



Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

c/o Boston ASAP – 3rd floor, 30 Winter Street Boston, MA 02108

October 12, 2004

Join The Voices for Recovery.. NOW! was Heard Across Massachusetts September 2004

September was National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, sponsored by The federal government agency, Center for Substance Abuse Treatment. MOAR is pleased to be a national planning partner. The 2004 Theme: “*Join the Voices for Recovery: NOW!*” was clearly pronounced Massachusetts Recovery Day, September 22nd, from Parkman Bandstand to The State House with 1,000 people in recovery, families, and friends. CSAT Director Westley Clark led the mantra for us.

As MOAR President, Amos Marshall proclaimed:

“You and I, our families and friends, are the voices, for Recovery. My addiction took me to the streets; support from a shelter brought me to long term treatment, and now I am the shelter’s substance abuse service’s director. I am a face and voice for addiction recovery. It is our stories, who can invite communities to become involved in promoting prevention, treatment and recovery for millions of Americans. We know that only 20% of people who need treatment, actually receive it..”

Senate Ways and Means Chairperson, Therese Murray (Plymouth) received loud applause for announcing the restoration of \$11.9 Million to substance abuse services. Representative Martin Walsh was commended for his part in the move to restore services.

A young Latino mother shared how Latinos Uninas is building her recovery foundation from addiction and trauma. Learning how to build in a culture of recovery after prison was demonstrated by a man of color, who was vibrant with gratitude for this foundation from SPAN. The Western MA, Learn to Cope, Whatever it Takes, Everett Families Against Drugs, South Boston Family Resource Center- parent support groups were awarded for their courage to speak up for a full continuum of care, stop the opiate epidemic, support alternative sentencing –plus, offer help and hope to families.

City of Boston Mayor Thomas Menino (Michael Kineavy, Director of Policy and Planning represented Mayor Menino) was commended for initiating The Boston Neighborhood Organizing Against Drugs (NO Drugs) Coalition Initiatives. The Boston coalitions cited were Grove Hall, Allston Brighton, South Boston, East Boston, South End, Charlestown and Casa Esperanza. The MA Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Heroin and Other Opioids Comprehensive supported grantees were highlighted: Boston (Allston Brighton, South Boston, Charlestown), Chelsea, Concord, Everett, Fall River, Gloucester, Greenfield, Lynn, Malden, Melrose, New Bedford, Somerville, Stoughton, Watertown, Westford, Weymouth, and Winchester. These communities are examples of Massachusetts residents taking action to speak up, to end the stigma associated with addiction, and eventually build a cultural environment for prevention and recovery.

Jack Leary, PO, South Boston was awarded for supporting treatment, families, and communities to receive effective services. He has seen the devastation from closed detoxes and heroin addiction. He is making a heroic call for positive action. An unsung hero, Bean LeFebvre, was nominated by friends and family, for working in the trenches, to help others live in recovery. Kevin Fitzgerald, professionally, The Massachusetts State House Sergeant of Arms, and personally, a beaming voice for recovery energized everybody’s soul. Kattie Portis, City of Boston Substance Abuse Policy Advisor made our Recovery Month Walk “The Best Ever.” She accepted recognition for Roxbury’s newly renovated Marcus Garvey Recovery Center. Boston Public Health Executive Director, John Auerbach highlighted the day with facts, stats, and eloquence to build recovery in any community. Speaking of Join the Voices for Recovery.. Now!!...We are blessed to have The Teen Challenge Recovery Choir, Judah Abijah sing Recovery with “Amazing Grace” and

The Improbable Players take the Mask off the Disease and Act out The Reality of Recovery every year!

“Ending Discrimination and Valuing Recovery” was played out at The Department of Public Health, Recovery Day afternoon, via a panel facilitated by The Associate DPH Commissioner for Substance Abuse Services, Michael Botticelli. Panelists included Roberta Leis, Join Together; Jean McGuire, Northeastern University; Diane Kurtz, W MA Parent Support Group, MOAR ; Dana Moulton, MOAR; LaVerne Saunders, Dorrington and Saunders, People to People; shared how discriminatory policies in addiction weave into health care, education, criminal justice, and government.....and how they found their path to “Join The Voices for Recovery.. NOW! Both Dana and Diane have helped others live in the value of recovery, via our CSAT funded peer curriculums.

The Big Recovery Month Question: Is it time to Take Our Recovery Month Celebration to The Hatch Shell, and Plan for a Huge Recovery Walk and Picnic. We need Your help to make the decision to make the change or not!

Recovery Day Voter Registration – A Success.. Thanks to Sana Fadel and Sara from Rosies Place!

Sana managed the Recovery Month Voter Registration Successfully. Community Recovery Month celebrations were held in East Boston (Meridian and East Boston Rehab) and New Bedford (Reflections) with Family and Softball Events, Northampton (Cooley Dickinson) and Springfield (Phoenix House got the press there!) held outdoor events, Salem (CAB Health and Recovery) held a Bike a Thon. Worcester (Henry Lee Willis Center) sponsored a Walk. Speaking of Worcester! That is where we had our Annual Meeting (Community Healthlink) with MA DPH Associate Commissioner of Substance Abuse Services, Michael Botticelli, Comedien Al Joyce, Amazing Judah Abijah Dorrington, and families. At least 300 People by the end of Recovery Month Celebration were registered to vote for The November 2nd Presidential Election. Speaking of a Campaign...see the following!

Speaking of Recovery Support Services.

Parent Support, private and public healthcare, Life After Prison, Transitions from Treatment to The World, Criminal Offender Record Information, Recovery Bill of Rights, Gaps in Continuum of Care Services, coping with Hep C, Education, Employment, Housing ... MOAR needs to hear from you – as we Join The Voices for Recovery ..NOW ! .We need Your Voice for Recovery!! We will be sending you a survey, along with a Holiday Gift Application to Join or Rejoin MOAR!! .Soon!

Please come to a MOAR Meeting for a Little MOAR Action

MOAR Boston recently learned about Campral from Benjamin Brent, MD. Campral® (acamprosate calcium) Delayed-Release Tablets are now FDA-approved for the maintenance of abstinence from alcohol, who are abstinent at treatment initiation. Treatment with Campral should be part of a comprehensive management program that includes a recovery support system.

You are MOAR Wanted to Drive The MOAR Mission:

To organize recovering individuals, families and friends into a collective voice to educate the public about the value of recovery from alcohol and other addictions.... and every region is on a mission for action in 2005!

New Bedford, October 26, 11 AM, Reflections, 497 Belleville Ave

East Boston, “*Advocacy and Anonymity*” October 21, 6:30 PM, North Suffolk Mental Health Association, Basement, 14 Porter St

Boston, (Jamaica Plain) November 1, *What Programs help People with Criminal Offender Records?*

Hear about Father Friendlys and Stanley Jones Clean Slate Project –

Come to a MOAR Holiday Party- December 6th!

Let's Have Our Annual Public Policy Action Meeting.. January 31st- !

Meetings start at 6, in the Huevos Auditorium, Faulkner Hospital

Hyannis, November 3rd, 5:30 PM, Hyannis Gosnold, 1185 Falmouth Road

Worcester, November 9th, December 14th, 6:15 PM, Thayer Auditorium, Community Healthlink, 72 Jacques Ave

Pittsfield, October 27th, 6:00PM, Hillcrest Hospital, Torr Court, 4th floor conference room

We are honoring Representative Peter Larkin and Mayor James Ruberto during Red Ribbon Week!

Springfield, October 28th, 5:30 PM, Phoenix House, 5 Madison Avenue

Lowell – To Be Announced

MOAR Supports People to People's Harvest of Recovery, Sunday, October 24, 2004, 2:30 –6 PM, First Church, 10 Putnam St, Roxbury. You are invited!!!

MOAR Sincerely – Maryanne Frangules, MOAR, 617-423-6627

