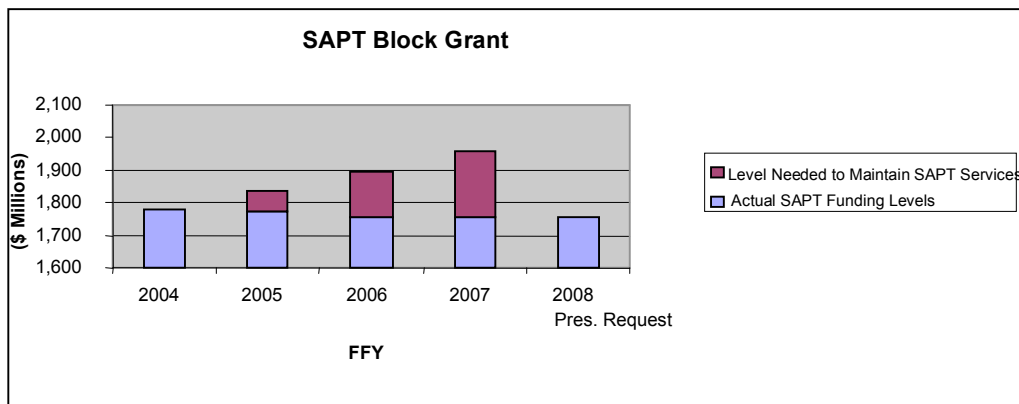


September 13, 2007

The Honorable Tom Harkin, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS),  
Education and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
131 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin:

We are writing to respectfully request that the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant remain a priority as Congress finalizes the FY 2008 Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education appropriations bill. In particular, please work to provide the SAPT Block Grant with \$1,793,591,000 – a funding level supported by the full House of Representatives – for an increase of approximately \$35 million over last year. This modest investment is desperately needed to address recent cuts to the SAPT Block Grant as illustrated by the analysis and chart below.



Projection based on Consumer Price Index (CPI) for urban areas (All Urban Consumers). CPI-U was 3.40 percent in '05 and 3.20 percent for '06. Assumptions based on 3.20 percent rate for '07 and '08. Graphic and assumptions by NY Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS).

**Over 23.6 million Americans Need Substance Abuse Treatment:** According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), approximately 23.6 million Americans were in need of services for an alcohol or other drug problem in 2006. During the same year, approximately 4.0 million people received treatment for alcohol or illicit drug use. As a result, approximately 19.6 million people needed but did not receive addiction treatment services in 2006.

**SAPT Block Grant Yields Results – Promotes Accountability:** In S.Rept. 110-107, the Senate Appropriations Committee noted "...States are making progress in reporting National Outcome Measures (NOMs) information through the SAPT Block Grant..." and "States reported positive improvements in a number of domains – including abstinence from alcohol and drug use; housing status; criminal justice involvement and employment." In H.Rept. 110-231, the House Appropriations Committee noted "The Committee is also aware that States employ a broad range of accountability strategies to ensure that SAPT Block Grant funded programs achieve results."

**SAPT Block Grant – Addresses Each State’s Unique Needs:** The SAPT Block Grant serves as the backbone of our publicly funded substance abuse service system in every State and Territory. This flexible funding stream is designed to help States and communities address their own unique needs related to addiction – whether the primary problem is alcohol, methamphetamine, prescription drug abuse or persons using multiples substances. The SAPT Block Grant also supports over 10,500 community-groups, including faith-based organizations, to help our nation’s most vulnerable populations: those with HIV/AIDS, pregnant and parenting women, youth, veterans and their families, and others.

**SAPT Block Grant Includes Vital Prevention Resources:** Twenty percent of the SAPT Block Grant is dedicated to funding much needed substance abuse prevention programming. The prevention set-aside has helped produce demonstrable results. The Monitoring the Future (MTF) Survey found a 23 percent decline in any illicit drug use in the past month by 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders combined between 2001 and 2006. As a result, there were 840,000 fewer teens using drugs in 2006 compared to 2001. A strong commitment to the SAPT Block Grant will ensure a strong commitment to much needed prevention services for our youth.

**Trends and Status of SAPT Block Grant Funding:** The SAPT Block Grant has been cut by approximately \$20 million over the last three years (a cut of \$3,591,280 in FY 2005; a cut of \$16,973,720 in FY 2006 and level funding in FY 2007). In addition to these cuts, inflationary costs have added strain to the publicly funded system. As noted above, it is estimated that an increase of \$261 million above the Administration’s FY 2008 request would be needed to maintain substance abuse services at FY 2004 levels. As a result, please work to ensure an increase of \$35 million for the SAPT Block Grant in FY 2008 – an effective and efficient program that saves lives and resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

### **National Organizations**

The AIDS Institute

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)

American Association of Pastoral Counselors

American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD)

American Counseling Association (ACA)

American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)

American Psychiatric Association (APA)

American Psychological Association (APA)

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

Association for Medical Education and Research in Substance Abuse (AMERSA)

Association of State & Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)

Faces and Voices of Recovery

Johnson Institute

Legal Action Center (LAC)

NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals

National Advocates for Pregnant Women

National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)

National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP)

National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA)

National Association of Counties (NACo)

National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO)

National Association on Alcohol, Drugs and Disability, Inc.

National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP)  
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)  
National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental  
Disability Directors (NACBHDD)  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD)  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)  
National Consortium of TASC Programs Inc  
National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD)  
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare  
National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)  
National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA)  
National HIRE Network  
National Alliance of Methadone Advocates (NAMA)  
National Network for Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities (NNSDFSC)  
National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS)  
National Student Assistance Association (NSAA)  
Partnership for a Drug-Free America  
Professional Association of Council Executives (PACE)  
Project Inform  
The Rebecca Project for Human Rights  
State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS)  
Therapeutic Communities of America (TCA)  
Title II Community AIDS National Network (TII CANN)  
United States Conference of Mayors

#### **State and Local Organizations**

Alabama Voices for Recovery (Mobile, AL)  
National Council on Substance Abuse-NCADD (Montgomery, AL)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Juneau, AK)  
Substance Abuse Directors Association of Alaska  
Arizona Council of Human Service Providers  
Methadone Support Organization (Scottsdale, AZ)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Phoenix, AZ)  
Arkansas Association of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs  
Arkansas Association of Substance Abuse Treatment Providers  
ARVAC/Freedom House A.D.T.C. (Russellville, AR)  
Family Service Agency (North Little Rock, AR)  
Harbor House, Inc. (Fort Smith, AR)  
Health Resources of Arkansas (Searcy, AR)  
Human Development & Research Services (Pine Bluff, AR)  
Mid-Ark Substance Abuse Services Center (Little Rock, Arkansas)  
North Central Arkansas Development Council (Batesville, AR)  
Ozark Mountain Alcohol Residential Treatment, Inc. (Gassville, AR)  
River Ridge Treatment Center (Texarkana, AR)  
The Step Up Support Center (Little Rock, AR)  
United Methodist Children's Home -- Arkansas C.A.R.E.S. (Little Rock, AR)  
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences - Substance Abuse Treatment Clinic (Little Rock, AR)  
California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources (CAARR)  
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives  
California Therapeutic Communities  
County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California  
National Council on Alcoholism and other Drug Addictions-Bay Area (NCADA-BA) (San Francisco, CA)

National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), Long Beach (Long Beach, CA)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), Sacramento Affiliate (Sacramento, CA)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), Orange County (Irvine, CA)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Tulare Co., (Tulare, CA)  
 Colorado Association of Alcohol & Drug Service Providers  
 Connecticut Association of Nonprofits  
 Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery (CCAR)  
 Delaware Association of Rehabilitation Facilities  
 Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association  
 National Alliance of Methadone Advocate, Central & North Florida Chapter (Bell, FL)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependency of Northwest Florida  
 Georgia Council on Substance Abuse  
 Chestnut Health Systems, Inc. (Bloomington, IL)  
 Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois (Springfield, IL)  
 Duane Dean Behavioral Health Center (Kankakee, IL)  
 Franklin-Williamson Human Services, Inc. (Marion, IL)  
 Gateway Foundation, Inc. (Chicago, IL)  
 Guildhaus (Blue Island, IL)  
 Illinois Alcoholism & Drug Dependence Association  
 Illinois Department of Human Services' Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (DASA)  
 Nicasa (Round Lake, IL)  
 Resurrection Behavioral Healthcare (Melrose Park, IL)  
 South East Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center – SEADAC (Chicago, IL)  
 Youth Outreach Services Inc. (Chicago, IL)  
 Alcohol & Addictions Resource Center (South Bend, IN)  
 Amethyst House (Indianapolis, IN)  
 Drug Free Marion County (Indianapolis, IN)  
 Indiana Addictions Issues Coalition (Indianapolis, IN)  
 Methadone Advocacy Group of Indiana (Valparaiso, IN)  
 Iowa Substance Abuse Program Directors' Association  
 Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals  
 PAR-People Advocating Recovery (Louisville, KY)  
 Pathways, Inc. (Ashland, KY)  
 Coalition of Louisiana Addiction Prevention and Service Providers  
 Council on Alcohol & Drug Abuse for GNO (New Orleans, LA)  
 Maine Association of Substance Abuse Programs  
 Maryland Addictions Director's Council  
 Massachusetts Association of Behavioral Health Systems (Belmont, MA)  
 Massachusetts Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors  
 Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery  
 Mental Health and Substance Abuse Corporations of Massachusetts  
 Nantucket Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Inc. (Nantucket, MA)  
 National Alliance of Methadone Advocates (NAMA) – MA Chapter  
 Western Massachusetts Association of School Substance Abuse Counselors  
 Harbor Hall, Inc. (Petoskey, MI)  
 Lakeshore Coordinating Council for Substance Abuse Services (Grand Haven, MI)  
 Michigan Association of Licensed Substance Abuse Organizations  
 Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission (MSSAC) (MI)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence - Greater Detroit Area (Detroit, MI)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Michigan (Petoskey, MI)  
 National Council on Alcoholism/Lansing Regional Area, Inc. (Lansing, MI)  
 Northern Michigan Substance Abuse Services, Inc. (Gaylord, MI)

Minnesota Association of Resources for Recovery & Chemical Health  
 Minnesota Institute of Public Health  
 Mississippi Association of Addiction Services  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Central Mississippi (Jackson, MS)  
 Mission Missouri (Sikeston, MO)  
 Missouri Association of Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs  
 Missouri Recovery Network (Jefferson City, MO)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (NCADA) - St. Louis Area (St. Louis, MO)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Greater Kansas City (Kansas City, MO)  
 St. Louis Coalition on Addictions (St. Louis, MO)  
 Montana Addiction Service Providers  
 Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (Grand Island, NE)  
 Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations (Grand Island, NE)  
 Nevada Alliance for Addictive Disorders Advocacy, Prevention and Treatment Services  
 New Hampshire Alcohol and Other Drug Service Providers Association  
 Addiction Treatment Providers of New Jersey  
 National Alliance of Methadone Advocates (NAMA) – New Jersey Chapter  
 National Council of Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Middlesex County, Inc. (East Brunswick, NJ)  
 National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of New Jersey  
 Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention Council of Saratoga County, Inc. (NY)  
 Alcoholism Council of New York (New York City Affiliate of NCADD) (New York, NY)  
 Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State  
 Chautauqua Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Council (CASAC) (Jamestown, NY)  
 Council on Addictions in NY State (NCADD Affiliate) (NY)  
 Delaware County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Delaware County, Inc. (Delhi, NY)  
 DePaul’s National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (Rochester, NY)  
 Friends of Recovery of Delaware and Otsego Counties (NY)  
 Horizon Corporations (Buffalo, NY)  
 LEAF Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (Oneonta, NY)  
 Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (Williston Park, NY)  
 New York’s Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services (OASAS)  
 New York State Conference of Local Mental Hygiene Directors (Albany, NY)  
 New York State Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare (Albany, NY)  
 Recovery Center - The Council on Alcoholism & Drug Abuse of Sullivan County (Monticello, NY)  
 Rockland Council on Alcoholism and Other Drug Dependence (New City, NY)  
 Seaway Valley Prevention Council (Canton, NY)  
 The Addictions Care Center of Albany, Inc. (Albany, NY)  
 The Prevention Network (Syracuse, NY)  
 Burke Council on Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency, Inc. (Morgantown, NC)  
 Chemical Dependency Center (Charlotte, NC)  
 Coastal Horizons Center, Inc. (Wilmington, NC)  
 Division of Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Programs, North Carolina Department of Correction  
 North Carolina Association of Alcoholic Residential Facilities (NCAARF)  
 North Carolina Substance Abuse Providers Association  
 North Dakota Addiction Treatment Providers Coalition  
 Drug-Free Action Alliance (Columbus, OH)  
 Ohio Citizen Advocates for Chemical Dependency Prevention & Treatment (Columbus, OH)  
 Ohio Council of Behavioral Healthcare Providers  
 Oklahoma Substance Abuse Services Alliance  
 Southwest Prevention Center (Norman, OK)  
 Oregon Department of Human Services, Addictions and Mental Health Division

Oregon Partnership (Portland, OR)  
Oregon Prevention, Recovery, and Education Association  
Bucks County Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (Doylestown, PA)  
Council on Chemical Abuse (Reading, PA)  
Drug & Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania  
The RASE Project (Harrisburg, PA)  
Drug and Alcohol Treatment Association of Rhode Island  
Behavioral Health Services Association of South Carolina  
South Dakota Council of Substance Abuse Providers  
Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug & other Addiction Services  
Association of Persons Affected by Addiction (APAA) (Dallas, TX)  
Association of Substance Abuse Programs of Texas  
Texas National Alliance for Methadone Advocates (TexNAMA)  
Utah Behavioral Healthcare Network  
Association of Student Assistance Professionals of Vermont  
Friends of Recovery - Vermont (Montpelier, VT)  
Vermont Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council  
Vermont Association for Mental Health (Montpelier, VT)  
Vermont Association of Addiction Treatment Providers  
Vermont Association of Drug & Alcohol Programs  
Vermont Certification Board  
Vermont Council of Developmental and Mental Health Services (Montpelier, VT)  
Vermont Drug and Alcohol Coalition  
Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (Richmond, VA)  
Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance (SAARA) of Virginia (Glen Allen, VA)  
Virginia Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (Harrisonburg, VA)  
Alliance for Recovery (Seattle, WA)  
Citizen's Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction (WA)  
Governor's Council on Substance Abuse (WA)  
The Center for Substance Abuse Recovery (Tacoma, WA)  
Washington Association of Alcoholism & Addiction Programs  
Washington Association of Substance Abuse and Violence Prevent  
Regional Addiction Prevention (RAP) (Washington DC)  
Addiction Resource Council, Inc. (Waukesha, WI)  
FOCUS ON COMMUNITY, Inc. (Racine, WI)  
IMPACT (Milwaukee, WI)  
Logan Mingo Area Mental Health Center  
Mid-Ohio Valley Fellowship Home, Inc. (Parkersburg, WV)  
Peer Recovery Network (Charleston, WV)  
Rea of Hope Fellowship Home, Inc. (Charleston, WV)