#### MassHousing Annual Community Service Conference



www.mass.gov/dph/bsas



Promoting Healthy Housing Communities: Substance Abuse Prevention, Intervention and Recovery June 12, 2012 Steve Keel, Director of Prevention Services Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Massachusetts Department of Public Health



### Addiction



- The continued involvement with a substance despite the negative consequences associated with it.
- Pleasure, enjoyment or relief from actual or perceived ailments would have been originally sought, but over a period of time, involvement with the substance or activity is needed to feel normal.

BUREAU OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES Prevent • Treat • Recover • For Life

**Prevention ?** 







## **Prevention Definition**



 Refers to strategies that not only keep a substance abuse disorder from happening, but also in delaying the onset of a substance abuse disorder, reducing the severity of a disorder/s and preventing relapse.





# **Preventing Substance Abuse**

- Abuse of:
  - Alcohol
  - Other drugs
  - Prescription drugs
  - Inhalants
  - Over the counter drugs





- In USA estimated costs of alcohol abuse were \$223.5 billion in 2006
- 9 % of full time workers overall reported heavy alcohol use (five or more drinks on the same occasion on 5 or more days in the past 30 days
- 12-20% of alcohol consumed in the U.S. is consumed by the those under 21.





- Youth who drink before the age of 15 are four times as likely to develop alcohol dependence as those who start drinking at 21
- People who are dependent on alcohol are 18 times more likely to misuse prescription drugs than non-drinkers
- Only 5% of parents believe their children have tried inhalants...20% have tried them





- Most of the prescription drugs abused by teens come from family medicine cabinets and from friends
- About one in six adults 18 and older, about 38 million adults, report binge drinking one or more times within the past 30 days.
- There is no safe amount of alcohol to drink while pregnant





- Of all substances of abuse (including cocaine, heroin and marijuana), alcohol produces by far the most serious neurobehavioral effects in the fetus
- The brain is not fully developed until about 23
  25 years old
- seniors who reported binge drinking did so more frequently than younger people



## Types of Substance Abuse Prevention



- Individual
- Family
- School
- Community
- State, Region, National

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- Public Health (population-based) approach
  - Host
  - Agent
  - Environment
- Greater focus on all 3 areas of model
- Greater success
- Most often not possible to focus on all 3 areas



## **Most effective strategies**



- Relate to access
  - Policy change
  - Enforcement
  - Storage and disposal
  - Local sites to dispose of drugs



#### **Prevention Strategies**



- Price
- Education
- Limiting advertising
- Sobriety check points
- Control the # of retail outlets
- Location of outlets
- Hours that outlets are open
- Requirement of drug education materials
- Social Host Liability



### Age of First Alcohol Use in Massachusetts and the United States (Age <13)







#### **Tobacco Ads**







**Tobacco Ads** 





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#### **Tobacco Ads**



April, 1946 LADIES' HOME JOURNAL Happy Birthday Dad We Know Your Dad **ALWAYS MILDER** Α B BETTER TASTING C COOLER SMOKING THE RIGHT COMBINATION OF THE WORLD'S BEST TOBACCOS Properly aged All the Benefits of Smoking Pleasure ALWAYS BUY CHESTERFIELD Copyright 1998, Lawrent & Mirray Transport Co-



# Policy Change and Tobacco



- All about access

- Price, price, price
- Restrictions on sales
  - Age
  - Machines
- Restrictions on locations
- Availability of treatment
- Restrictions on advertising



## Prevention practices to Consider



- Understand addiction (relapsing disease)
- Work as part of a greater community
  - Outlet density
  - Advertising
  - Store hours
  - Disposal sites
  - Where to go for treatment (treatment works)



## Prevention practices to Consider



- Prevention is a process, not an event
- Share education materials with residents (free materials available at <u>www.maclearinghouse.com</u>
  - Danger of inhalants, prescription drugs, alcohol
  - How to secure and dispose of prescription drugs and alcohol
  - How to talk to children about drugs
  - Alcohol and aging



### **Doing the Right Thing**



- The easier it is to do the *right thing,* the more likely it is to happen
- Think about fire prevention as an example

   do it all the time part of what we do
  - Has become institutionalized (policy change)
  - Understand the costs of not doing prevention are much higher than doing prevention
- Substance abuse is preventable, treatable and people do recover.



## Thank You



- Thank you for the invitation
- Appreciate the job that you do
- Recognize importance of what you do
- Presentation
  - familiar elements
  - things that you all ready do



#### Resources



- Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) <u>www.samhsa.gov</u>
- National Institute on Drug Abuse
   <u>www.drugabuse.gov</u>
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism <u>www.niaaa.nih.gov</u>



#### **Substance Abuse Prevention**



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