

**Director's Report to the  
Center for Substance Abuse Treatment's  
National Advisory Council  
[January through May 2006]**

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Director**

**Status of FY 2007 Budget.** On June 13, the full House Appropriations Committee approved the FY 07 spending bill for programs in the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS-Ed). The Committee proposal includes a \$3.343 billion program level for SAMHSA, an increase of \$82.9 million, or 2.5% above the FY 07 President's Budget request.

- **CSAT Programs of Regional and National Significance (PRNS program).** As approved, CSAT would receive \$326.7 million, representing a \$72.3 million cut from last year's PRNS funding level and nearly \$48.7 million less than the President's Budget request. The House Committee proposes to maintain the following programs at the FY 06 level: Homeless (\$34.4 million), Minority HIV/AIDS (\$63.1 million), and the Minority Fellowship Program (\$531,000). Among the other key provisions in the proposed House bill are: **no funding for Access to Recovery (ATR) program**; \$31.2 million for Screening, Brief Intervention, Referral and Treatment (SBIRT) program; \$25 million for a Methamphetamine treatment program (grantees may use as vouchers); and \$3.7 million for Congressional Earmarks.
- **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant.** The House Committee proposes \$1.834 billion for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant, an increase of \$75.4 million over the request.

In total, CSAT's FY 07 House committee approved appropriation is \$2.161 billion, an increase of \$3 million over the FY 06 level, and a \$26.7 million increase over the President's Budget request. Furthermore, due to the committee's action to not fund Access to Recovery in FY 07 and its decision to redirect \$75.4 million to the SAPT Block Grant, while funding Meth treatment at \$25 million, the net effect is a restoration of non-ATR PRNS funding.

As of now, House floor action on the bill is scheduled for June 21-22.

**Methamphetamine Summits.** To address the alarming spread of methamphetamine and the unique nature of methamphetamine abuse and dependence to the substance abuse treatment field in recent years, CSAT's Division of State and Community Assistance (DSCA) with the Division of Services Improvement (DSI), recently convened two summits on methamphetamine. The first summit was convened in Los Angeles, California, on April 5-7; the second was in Orlando, Florida, on May 23-25.

The summits were specifically designed for State agency staff involved in developing, regulating, and funding methamphetamine treatment as well as program administrators and clinicians responsible for front-line treatment. A major aim of the summits was to showcase evidence-based methamphetamine treatment approaches and help the participants better connect science to practice and, thus, strengthen the likelihood of positive outcomes for clients with methamphetamine problems.

There were approximately 765 participants at the two Summits, which included Single State Directors, State Agency staff, local treatment and prevention directors and staff, as well as representatives from national organizations.

***Methamphetamine and Child Welfare Conference.*** On May 8-9, 2006, SAMHSA/CSAT co-sponsored with the Administration on Children and Families Children's Bureau a national conference entitled, "Methamphetamine: The Child Welfare Impact and Response." The conference brought together 350 child welfare and substance abuse professionals to discuss the impact that methamphetamine use is having on children and families, and how State child welfare systems are dealing with more families coming into their systems as a result of methamphetamine abuse. The conference provided a forum for CSAT to highlight the effectiveness of treatment for methamphetamine, as well as strong, established collaborative approaches for partnership between treatment, law enforcement, and child protective services agencies.

***New Orleans Disaster Meeting.*** The SAMHSA Summit, "The Spirit of Recovery: All-Hazards Behavioral Health Preparedness and Response -- Building on the Lessons of Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma," was held in New Orleans on May 22-24, 2006. Dr. Clark served as the co-chair for the planning of this meeting along with A. Kathryn Power, CMHS Director. The three meeting objectives were: review lessons from Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma; identify opportunities for consolidation of the ongoing response to behavioral health issues; and strategize all-hazards preparedness efforts for future disasters. Each state, through the governor, was invited to select up to ten participants with SAMHSA supporting five. The States were encouraged to include their Substance Abuse Treatment and Mental Health Directors, as well as Disaster Response Planning staff, Public Health representatives and treatment providers. In addition, national organizations, selected tribes (those directly affected by the hurricanes) and federal partners were invited. There were over 700 participants. Six CSAT staff participated as presenters, facilitators, and moderators. There was particular attention paid to the inclusion of substance abuse treatment throughout the plenaries, break-out sessions, and state/regional planning meetings. All of the PowerPoint presentations and some of the plenary videos will be available on the Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC) Web site by mid-June, at [www.spiritofrecoverysummit.com/presentations](http://www.spiritofrecoverysummit.com/presentations).

***Russia Conference.*** Dr. Clark and Robert Lubran, Director, Division of Pharmacologic Therapies, together with Cheri Nolan, Senior Advisor to the Administrator, participated in an international conference, "The Health of a Nation and Fight against Narcoterrorism," in Moscow, Russia, on March 29-31. The purpose of the visit was to describe the United States regulatory program for oversight of Opioid Treatment Programs (OTPs) and SAMHSA's role in the implementation of the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 permitting the use of Buprenorphine (Suboxone and Subutex) in detoxification and maintenance treatment of Opioid dependence. Dr. Clark spoke to the attendees about the importance of medication assisted treatment in preventing the transmission of HIV and other infectious diseases.

***Tribal Consultation.*** The Department of Health and Human Services hosted a series of 11 Tribal consultation sessions across the country during the Spring of 2006. The Tribal consultation took several forms, including a national budget consultation session that

focused on the health and human services budget priorities of Tribes, as well as regional consultation sessions which were coordinated by HHS regional directors. In addition to Tribal Leaders from all federally recognized tribes, participants in the regional consultation sessions included representatives from HHS operational divisions including prominent participation by SAMHSA and CSAT staff.

Issues and priorities that were raised by the Tribal Leaders were wide and varied, with some common themes relevant to the work of SAMHSA. Among all the consultation sessions, the highest priority for attention was given to issues related to suicide prevention, alcohol abuse and dependence, the widespread abuse and dependence on methamphetamine with associated criminal justice and child welfare issues, and the concern that tribes are having difficulty winning competitive grants. SAMHSA has developed a draft Tribal Consultation Policy which has been distributed for comment, while the FY 2007 President's Budget includes almost \$3M for a new American Indian/Alaska Native youth Suicide Prevention Initiative.

***Returning Veterans Conference.*** On March 16-18, 2006, SAMHSA sponsored a 3-day conference with the Therapeutic Communities of America (TCA) in Washington, DC. "The Road Home: The National Behavioral Health Conference on Returning Veterans and Their Families," brought together over 1,000 representatives of Federal, state, public, and private service providers who participated in 8 plenary sessions that informed 17 workshops and 8 skills-building clinics. This convergence of perspectives and experiences, sought to advance a continuing dialogue designed to explicate the needs and challenges of all veterans, particularly service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan and increase coordination, linkages, and collaboration across communities of service providers to address those needs and challenges.

***Motivational Enhancement Therapy.*** DSCA planned and offered a series of intensive trainings on Motivational Enhancement Therapy/Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Adolescent Cannabis Users: 5 Sessions. A primary aim of the 2.5-day trainings was to provide detailed guidance on how to implement this brief intervention model of treatment in the participants' programs. The multi-state trainings were set-up for teams of two, a clinician and clinical supervisor. Seven training events will occur between April 26 and June 28, 2006, with a total of 230 individuals trained.

***2005 Recovery Month Public Service Announcements (PSAs) Coverage.*** The 2005 television campaign has been in the top 3% by number of plays among 477-497 campaigns being monitored by Nielsen from December 26 – April 30. It ranked 11<sup>th</sup> out of 486 campaigns Nielsen monitored in April, putting it in the top 2.26%.

***2006 Recovery Month Update.***

- 2006 kits were ready in mid-May and to date there are only 10,000 kits left for distribution. More than 65,000 kits have been ordered in just two weeks. Mailings to Congress, Governors, and Mayors were handled in-house and completed 5/24.
- We have 65 new 2006 Recovery Month events posted thus far on the 2006 site - 23 events were submitted in May.

- CSAT/SAMHSA will host the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SAMHSA Recovery Month Walk/Run on September 27<sup>th</sup>.
- CSAT is working with the National Association of Broadcasters to distribute an NAB-generated tool kit on Recovery Month to all TV and Radio member stations.
- The 2006 Recovery Month PSAs are completed and ready for distribution. Advisory Council members will be able to view them in September or at [www.recoverymonth.gov](http://www.recoverymonth.gov).

***Lifting the 30-patient Limit on Prescribing Buprenorphine.*** The United States Senate has introduced a bill (S. 2560), which includes a provision that would significantly affect the 30 patient limit established under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA). Currently, DATA limits the number of patients a waived physician can treat to no more than 30 patients at any one time. S. 2560, which would reauthorize the Office of National Drug Control Policy, includes a section that would amend the Controlled Substances Act by permitting a physician with a DATA waiver to submit a second notification to the Secretary, DHHS, to treat more than 30 patients.

***Partners for Recovery (PFR) Initiative.*** The PFR initiative is sponsoring a *National Conference for Leaders of Addiction Services* on July 24 – 25. This conference is to recognize the first year of graduates of the PFR/ATTC sponsored Leadership Institutes being conducted at 13 ATTCs across the Nation. Joining the graduates will be members of the PFR Steering Committee who are themselves, current leaders in the field of addictions prevention, treatment and mental health services. Opportunities for networking and cross-fertilization among current and future leaders are planned throughout the two-day event. Maestro Benjamin Zander, conductor of the Boston Philharmonic, has graciously accepted our invitation to give a two-hour presentation on the topic of leadership.

***Upcoming ATR Meeting.*** There will be a semi-annual meeting for the Access to Recovery (ATR) initiative in San Francisco, July 26-28. This meeting is titled “Fulfilling the Commitment and Beyond.” In attendance at this meeting will be key staff from the ATR grantees, Department of Labor grantees from their Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI), and Faith Based Liaisons and Transition Coordinators we are currently using to assist ATR grantees related to project goals. The third year of these three-year grants starts almost immediately after this grantee meeting. The goal of the meeting is to look at the progress ATR grantees have made through the first two years of the grants and to talk about what still needs to be accomplished in the third and final year.

***Women’s Conference.*** On July 12-14, 2006, SAMHSA/CSAT, in partnership with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), will host the “2006 National Conference on Women, Addiction and Recovery: News You Can Use,” in Anaheim, California. This 2 ½ -day conference will advance the field of women’s substance abuse treatment by presenting the latest research and discussing how it can be applied and implemented to improve clinical practice and service delivery for women with substance use disorders.