



**Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration  
Center For Substance Abuse Prevention**

# *Utilizing Partnerships to Move State FASD Efforts Forward*

**May 5, 2010  
2010 Building FASD State Systems Conference**

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[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)



# *SAMHSA's Ten Strategic Initiatives*

## *Key Messages*

- Behavioral health is essential to health
- Prevention works
- Treatment is effective
- People recover





# *SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives*

- Prevention of Substance Abuse and Mental Illness
- Violence and Trauma
- Military Families—Active, Guard, and Veteran
- Housing and Homelessness
- Jobs and the Economy





# *SAMHSA's 10 Strategic Initiatives*

- Health Insurance Reform Implementation
- Health Information Technology and Behavioral Health Providers
- Behavioral Health Workforce—In Primary and Specialty Care Settings
- Data, Quality, and Outcomes—Getting Results
- Public Awareness and Support





# *Behavioral Health as a Unifying Concept*

- Increased emphasis on behavioral health nationally and at SAMHSA
- Recognizes close ties between substance abuse and mental health problems
- Prevention supports recovery





# *CSAP's Vision for Prevention*

- **One system**
  - National in scope
  - Specific to the needs of communities
- **A public health approach**
  - Data-driven
  - Evidence-based
  - Comprehensive





## *Direction*

- Integrate prevention of substance abuse and mental illness within a broader public health framework
- Strengthen leadership of state agencies
- Build a skilled workforce
- Strengthen partnerships at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels





# *Linking Systems and Services*

- Substance abuse—roots in mental health issues
- Connections with medical and behavioral health
- Early intervention
- Enhancing treatment
- Teachable moments





# *Context for Addressing FASD*

- **Multidisciplinary emphasis at SAMHSA:**
  - Unites BFSS efforts with CSAP's overall approach
  - Recognizes full spectrum of risk levels
  - Reflects commitment to integrated prevention
  - Affirms what you are doing





# Ongoing FASD Challenges

## ➤ Widespread

- Spans income, education, and race

## ➤ Permanent

- Can't be cured, only modified

## ➤ Complex

- Roots—culture, stressful conditions, generational
- Family issues complicate service delivery.





# Ongoing FASD Challenges

- Unrecognized—undiagnosed/misdiagnosed
- Misunderstood—lack of no-use messages.
- Difficult
  - Drinking by pregnant women little changed
  - Information-based prevention inadequate
  - Mothers and children need many services





## *Leadership at the State and Tribal Levels*

- Bridge for national policies and priorities
- Assist programs in taking root
- Unique vantage—see patterns and possibilities
- Examine how we can best adapt—use data, build on science
- Leverage resources





# *The Health Reform Connection*

- Well-being—a guiding theme
- Prevention—a key role, new opportunities
- Substance abuse—integrated approaches to mental and physical illness
- Behavioral health is essential to health; vital to the success of health reform

SAMHSA's Web site on health reform:  
[www.samhsa.gov/healthreform](http://www.samhsa.gov/healthreform)





## *Closing*

- Emphasis on developing sustainable systems based on strong relationships and effective strategies
- Prevention's edge
  - A vision that is worthy
  - An approach that makes sense
  - Growing evidence that it works





# Collaboration is the key!

[www.samhsa.gov](http://www.samhsa.gov)

[www.prevention.samhsa.gov](http://www.prevention.samhsa.gov)



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