

May 16, 2008

The Honorable Tom Harkin, Chairman  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human  
Services (HHS), Education, Related Agencies  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin:

We are writing to respectfully request that the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant remain a priority as the Subcommittee considers the FY 2009 Labor, Health and Human Services (HHS), Education appropriations bill. In particular, please support the SAPT Block Grant by providing the program with \$1,858,728,000 for an increase of approximately \$100 million over last year. This modest increase is desperately needed to protect and sustain lifesaving treatment, prevention and recovery services in States and communities across the country.

**Over 23.6 million Americans had Abuse or Dependency Problems:** 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 aged 12 or older needed treatment for an alcohol or illicit drug problem in 2006. During the same year, approximately 4 million received some kind of treatment for a problem related to the use of alcohol or illicit drugs. As a result, approximately 19.6 million people needed but did not receive services in 2006.

**SAPT Block Grant Yields Results:** 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. Last year, Congress took notice of work by SAMHSA, providers, counties and States to implement improved data reporting through the National Outcome Measures (NOMs) initiative. In Senate Report 110-107, the Senate Appropriations Committee said, "The Committee notes that States are making progress in reporting NOMs information through the SAPT block grant...States reported positive improvements in a number of data domains--including abstinence from alcohol and drug use; housing status; criminal justice involvement; and employment." In House Report 110-231, the House Appropriations Committee said "The Committee is aware that the SAPT block grant is an effective and efficient program."

**SAPT Block Grant – Addresses State and Community 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.

**Status of Proposed SAPT Block Grant Funding:** The SAPT Block Grant has been cut by more than \$20 million since FY 2004 (a cut of \$3,591,280 in FY 2005; a cut of \$16,973,720 in FY 2006 and level funding in FY 2008). As a result, please work to ensure an increase of \$100 million for the SAPT Block Grant in FY 2007 – an effective and efficient program that saves lives and resources.

Thank you for your consideration.

### **National Organizations**

ADAP Advocacy Association

AIDS Action

The AIDS Institute

Alliance for Children and Families

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)

American Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD)

American Counseling Association (ACA)

American Jail Association (AJA)

American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA)

American Probation and Parole Association (APPA)

American Psychiatric Association (APA)

American Psychological Association (APA)

American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)

Association of State & Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

Betty Ford Center

Bradford Health Services

Child Welfare League of America (CWLA)

Community Anti Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA)

Faces & Voices of Recovery

Goodwill Industries International, Inc.

Hazelden Foundation

International Community Corrections Association (ICCA)

International Institute for Alcohol Awareness (IIAA)

Johnson Institute (JI)

Legal Action Center (LAC)

NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals

National Advocates for Pregnant Women (NAPW)

National African American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.

National Alcohol Beverage Control Association (NABCA)

National Alliance of State & Territorial AIDS Directors (NASTAD)

National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

National Alliance to End Homelessness (NAEH)  
National Association of Addiction Treatment Providers (NAATP)  
National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA)  
National Association of Counties (NACo)  
National Association of Drug Court Professionals (NADCP)  
National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors (NASADAD)  
National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS)  
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)  
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)  
National Black Alcoholism and Addictions Council, Inc. (NBAAC)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD)  
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare (NCCBH)  
National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG)  
National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA)  
National HIRE Network  
National Narcotics Officers Associations' Coalition (NNOA)  
National Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (NOFAS)  
National TASC  
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation (PIRE)  
Partnership for a Drug-Free America  
Project Inform  
Second Genesis  
State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS)  
Therapeutic Communities of America (TCA)  
TII CANN - Title II Community AIDS National Network  
Westcare

### **State and Local Organizations**

Substance Abuse Directors Association of Alaska  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Juneau Alaska  
Alabama Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association  
Alabama Association of Certified Residential Providers for the Treatment of Addiction (AACRPTA)  
Alabama Lawyer Assistance Program  
Alabama Substance Abuse Coordinating Subcommittee (Springville, AL)  
Alabama Voices of Recovery  
Alabama Women's Resource Network (Montgomery, AL)  
CED Fellowship House, Inc. (Gadsden, AL)  
Council on Substance Abuse-NCADD (Montgomery, AL)  
Friends of Recovery Madison, Morgan, Limestone, Lawrence, Randolph and Cullman Counties (Eva, AL)  
Northwest Alabama Mental Health (Fayette, AL)  
The Pathfinder Inc. (Huntsville, AL)  
The Right Turn Addiction Counseling (Montgomery, AL)  
Southeast Intervention Group, Inc., The Herring Houses of Dothan (Dothan, AL)  
Arizona Council of Human Service Providers  
Compass Behavioral Health Center (Tucson, AZ)  
Arkansas Association of Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

California Association of Addiction Recovery Resources  
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives  
County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California  
Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (Santa Barbara, CA)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Sacramento Affiliate (NCADD Sacramento)(Sacramento, CA)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence- Orange County (NCADD- OC)  
NCADD-SFV (Van Nuys, CA)  
NCADD-SFV (San Fernando Valley, CA)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, NCADD in the Silicon Valley (San Jose, CA)  
National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence of the South Bay (Torrance, CA)  
NCADD Tulare County, Inc., 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 Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Northwest Florida (Navarre FL)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Tampa Bay (Tampa, FL)  
Georgia Council on Substance Abuse  
Iowa Behavioral Health Association  
Employee & Family Resources, Inc. (Des Moines, IA)  
Illinois Alcoholism & Drug Dependence Association  
Alexian Brothers Bonaventure House (Chicago, IL)  
Breaking Free (Aurora, IL)  
Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois  
Franklin-Williamson Human Services, Inc. (Marion, IL)  
Gateway Foundation (Chicago, Illinois)  
Haymarket Center (Illinois)  
Human Resources Center of Edgar and Clark Counties (Paris, Illinois)  
Nicasa (Round Lake, IL)  
Resurrection Behavioral Health (Melrose Park, IL)  
Riverside Resolve Center (Kankakee, IL)  
A Safe Haven LLC (Illinois)  
Southeast Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center (Chicago, IL)  
TASC, Inc (Chicago, Illinois)  
Youth Outreach Services, Inc. (Chicago, Illinois)  
Kansas Association of Addiction Professionals  
The Adanta Group Behavioral Health Services (Somerset, KY)  
Communicare, Inc. (Elizabeth, KY)  
Four Rivers Behavioral Health, Inc. of Paducah, KY  
Kansas Family Partnership (Topeka, KS)  
Lifeskills, Inc. (Bowling Green, KY)  
Pathways, Inc., Ashland KY  
Seven Counties Services, Inc. Louisville, Kentucky  
Coalition of Louisiana Addiction Prevention and Service Providers  
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council for S. Louisiana (ADAC) (Houma, LA)

Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse of NWLA (Shreveport, LA)  
Family Health Center (Kenner, LA)  
New Orleans Regional AIDS Planning Council (NORAPC) (Louisiana)  
Shelter Resources, Inc. (New Orleans, LA)  
St. Francis Foundation, Inc. (Lafayette, LA)  
Maine Association of Substance Abuse Programs  
New England Institute of Addiction Studies (Augusta, ME)  
Maryland Addictions Director's Council  
Maryland Affiliate- National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD-MD)  
Safe & Drug-Free Schools Project, Anne Arundel County Public Schools (Annapolis, MD)  
Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR)  
Massachusetts Association of Behavioral Health Systems (Belmont, MA)  
Mental Health and Substance Abuse Corporations of Massachusetts, Inc. (Natick, MA)  
Nantucket Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Inc. (Nantucket, MA)  
Michigan Association of Licensed Substance Abuse Organizations  
National Council on Alcoholism/Lansing Regional Area, Inc (Lansing, MI)  
Minnesota Association of Resources for Recovery & Chemical Health  
National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence, Inc. (Minnesota Affiliate)  
Mississippi Association of Addiction Services  
Missouri Association of Alcohol & Drug Abuse Programs  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Greater Kansas City (Kansas, MO)  
National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (NCADA) - St. Louis Area (Brentwood, MO)  
Montana Addiction Service Providers  
Nebraska Association of Behavioral Health Organizations  
Central Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (Grand Island, NE)  
Island Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition (Grand Island, Nebraska)  
NOVA Therapeutic Community (Omaha, NE)  
Nevada Alliance for Addictive Disorders Advocacy, Prevention and Treatment Services  
Community Counseling Center (Las Vegas, NV)  
New Hampshire Alcohol and Other Drug Service Providers Association  
Addiction Treatment Providers of New Jersey  
Integrity House (Newark, N.J.)  
NCADD of Middlesex County, Inc.  
NCADD New Jersey (Robbinsville, N.J.)  
Paterson Counseling Center, Inc. (Patterson, N.J.)  
Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Providers of New York State  
Alcoholism Council of New York (ACNY) (New York, N.Y.)  
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council of Delaware County, Inc. (Delhi, N.Y.)  
Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Council of Orange County (Goshen, N.Y.)  
Alcohol and Substance Abuse Council of Jefferson County, Inc. (Watertown, N.Y.)  
Chautauqua Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Council (CASAC) (Jamestown, N.Y.)  
Councils on Addiction for New York State (CANYS)  
DePaul's National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-Rochester Area (N.Y.)  
Erie County Council for the Prevention of Alcohol and Substance Abuse, Inc. (ECCPASA) (Buffalo, N.Y.)  
Friends of Recovery of Delaware and Otsego Counties, Inc. (N.Y.)  
LEAF Council on Alcoholism and Addictions (Oneonta, N.Y.)

Long Island Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence (Williston Park, N.Y.)  
Seaway Valley Council for Alcohol/Substance Abuse Prevention, Inc. (Canton, N.Y.)  
Steuben Council on Addictions in Steuben County (Corning, N.Y.)  
NC Substance Abuse Providers Associations  
North Carolina Association for Behavioral Health Care  
NC TASC Network  
Burke Council on Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency, Inc. (Morganton, N.C.)  
Chemical Dependency Center of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, Inc. (Charlotte, N.C.)  
Coastal Horizons Center, Inc. (Wilmington, N.C.)  
Division of Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Programs North Carolina Department of Correction  
The Mountain Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence (Asheville, N.C.)  
North Carolina Association of Alcoholic Residential Facilities (NCAARF)  
Partnership for a Drug-Free NC, Inc. (Winston Salem, N.C.)  
North Dakota Addiction Treatment Providers Coalition  
Ohio Council of Behavioral Healthcare Providers  
ALSTOP, Inc. (Lima, OH)  
Amethyst, Inc. (Columbus, OH)  
Ohio Citizen Advocates for Chemical Dependency Prevention & Treatment  
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Association of Ohio (ADAPAO)  
Alcoholism Council of the Cincinnati Area, NCADD (Cincinnati, OH)  
Drug Free Action Alliance (Columbus, OH)  
Ohio Alcohol and Drug Policy Alliance  
Recovery Resources (Cleveland, OH)  
Oklahoma Substance Abuse Services Alliance  
Oregon Governor's Council on Alcohol and Drug Programs  
Oregon Partnership (Portland, OR)  
Oregon Prevention, Recovery, and Education Association  
Drug & Alcohol Service Providers Organization of Pennsylvania  
The Boyle Group (PA)  
Drug and Alcohol Treatment Association of Rhode Island  
Behavioral Health Services Association of South Carolina  
South Dakota Council of Substance Abuse Directors, Inc. (Pierre, SD)  
Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug & Other Addiction Services  
Alcohol & Drug Council of Middle Tennessee (Nashville, TN)  
Association of Substance Abuse Programs of Texas  
Cenikor Foundation (Houston, TX)  
Center for Health Care Services (San Antonio, TX)  
Utah Behavioral Healthcare Network  
Vermont Association of Drug & Alcohol Programs  
Association of Student Assistance Professionals of Vermont  
Friends of Recovery – Vermont (Montpelier, VT)  
Opiate Dependence Resource Center (Burlington, VT)  
Vermont Association for Mental Health  
Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs  
Chesterfield Adult Substance Abuse Services (Chesterfield, VA)  
The McShin Foundation (Richmond, VA)  
New River Valley Community Services (Blacksburg, VA)  
Goochland – Powhatan Community Services Board (Goochland, VA)  
Washington Association of Alcoholism & Addiction Programs

The Alliance for Recovery (Seattle, WA)  
Regional Addiction Prevention (RAP), Inc. (Washington, D.C.)  
Peer Recovery Network (Charleston, W.V.)  
The Wisconsin Alcohol and Drug Treatment Providers Association  
Addiction Resource Council, Inc. (Waukesha, Wisconsin)  
Focus on Community (Racine, WI)  
Lutheran Social Services of WI & Upper MI (Madison, WI)