



A MATTER OF SUBSTANCE: At-a-Glance

MARCH 2010

A PUBLICATION OF THE IDPH
DIVISION OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

DIVISION QUICK FACTS

NIATx Launches ACTION Campaign II: NIATx has launched Adopting Changes to Improve Outcomes Now (ACTION) Campaign II: Financial Strength in a Changing World. This 18-month initiative aims to help behavioral health care providers improve services while reducing costs and increasing revenue. Since its inception in 2003, NIATx has accumulated data from participating organizations showing that making just one small change in a system improves both customer service and the financial health of the organization. There is no cost to participate in the ACTION Campaign II. Resources include an online toolkit, twice-monthly webinars, and regional learning collaboratives. For more information about joining the Action Campaign II, please contact Kevin Gabbert at 515-281-7080 or kgabbert@idph.state.ia.us

Town Hall Meetings to Address Underage Drinking: Underage drinking continues to be a leading public health problem in the United States. Alcohol use threatens the safe and healthy development of more young people than any other substance—even more than tobacco and illicit drugs. As part of a national effort to help communities in their efforts to stop underage drinking, a series of Town Hall Meetings will take place across America during the week of March 22, 2010. Town Hall Meetings help increase understanding and awareness of underage drinking and its consequences, and encourages individuals, families, and communities to address the problem. To find a list of Town Hall Meetings happening in Iowa, go to www.stopalcoholabuse.gov/townhallmeetings/map/eventlist.aspx?id=14.

SAMHSA Announces New ATR Grant: SAMHSA has announced the release of funding for Access to Recovery (ATR) III. While Iowa is a current ATR grantee, the grant is scheduled to end September 30, 2010. A new application is being prepared and will be submitted by the March 10 deadline for consideration in the competitive bid process. The new grant will be for a four-year period. The ATR staff would like to thank all of the providers who have been assisting in this process.

Director's Corner: Hello. Will you be attending the 33rd Annual Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse on April 6 and 7? Should be good, as always. A chance to talk with friends and colleagues from across the state as well as an opportunity to learn and add to your clinical skills. This year's Governor's Conference is entitled "Emerging Frameworks for Recovery" and will cover a broad range of topics related to substance abuse and problem gambling education, prevention and treatment – how can you resist a presentation entitled "This is Your Brain on Money"? There will also be break-outs on aging and underage drinking, criminal justice, innovative treatment methodologies, HIV/hepatitis, mental health, medications, racism and stigma, social media, trauma, and more. I'm particularly looking forward to the keynote presentations by nationally known experts on addiction and recovery. Watch for registration information. And if you do attend the Governor's conference please say hello -- I'll be there, too. Thanks, Kathy Stone

UPCOMING EVENTS

Drug Endangered Children Conference April 5.
Meadows Events and Conference Center in Altoona. For more information, go to www.iowadec.net.

33rd Annual Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse: Emerging Frameworks for Recovery April 6-7.
Polk County Convention Center in Des Moines. For more information, go to www.trainingresources.org.

Governor's Conference on Public Health April 13-14.
Scheman Conference Center in Ames. For more information, go to www.iowabha.org.

2010 Iowa Mental Health Counselors Association Annual Conference:

Enhancing Effectiveness for Counseling Excellence April 29-30. Holiday Inn and Suites, Merle Hay Road. For more information, go to www.imhca.net.

For more information about the Division of Behavioral Health, visit

www.idph.state.ia.us/bh

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