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FY 2009 Appropriations: Protect Funding for Addictions Prevention, Treatment and Research Programs

Proposed Budget Would Impact Programs Critical to People with Mental Illnesses and Addictions Disorders

President Bush's proposed FY 2009 budget makes sharp cuts to a number of programs critical to providing services for people with mental illnesses and addictions disorders. The National Council and its members urge Congress to protect funding for these important programs. Addiction to alcohol, nicotine, and illegal substances cost Americans upwards of half a trillion dollars a year, considering their combined medical, economic, criminal, and social impact. Every year, abuse of illicit drugs and alcohol contributes to the death of more than 100,000 Americans. *Congress must continue to invest funding into life saving treatment, prevention and research programs.*

PROGRAM	FY 2007	08 OMNIBUS	PRESIDENT'S FY 2009 BUDGET REQUEST	ADVOCACY FIELD 2009 RECOMMENDATION
SAMHSA: Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant	\$1.7586 billion (level vs. FY 06)	\$1.7587 billion (+\$.1 million vs. FY07)	\$1.778 billion *(\$20 million vs. 08)	\$1.858 billion (+\$100 m v. FY 08) (+\$80 m v. President)
SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT): Programs of Regional and National Significance (PRNS)	\$398.9 million (level vs. FY 06)	\$399 million (+\$.9 million vs. FY07)	\$337 million (-\$63 million vs. 08) <i>Includes \$99 million for Access to Recovery and \$56 million for Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment</i>	\$420 million (+\$20 m v. FY 08) (+\$83 m v. President)
SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP): Programs of Regional and National Significance (PRNS)	\$192.9 million (level vs. FY 06)	\$194.1 million (+\$1.2 million vs. FY07)	\$158 million (-\$36 million vs. 08)	\$215 million (+\$20.9 m v. FY 08) (+\$56.9 m v. President)
Department of Education: Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities State Grants Program	\$346.5 million (level vs. FY 06)	\$295 million (-\$51 million vs. FY 07)	\$100 million (-\$195 million vs. FY 08)	\$346.5 million (+\$52 m v. FY 08) (+\$246.5 m v. President)
NIH: National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)	\$1.0000 billion (level v. FY 06)	\$ 1.0007 billion (+\$ 0.1 m v. FY 07)	\$1.0016 billion (+\$0.9 m v. FY 08)	\$1.0678 billion (+ \$67 m v. FY 08) (+\$66 m v. President)
NIH: National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA)	\$435.9 million (level v. FY 06)	\$436.3 million (level v. FY 07)	\$436.3 million (+\$0.8 m v. FY 08)	\$465.5 million (+29 m v. FY08) (+28.9 m v. President)

REQUEST: THE NATIONAL COUNCIL URGES CONGRESS TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR CRITICAL ADDICTION TREATMENT, PREVENTION AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Program Overview

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SAPTBG) – Administered by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the SAPTBG is the foundation of the publicly supported prevention and treatment system in this country. In 2002, nearly 2 million people were served by SAPTBG formula funding. Increasing funding for the SAPTBG is critical to support and expand drug addiction prevention and treatment services and to close the 80% nationwide treatment services gap. SAMHSA's proposed FY 2009 budget noted that individuals receiving services from SAPT Block Grant funded programs demonstrated high abstinence rates at discharge from both illegal drug (68.3 percent) and alcohol (73.7 percent) use.

Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) – CSAT supports effective treatment through the adoption of evidence-based practice and ensures that what is learned about addiction through scientific research is effectively shared with the treatment provider community. In addition, CSAT's Targeted Capacity Expansion programs support services that are tailored to address specific and emerging drug epidemics and/or underserved populations, such as youth, pregnant and parenting women, and communities of color. These discretionary CSAT funds enable states and regions dealing with emerging needs, such as methamphetamine addiction or veterans returning home in need of essential treatment services, to appropriately address these needs.

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) -- Addiction is a disease that begins in adolescence; research by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) has shown that if we can stop use and abuse before age 25, we will significantly reduce the prevalence of addiction. Current research shows that evidence-based substance abuse prevention is effective in preventing youth from initiating substance use and in reducing the number of individuals who become dependent.

Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) State Grants Program -- The Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities (SDFSC) State Grants Program is the backbone of school-based prevention efforts in the United States, and supports community-based prevention programming throughout this country. The SDFSC program has had a significant impact on helping to achieve the 17 percent overall decline in youth drug use over the past three years, documented by the 2004 Monitoring the Future survey. According to recent data, upwards of 37 million youth are served annually by programs funded through SDFSC. Cutting the SDFSC program will leave millions of American children without any drug prevention education.

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) – NIDA-supported scientific advances over the past three decades have revolutionized our understanding of drug abuse and addiction, informing the development of more effective prevention and treatment approaches. Capitalizing on breakthrough discoveries showing the involvement of different brain systems in drug abuse and addiction—beyond the dopamine/reward system—NIDA's medications development program is pursuing a variety of emerging targets and treatment approaches.

Key Talking Points

- Over 23.6 million Americans had Abuse or Dependency Problems: According to SAMHSA's Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 23.6 million Americans aged 12 or older needed treatment for an alcohol or illicit drug problem in 2006 but only approximately 4 million received some kind of treatment. As a result, approximately 19.6 million people needed but did not receive services in 2006.
- SAMHSA research indicates that treatment can cut drug abuse in half, reduce criminal activity up to 80 percent, and reduce arrests up to 64 percent
- It is estimated that for every dollar spent on addiction treatment programs, there is a \$4 to \$7 reduction in the cost of drug-related crimes. With some outpatient programs, total savings can exceed costs by a ratio of 12:1.
- Because drug use and addiction are major public health problems, a large portion of drug treatment is funded by local, State, and Federal governments. By 2003, 77 percent of addiction treatment was publicly financed; less than 0.5 percent of private insurance spending was allocated to addiction treatment.

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