

Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services

~ Saving Lives, Saving Dollars ~

FY 2018 Budget Request

Department of Public Health/Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS)

The *Massachusetts Coalition for Addiction Services* (MCAS) is a group of advocacy organizations that have come together to speak with one voice to strengthen support for funding for addiction prevention, treatment and recovery support services and increased access to services.

MCAS requests a total of **\$156,170,720** for the FY 2018 budget for the Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (a \$14.7 million increase over FY 17 spending), as follows:

- **Line Item 4512-0200: \$134,462,540.** To annualize funding for existing services and expand funding by \$5.5 million for the following:
 - Request **\$3 million in new funding** to preserve and expand the successful Access to Recovery (MA-ATR) Program (see information below)
 - Request **\$1 million in new funding** to procure Naloxone/NARCAN for distribution to addiction treatment provider programs (see information below)
 - Request **\$1.5 million in new funding** to add three new Recovery Centers across the state (see description below)
 - Transfer \$5 million from EOHHS Line-Item 1595-4510 to BSAS Line-Item 4512-0200, to annualize funding for existing BSAS services (see EOHHS Line Item below). The Governor's House 1 Budget proposes to make this transfer
- **Line Item 4512-0201: \$4,908,180 for Clinical Stabilization Services** (post-detox step-down)
- **Line Item 4512-0202: \$10,000,000 for Jail Diversion** including **\$8 million in new funding** to expand statewide pre-adjudication Jail Diversion programs for non-violent offenders (see information below)
- **Line Item 4512-0203: \$1,500,000 for Family and Youth Intervention Services**
- **Line Item 4512-0204: \$1,000,000 for Naloxone/NARCAN for First Responders**
- **Line Item 4512-0211: \$4.3 Million for Recovery High Schools** which includes a request for **\$1.2 million in new funding** to provide transportation of pupils to these specialized schools (see information below)
- **EOHHS Line Item 1595-4510: \$0** -The Governor's House 1 Budget proposes the transfer of \$5 million in this Line-Item to 4512-0200

\$3 Million for Massachusetts Access to Recovery (MA-ATR)

MA-ATR is a federal grant currently operating in the Metro Boston and Springfield areas. This grant is slated to expire September 2017. MA-ATR has demonstrated tremendous outcomes in working with the criminal justice involved population. MCAS is requesting \$3 million to help preserve and expand these services to other parts of the state.

MA-ATR is an extremely cost-effective, out-come driven program. It costs an average of \$1,500 per participant for a six-month program. The key to the tremendous success of the MA-ATR is the focus on employment through job readiness training, job search support and occupational training. MA-ATR outcomes to date show the following:

- **368% increase in employment**
- **265% increase in stable housing.**

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- The average MA-ATR participant increased monthly wages by \$552
- Decreased monthly reliance on public assistance by \$62.
- While **71% of ATR participants were justice-involved at intake, less than 1% had new arrests at the end of the program**, and
- 94% had avoided the negative consequences of substance use during their time in ATR.

Since its inception in 2010, MA-ATR has served 14,000 justice-involved individuals, veterans, and pregnant, postpartum, or parenting women. The average age of an ATR participant is 38, 78% were men, 71% were involved with the criminal justice system and 65% were unemployed.

\$1 Million for NARCAN/Naloxone for Addiction Treatment Providers

Addiction treatment providers are not able to afford to procure a stock of NARCAN for their programs, but are required to have NARCAN available when and if needed.

- DPH/BSAS recently encouraged all addiction treatment providers to use the new one-step NARCAN, which is more expensive than the multi-step kits which cost \$35 each.
- Currently, the supply of NARCAN available from the state is limited and funding is needed to increase the supply available specifically for the addiction treatment providers who are on the front-lines trying to stem the tide of overdose deaths.
- The cost for this life-saving product is not included in the current rates of payment.

\$1.5 Million for Three New Recovery Centers

Currently, BSAS funds 10 Recovery Centers across the state. MCAS is requesting \$1.5 million to open three new Recovery Centers across the state.

- The centers provide individuals, family members and loved ones in recovery a safe place to connect with peers who have negatively been impacted by addiction.
- Peer-led, peer-driven services and activities are at the core of the centers, allowing participants to learn new skills, to mentor others, and to value their lived-experience.
- The centers help build a community that is supportive of persons in recovery and that address the stigma associated with addiction, by putting forward a “positive face of recovery” within the larger community.

\$8 Million for Statewide Expansion of Jail Diversion Programs

District Attorneys (DA) in conjunction with the Office of the Commissioner of Probation can refer non-violent drug offenders to these addiction treatment services if the individual suffers from an addiction to OxyContin or heroin or other substance use disorder; and the diversion of that individual is clinically appropriate and consistent with established clinical and public safety criteria. The jail diversion program is responsible for assessing clients, determining appropriate level of care, and ensuring placements.

Research from across the country indicates that jail diversion programs are treating the root cause of criminal activity and reducing recidivism. Diversion programs ensure that offenders with substance use disorders receive treatment and have close supervision, ongoing drug testing, and incentives and sanctions that help them fulfill their treatment plans.

\$1.2 Million for Transportation of Pupils to Recovery High Schools

Current enrollment in Recovery High Schools is down due to the lack of funding for transportation. MCAS is requesting \$1.2 million to cover reimbursements to cities, towns and regional school districts to cover the cost for transportation of pupils to these specialized schools.

If you would like to discuss this request further please contact Connie Peters on behalf of MCAS at 508-647-8385, extension 13 or cpeters@abhmass.org.

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- **AIDs Action Committee (AAC):** AIDS Action Committee is New England's largest AIDS service organization working with and on behalf of people infected with, affected by, and at risk for HIV/AIDS. AIDS Action's mission is to stop the epidemic by preventing new infections and optimizing the health of those already infected. AIDS Action advocates for better HIV/AIDS policies that empower our clients to live better lives. Contact Dan Delaney at 617-251-6774; Grainne Griffiths 617-450-1085
- **Association for Behavioral Healthcare (ABH):** ABH is a statewide association representing over eighty community-based mental health and addiction treatment provider organizations. Our members are the primary providers of publicly-funded behavioral healthcare services in the Commonwealth, serving approximately 81,000 Massachusetts residents daily and over three-quarters of a million residents annually, employing 37,500 people. Contact Vic DiGravio; Connie Peters, 508-647-8385
- **Learn to Cope:** Learn to Cope is a non-profit support network that offers education, resources, peer support and hope for parents and family members coping with a loved one addicted to opiates or other drugs. Founded by Joanne Peterson in 2004, the organization has grown to include over 7000 members as of August 2015, and has become a nationally recognized model for peer support and prevention programming. Contact Joanne Peterson at 508-738-5148
- **Massachusetts Association of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Counselors (MAADAC):** MAADAC is a statewide organization of addiction-focused professionals who enhance the health and recovery of individuals, families and communities. Its mission is to lead, unify and empower addiction-focused professionals to achieve excellence through education, advocacy, and knowledge, standards of practice, ethics, professional development and research. Contact Sue O'Connor, 413-739-2440, extension 6259
- **Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance (MHSA):** MHSA is a statewide public policy advocacy organization with the singular mission of ending homelessness in the Commonwealth. Its membership includes 87 organizations which have created over 250 programs to serve homeless individuals. Due to the high rates of homeless individuals and families with mental health and/or substance use disorders, it is imperative that these health concerns be addressed as a critical component to ending homelessness. Contact Joe Finn, 617-367-6447
- **Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR):** MOAR represents and organizes over 4,000 recovering individuals, families and friends across the state into a collective voice to educate the public about the value of recovery from alcohol and other drug addictions. MOAR provides peer recovery support services to build a strong voice for recovery; and seeks to enhance the continuum of care services. MOAR is building recovery informed communities. Contact Maryanne Frangules, 617-423-6627
- **Massachusetts Public Health Association:** The Massachusetts Public Health Association (MPHA) is a private, non-profit, statewide membership organization that promotes a healthy Massachusetts through advocacy, education, community organizing, and coalition-building. Our focus is on policies and programs that prevent illness, disease, and injury, particularly among those vulnerable to disparities in health status. Contact Rebekah Gewirtz, 857-263-7072 x100
- **Massachusetts Viral Hepatitis Coalition (MVHC):** MVHC is a statewide collaboration combining the efforts of health and social service organizations, providers, and consumers to raise awareness of viral hepatitis and to advocate for programs addressing the needs of those who are affected by or at higher risk of developing the disease. Convened by AIDS Action, MVHC educates providers and the public to support best practices for prevention and treatment. For information visit <http://www.aac.org/policy-center/coalitions/mvhc.html>
- **Recovery Homes Collaborative of Massachusetts (RHC):** RHC is a statewide group of more than 35 long-term residential treatment programs whose goal is to help the sick and suffering alcoholic/drug addicts to help themselves find a way of life free of the use of alcohol or other drugs. We represent over 2000 clients and 400 staff members as well as many thousands of graduates and their family members who support our efforts. You can contact us at www.rhcmass.org
- **Student Coalition on Addiction (SCA):** SCA is a group of healthcare students from Boston University, Harvard University, Tufts University, and University of Massachusetts working to advocate for residents with and at risk for substance use disorders, including those disadvantaged by homelessness, poverty, racism, and other systemic forces. We envision a future in which Massachusetts residents with substance use disorders can live healthy and fulfilled lives. Contact: Siva Sundaram at siva_sundaram@hms.harvard.edu
- **The Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC):** BPHC protects, promotes and preserves the health and well-being of all residents of Boston, particularly the most vulnerable. It strives to fulfill its mission through a wide range of health initiatives that target preventable disease and injury, including the provision of prevention and treatment services for people with substance use disorders. It sits on the Coalition as representative of Public Health Commissions across the state. Contact Catherine Donovan at 617-534-2288