

Addiction Exchange

News from the worlds of clinical practice and research

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Mid-Atlantic Addiction Technology Transfer Center, **A CSAT-funded Center**

Welcome to *Addiction Exchange*, a forum for the exchange of clinical practice and research information among clinicians, scientists, educators, and administrators in the area of addiction. Today, we introduce SAMHSA's new **Practice Research Collaboratives (PRCs)**.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) has funded more than \$2.2 million in one-year grants to establish partnerships between community-based substance abuse prevention and treatment providers, the research community and policy makers. This grant initiative is funded jointly by SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) and Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). The Practice/Research Collaborative (PRC) grants are part of the administration's overall drug strategy to support and promote effective, efficient, and accessible community-based drug treatment and prevention programs. "By bringing these groups together, and addressing the different perspectives and priorities of each of the groups, we hope to improve the quality of substance abuse prevention and treatment services currently being offered." said Nelba Chavez, Ph.D. Following the completion of the one year development grants, implementation grants will be awarded.

Researchers believe that research-tested, evidence-based modalities, if fully utilized by treatment programs, will significantly improve treatment. But community-based substance abuse organizations, who provide the backbone of drug and alcohol treatment and clinical preventive services, have not been able to keep up with scientific advances. Funding of these grants, will help to bridge the gap between these groups, open lines of communication, and enhance sharing, dissemination and application of substance abuse prevention and treatment research and practices. "These grants serve to reduce the isolation among substance abuse treatment providers, community-based organizations, and researchers," said CSAT Director H. Westley Clark, M.D., J.D., M.P.H. "We need to bring research and practice together and support the many community-based organizations, who are the primary support system for diverse community groups and a major source of substance abuse prevention and treatment throughout the country."

The eight new grantees under the GFA #TI 99-006 "Bridging the Gap: Developing Community-Based Practice/Research Collaboratives" for the next year include:

- *Arizona Substance Abuse Consortium for Knowledge Exchange and Research*, University of Arizona, Tucson
- *The San Francisco Practice/Research Collaborative* of the San Francisco Department of Public Health
- *Suncoast Practice/Research Collaborative* of the University of South Florida in Tampa, Florida
- *West Central Georgia Substance Abuse Prevention/Treatment Practice/Research Consortium* of the Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia
- *Iowa Consortium Practice/Research Development Project* at the University of Iowa
- *Substance Abuse Services Alliance Practice/Research Collaborative* of the Greater New Orleans Area of the Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse in Metairie, Louisiana
- *New York State Practice/Research Collaborative for Alcoholism and Substance Abuse* of the New York State Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services in Albany, New York
- *Urban American Indian Practice/Research Collaborative* of the Oregon Health Sciences University in Portland, Oregon

These grantees and other community grant applicants will compete for grants for the Implementation phase of the PRCs sometime next year; information for implementation phase grants is anticipated to be disseminated in Spring 2000. Check the SAMHSA website at <http://www.samhsa.gov>. The sources of today's topic were the SAMHSA website and press release dated October 5, 1999. For more information, contact: Michele Westbrook, Phone: 301-443-5052

We hope you find *Addiction Exchange* useful in your work. Please let us know about your information needs by emailing the editor of *Addiction Exchange*, Dr. Karen Ingersoll, at kingerso@vcu.edu, or discuss your training needs by calling us at (804)-828-9910, or contacting the ATTC office at mid-attc@mindspring.com. The Mid-ATTC's website address is <http://www.mid-attc.org/>.



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