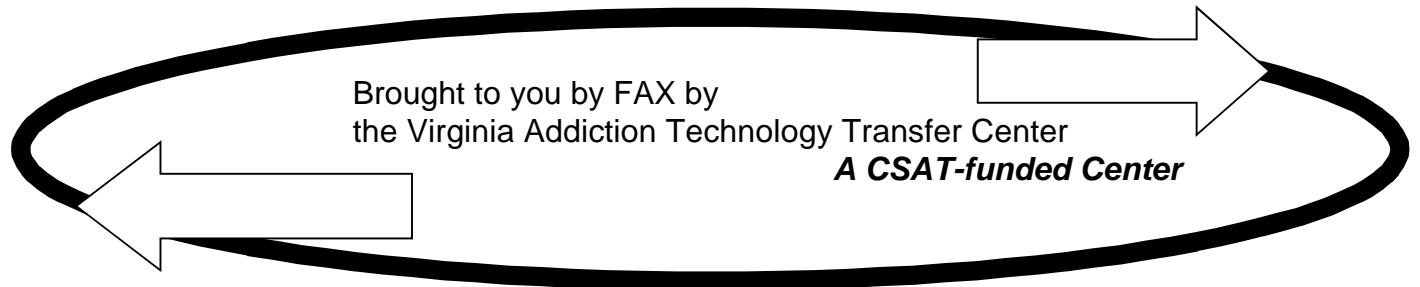


# ADDICTION EXCHANGE

Jan. 15, 1999, 1(1)

*News from the worlds of clinical practice and research*



Welcome to the first edition of *Addiction Exchange*, a forum for the exchange of clinical practice and research information among clinicians, scientists, educators, and administrators in the area of addiction. In each edition, a different topic will be featured. Future editions will include topics like: professional development for addiction treatment providers, accessing internet-based education, the basic science of addiction, current assessment methods, empirically-supported treatment for addiction, models of addiction and change, program evaluation, introductions to organizations and programs in addiction, and addiction policy.

The Virginia Addiction Technology Transfer Center (VATTC), part of the Mid-Atlantic ATTC, is part of the national ATTC program established in 1994 by the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment to help bridge the gap between research and practice. The VATTC, based at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, was recently funded for an additional three years under the direction of Dr. Paula Horvatic. The VATTC is committed to facilitating a productive exchange of information and expertise between researchers and clinical practitioners. To achieve this goal, the VATTC sponsors several ongoing projects.

The VATTC provides training opportunities directly to practitioners in the addiction treatment field in empirically-supported treatments for addiction through on-site training, consultation, and graduate courses, some offered in a distance-learning modality. Through its criminal justice initiative, the VATTC has developed extensive curriculum resources and training events for cross-training addiction and criminal justice professionals. The VATTC publishes resource guides including a compendium of addiction education programs and courses in the state for practitioners and students wishing to enroll in undergraduate or graduate courses related to addiction. The VATTC works with educators from universities across the Mid-Atlantic region to improve education for students and practitioners already in the field. Additionally, the VATTC collaborates with professional groups such as the Substance Abuse Certification Alliance of Virginia (SACAVA), the Virginia Association of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors (VAADAC), and the Virginia Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (VADAP) to provide scientifically-based training at regional and statewide conferences, and consults with the Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation, and Substance Abuse Services (DMHMRSAS) on improving addiction services statewide. The VATTC is a member of the Consortium of Substance Addiction Organizations (CSAO), a group that includes SACAVA, VAADAC, VADAP, and a consumer advocacy group, the Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance (SAARA). By working with the other organizations that comprise the CSAO, the VATTC hopes to increase the quality and breadth of training opportunities for addiction practitioners. The VATTC provides a website (<http://views.vcu.edu/vattc/>) with information about training opportunities, coursework, and links to other addiction education and resources.

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](mailto:kingerso@vcu.edu), or discuss your training needs by calling us at (804)-828-9910, or contacting the VATTC office at [vattc@vcu.edu](mailto:vattc@vcu.edu).

**Please copy and distribute to your colleagues and students!!!!**