyond Treatment: Focusing on Recovery continued from Page 1



The goal for individuals with substance use disorders is long-term recovery from addiction, getting their lives back on track, improving their health, wellness, and quality of life. Systems that support recovery-based care provide individuals receiving care with a variety of services and options tailored to their specific needs to aid them in their process. Multiple systems are engaged in coordination with traditional drug and alcohol treatment services. Some of these complementary services include education, housing, childcare, financial planning, employment assistance, health care and legal assistance. The person seeking help's family and support network are also engaged in these various systems, frequently in the decision-making process. Public policies are also in place to assist, not hinder, individuals seeking jobs, housing and education once they are no longer using alcohol or drugs.



ARE WE DOING ENOUGH FOR OUR VETERANS?



Memorial Day □ May 26 is Memorial Day, the day America sets aside to honor its war dead. Visit VA's Memorial Day Web site for information on the history of the day, Theodore O'Hara's poem, "Bivouac of the Dead," the playing of Taps, proper display of the flag and a link to this year's Moment of Remembrance poster. ([more](#))

Volunteer Week, April 27 – May 3 □ Not only do our lawyers and judges give time as volunteers but the VA's corps of 85,000 volunteers donated 11.6 million hours of service last year – equal to 5,500 full-time employees and \$220 million. "Volunteers make important contributions to the operation of VA hospitals, nursing homes and national cemeteries," said VA Secretary James B. Peake. "I encourage everyone to consider becoming a VA volunteer." ([more](#))



F Y I:

President Bush signed the Second Chance Act into law just a few weeks ago, topping off a broad-based and bi-partisan advocacy campaign to take an important step in providing critical services to people when they return to the community from incarceration.

We need your help for the next step - asking Congress to provide funding so that these important new programs can get underway.

The Second Chance Act authorizes grants to States and localities to begin to address the need for addiction and mental health treatment, job training and education opportunities, and housing, as well as other critical services for individuals when they return to the community from incarceration. [Click Here](#) for a complete overview of the Second Chance Act.

Even though the Second Chance Act is law, no resources will be available until Congress votes to allocate funding for the Act's programs. There are just a few short weeks for Congress to act. [Please use our Online Advocacy Action Center to contact your Senators and Representative today!](#)

Thanks for you advocacy!

**ON THE LIGHTER SIDE:
VISIT**

<http://icanhascheezburger.com/>



The Delaware Lawyers Assistance

Mother's Day



*Enjoy family,
friends and
Delaware this
month*

DE-LAP/LAC NEWS:

On April 18, 2008, more than a half of dozen of LAC committee members met in New Castle County. Our sub-committees are busy. Also, there is a renewed interest to plan a dinner/speaker event together with Professional Guidance Committee.

It has been requested also that we repeat our site visits to various treatment facilities in the tri-state area. Arrangements are being made to visit near-by treatment facilities, etc. Notices will be sent out.

Sussex County: CLAY DAVIS has agreed to allow us our annual September meeting in GEORGETOWN! As soon as a date is confirmed, notice will be sent out.

Kent County: DE-LAP/LAC would like to hold at least one (1) meeting in Kent County, DE. Therefore, it would be greatly appreciated if you can assist. Please contact us if you can accommodate or know a place that is available to hold a meeting. Thank you!

Finally, WE ARE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS TO THIS COMMITTEE, IF YOU KNOW A LAWYER OR JUDGE WHO IS INTERESTED – PLEASE CONTACT US.

From AA Intergroup: 48th Annual Delaware State Convention: Friday May 16th through Sunday May 18th – Rehoboth Beach Convention Center – Information forms are available on AA web site or Intergroup office. Pre-registration deadline is May 9, 2008

THINGS TO DO IN DELAWARE

Wilmington/Brandywine: Newark – May 1-29 Spring Concert Series on Academy Lawn

Central: Old Dover Days: May 2, 3 & 4, 2008

Delaware Coast: 25th Annual Spring Sidewalk Sales
Seaside Train Show

