



# Progress Notes

news of addiction and recovery in the nation's capital

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# Local News

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## DC Leads in Substance Abuse, Trails in Treatment

By Rob Fleming

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has released state-level estimates on Drug Use and Health. The estimates were based on the 2007 and 2008 National Survey of Drug Use and Health. The statistics are reported in alphabetic order, but running a sort on the figures for the percentage of population age 12 and over becomes very revealing.

DC ranks first in Dependence on or Abuse of Illicit Drugs or Alcohol in Past Year and second in both Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Alcohol Use in Past Year and Needing But Not Receiving Treatment for Illicit Drug Use in Past Year.

DC actually ranked very low in most of the categories for youth (12-17) and young adults (18-26), which suggests that the situation for adults may be even worse than the 12+ rankings suggest.

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## Nearly 400 SoberRides Provided on July 4th

WRAP Press Release – 7/5/2010

The Washington-metropolitan area's *SoberRide* program provided 389 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers this Independence Day.

Provided by the nonprofit Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP), the Independence Day *SoberRide* program began yesterday, July 4th, at 10:00 pm and continued until 6:00 am today as a way to keep local roads safe from impaired drivers during this traditionally high-risk holiday.

The level of last night's *SoberRide* use represents a more than 17-percent (17.52%) increase in *SoberRide* ridership from last year's (2009) July 4th offering (331 > 389)

according to WRAP.

During *SoberRide*'s eight-hour period this Independence Day, area residents celebrating with alcohol could call the toll-free *SoberRide* phone number 1 – 800 – 200 – TAXI and be afforded a no-cost (up to a \$ 50 fare), safe way home. AT&T wireless users could call # - TAXI for the same service. Local taxicab companies throughout the Washington-metropolitan area provided this no-cost service to local residents age 21 and older who otherwise may have attempted to drive home after drinking.

*SoberRide* was offered in the: District of Columbia; throughout the Maryland counties of Montgomery and Prince George's; and throughout the Northern Virginia counties of Arlington, Fairfax, (eastern) Loudoun and Prince William.

Sponsors of this year's Independence Day *SoberRide* offering included AT&T, Anheuser-Busch, Diageo, Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation, ExxonMobil, GEICO, Red Top Cab of Arlington and the Washington Area New Automobile Dealers Association.

In addition, a recently successful fundraising campaign to ensure the charity-run program included contributions from the Beer Institute, Capitol Outdoor, GEICO, MillerCoors, Restaurant Association Metropolitan Washington, The Century Council and Washington Wholesalers amongst others.

Participating taxicab companies include: Alexandria Yellow Cab; Barwood; Fairfax Yellow Cab; Loudoun Yellow Cab; Manassas Cab Company; Red Top Cab; Silver Cab of Prince George's County; Yellow Cab of D.C.; and Yellow Cab of Prince William County.

Since 1993, WRAP's *SoberRide* program has provided 48,727 free cab rides home to would-be drunk drivers in the Greater Washington area.

For more information, visit WRAP's web site at [www.wrap.org](http://www.wrap.org).

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# Research and Practice

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## NIH-Supported Finding on Cocaine Addiction: Tiny Molecule, Big Promise

NIDA Press Release – 7/7/2010

A specific and remarkably small fragment of RNA appears to protect rats against cocaine addiction - and may also protect humans, according to a recent study funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), a component of the National Institutes of Health. The study was published today in the journal *Nature*.

RNA (ribonucleic acid) molecules are known to play critical roles in the translation of genetic information (DNA) into proteins, which are the building blocks of life. In the past decade, scientists have begun to notice, catalogue and characterize a population of small RNAs, called microRNAs, that represent a new class of regulatory molecules. In this study, researchers at The Scripps Research Institute in Jupiter, Florida found that cocaine consumption increased levels of a specific microRNA sequence in the brains of rats, named microRNA-212. As its levels increased, the rats exhibited a growing dislike for cocaine, ultimately controlling how much they consumed. By contrast, as levels of microRNA-212 decreased, the rats consumed more cocaine and became the rat equivalent of compulsive users.

The study's findings suggest that microRNA-212 plays a pivotal role in regulating cocaine intake in rats and perhaps in vulnerability to addiction. Interestingly, the same microRNA-212 identified in this study, is also expressed in the human's dorsal striatum, a brain region that has been linked to drug abuse and habit formation.

"This study enhances our understanding of how brain mechanisms, at their most fundamental levels, may contribute to cocaine addiction vulnerability or resistance to it," said NIDA Director Dr. Nora D. Volkow. "This research provides a wonderful example of how basic science discoveries are critical to the development of new medical treatments and targeted prevention."

Rats with a history of extended cocaine access can demonstrate behavior similar to that observed in humans who are dependent on the drug. Current data show that about 15 percent of people who use cocaine become addicted to it. This study's findings suggest that microRNAs may be important factors contributing to this vulnerability.

"The results of this study offer promise for the development of a totally new class of anti-addiction medications," said Paul J. Kenny, senior author on the study and an associate professor at the Scripps research facility. "Because we are beginning to map out how this specific microRNA works, we may be able to develop new compounds to manipulate the levels of microRNA-212 therapeutically with exquisite specificity, opening the possibility of new treatments for drug addiction."

The study, *Striatal MicroRNA Controls Cocaine Intake Through Regulation of CREB Signaling*, was authored by Jonathan A. Hollander et al., and can be found online at <http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v466/n7303/full/nature09202.html>. Additional information on cocaine can be found at <http://drugabuse.gov/DrugPages/Cocaine.html> and <http://www.drugabuse.gov/scienceofaddiction/>.

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## Treatment for Medical Drug Abuse Up 400 Percent in 10 Years

SAMHSA Press Release – 7/15/2010

The proportion of all substance abuse treatment admissions of those aged 12 and older involving abuse of prescription pain relievers rose by over 400 percent from 2.2 percent in 1998 to 9.8 percent in 2008 according to a new study by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This dramatic rise in the proportion of admissions associated with the abuse of these drugs occurred among nearly all segments of the population regardless of age, gender, educational level and employment status.

For example, among men the proportion of treatment admissions involving the misuse of prescription pain relievers rose from 1.8 percent in 1998 to 8.1 percent in 2008, while among women the proportion of admissions due to misuse increased from 3.5 percent in 1998 to 13.3 percent in 2008. Similarly, among those with an eighth grade education or less, the proportion of admissions involving misuses of prescription pain relievers jumped from 1.9 percent to 9.7 percent; while among those with more than a high school education, the proportion climbed from 3.8 percent to 12.1 percent during the same time period.

The upward trend also held true among admissions for which medication-assisted opioid therapies, such as methadone or buprenorphine, were planned. Since 1998

the proportion of medication-assisted therapy admissions involving prescription pain reliever abuse tripled from 6.8 percent to 26.5 percent.

Other growing problems associated with the misuse of prescription pain relievers were recently highlighted in a SAMHSA study released last month which found that emergency visits to hospitals involving the non-medical use of prescription narcotic pain relievers more than doubled between 2004 and 2008.

“The non-medical use of prescription pain-relievers is now the second most prevalent form of illicit drug use in the nation, and its tragic consequences are seen in substance abuse treatment centers and hospital emergency departments throughout our nation” said SAMHSA Administrator Pamela S. Hyde, J.D. “This public health threat demands that we follow the President’s National Drug Control Strategy’s call for an all out effort to raise awareness of this risk and the critical importance of properly using, storing, and disposing of these powerful drugs.”

“The Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) Report released today highlights the significant public health challenge posed by prescription drug abuse,” said R. Gil Kerlikowske, Director of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). “These findings should serve as exclamation points to punctuate what we already know –abuse of prescription drugs is our country’s fastest-growing drug problem, the source of which lurks far too often in our home medicine cabinets. Reducing prescription drug abuse is a top priority of this Administration’s 2010 National Drug Control Strategy, and requires collaboration across the medical, prevention, treatment, and enforcement communities.”

“Our national prescription drug abuse problem cannot be ignored. I have worked in the treatment field for the last 35 years, and recent trends regarding the extent of prescription drug abuse are startling,” said A. Thomas McLellan, Deputy Director of ONDCP. “We must work with prescribers, the pharmaceutical industry, and families to help us fight this scourge.”

The study, *Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions Involving Abuse of Pain Relievers: 1998 and 2008*, was based on data from SAMHSA’s Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) – a reporting system involving treatment facilities from across the country. The study was developed as part of the agency’s strategic initiative on data, outcomes, and quality – an effort to inform policy makers and service providers on the nature and scope of behavioral health issues.

The full report is available at:

<http://oas.samhsa.gov/2k10/230/230PainRelvr2k10.cfm>. It can also be obtained by calling the SAMHSA Health Information Network at 1-877-SAMHSA-7 (1-877-726-4727). For related publications and information, visit <http://www.samhsa.gov/>.

**Editors Note:** According to the state-by-state estimates based on the 2007 and 2008 National Survey of Drug Use and Health, DC ranks 46th on non-medical use of painkillers.

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## Addiction, Mental Illness Lead to Millions of ER Visits

From JT Direct - 7/ 13/2010

Patients with addiction or mental-health related problems accounted for 12.5 percent of all hospital emergency-room visits by adults in 2007, according to a report from the U.S. [Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality](#).

The [Los Angeles Times](#) reported July 9 that 12 million ER visits annually were caused by addictions or mental illness; of these, 66 percent involved mental-health problems, 25 percent involved alcohol or other drug abuse, and 9 percent involved both. The hospitalization rate for these patients were 41 percent, more than 2.5 times the rate for other patients.

The most common causes of addiction and mental-health admissions to emergency departments were mood disorders, anxiety disorders, alcohol disorders, drug disorders, schizophrenia and other psychoses, and intentional self-harm.

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## Tailored Meth Treatment Lacking, Experts Say

From JT Direct - 7/ 8/2010

Methamphetamine users have unique treatment needs but typically receive the same type of therapy as those addicted to other drugs, the [San Francisco Chronicle](#) reported July 6.

"If someone needs treatment now, they might as well go to any place for any kind of addiction, because there's no specific treatment for methamphetamine. And the programs we have don't work that well," said John Mendelson of the [Addiction and Pharmacology Research Laboratory](#) at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco. "We're learning that methamphetamine is not heroin, prescription opiates or alcohol. It's a different problem with a different set of treatments that are going to be, hopefully, effective."

Withdrawal from methamphetamine isn't as grueling as for other drugs, but quitting meth can lead to long-term depression and insomnia, which in turn can trigger relapse. The drug also is popular among people with co-occurring mental-health conditions, and users often feel like they need the drug to stay alert and physically active.

Programs at California Pacific and other treatment centers are treating meth addicts with experimental drugs and different counseling approaches, such as motivational therapy, which allows users to step down their drug use.

"There's a history in the addiction field that you have to stop using immediately -- you have to hit bottom and realize you can't use anything at all, and that's the place when you begin treatment," said researcher Douglas Polcin of the New Life Treatment Center in Lafayette, Calif. "But with motivational therapy, you meet the client where they are, which may be a very mixed place. There's certainly no magic bullet out there. But there are a few studies that are encouraging."

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## Study Hints at Link Between Youth Marijuana Use and Depression

From JT Direct - 7/ 8/2010

A Dutch study has found that marijuana use before age 17 was associated with a 50-percent increase in the risk of later suffering an episode of depression, although researchers said that the association weakened when a history of conduct disorders was figured in, [Reuters](#) reported July 6.

Researchers said the findings don't prove that youthful marijuana use leads to depression, or vice-versa. However, study author Ron de Graff of the Netherlands Institute of Mental Health and Addiction said it is possible that drug use could affect the still-developing adolescent brain. "Early cannabis use may have important consequences for later mental health," he said. "We know now -- also from other studies -- that cannabis use is not without negative consequences."

The study was published in the [American Journal of Epidemiology](#).

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## Tech and Drugs and Rock and Roll

From JT Online – 7/15/2010

Websites are marketing music that developers claim can produce a drug-like high, [Psychology Today](#) reported July 14.

The so-called iDozer (or [i-doser](#)) tunes are based on the 19th-century discovery of "binaural beats" -- paired tones

played at different frequency that have long been used to research hearing and sleep and treat anxiety. Some claim that the sounds also can increase dopamine and beta-endorphins, like drugs.

"With all the truly dangerous drugs out there accessible by your kids, I'd place Idozer on the low priority list for now," writes blogger Ron S. Doyle. "But if you happen to notice that your teenager has stopped listening to Tokyo Hotel or Timbaland and started listening to mind-numbing pink noise, perhaps it's time for a mature dialogue about the source of their motivations."

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## Mixed Results for H.S. Drug Testing

From JT Online – 7/15/2010

High-school students who face mandatory drug testing may be less likely to use drugs in the short term, but the protective effect doesn't last, according to a new [U.S. Department of Education study](#).

[USA Today](#) reported July 18 that a survey of students at 36 schools found that 16.5 percent of students who attended schools that received federal grants for drug testing used illicit drugs, compared to 21.9 percent of students at other schools. Students also said that drug-testing requirements didn't discourage them from participating in extracurricular activities.

However, drug-use rates were identical among students at testing- and non-testing schools who did not take part in extracurricular activities, suggesting that drug testing of student athletes and leaders did not have any influence on the behavior of other students.

Also, students at both types of schools were equally likely to say they planned to use drugs in the future.

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## National Surveys Based Solely on Household Residents Underestimate the Prevalence of Adult Drug Use Disorders

From CESARFax – 7/12/2010

"High rates of DSM-IV substance use disorders among inmates combined with a large inmate population mean that many persons with alcohol and drug use disorders are missed by major U.S. national general population surveys," according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA). National estimates of adult substance use disorders are typically based solely on household samples. Excluded from these estimates is the inmate population, which has past-year rates of drug use disorders ranging from 46% in federal prisons to 53% in

state prisons and 54% in jails. NIDA and NIAAA researchers estimate that by including inmate populations, national estimates of past-year drug use disorders (drug abuse and/or dependence) increase by 25%, from 4.2 million to 5.2 million. Estimates of drug dependence increase by 54% (from 1.3 million to 2.0 million) while estimates of drug abuse increase by 12% (from 2.9 million to 3.2 million; see figure below). According to the authors, “these results likely would be accentuated for substances such as cocaine, methamphetamine, and heroin, which are rare in the household population but common among inmates” (p. 474). For example, a study

of urine tests yielded estimates of cocaine use in the arrestee population that far exceeded estimates from the household survey alone ( Wish, E.D., “U.S. Drug Policy in the 1990s: Insights from New Data from Arrestees,” *Substance Use & Misuse* 25(s3):377-409, 1990.)

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from Compton, W.M., Dawson, D., Duffy, S.Q., Grant, B. F. “The Effect of Inmate Populations on Estimates of DSM-IV Alcohol and Drug Use Disorders in the United States,” *American Journal of Psychiatry* 167(4):473-475, 2010. For more information, contact Dr. Wilson Compton at [wcompton@nida.nih.gov](mailto:wcompton@nida.nih.gov).

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## Advocacy and Social Marketing

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### **Administration Officials Meet With Innovators in the Recovery Field to Discuss the Value of Peer Recovery Support**

ONDCP Press Release – 7/1/2010

Today, National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Director Gil Kerlikowske and Deputy Director A. Thomas McLellan hosted a discussion with experts in the field of addiction recovery. Co-sponsored with Faces & Voices of Recovery, this roundtable, focused on how peers can aid those in recovery from addiction, is part of the Obama Administration’s unprecedented effort to bring recovery into the center of drug policy discussions.

ONDCP recently launched a recovery agenda to actively engage the recovery community on a range of policy issues and to advocate for consideration of recovery in public policy and programming. The recovery-oriented agenda aims to help people live substance-free lives with good health, responsibility, nurturing relationships, self-sufficiency, and hope for a productive future.

“This effort goes beyond helping addicted people stop

using illicit drugs and alcohol. Millions of Americans are already in recovery from substance abuse, and are now healthy, responsible and productive members of their communities,” said Kerlikowske. “Today’s meeting brings our Nation one step closer to expanding the hope of recovery to millions more.” “Faces & Voices of Recovery was pleased to partner with ONDCP on today’s Recovery Roundtable and in the future to press for recovery-oriented policies in communities and the elimination of legislative and regulatory barriers to long-term recovery,” said Pat Taylor, Executive Director of Faces & Voices of Recovery. “ONDCP’s recovery agenda is identifying long overdue solutions that address addiction as the public health crisis that it is.”

Peer recovery support services are critical for people seeking to achieve or sustain long term recovery from addiction from alcohol or other drugs, and can include peer recovery coaches, resource coordinators, support groups, substance-free recreational activities, and recovery community centers. These services can be delivered effectively, regardless of whether or not a person uses clinical treatment services. Peer recovery support services provide an invaluable community network to both initiate and support recovery.

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# National News

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## **White House Drug Policy Director, Maryland Attorney General, State and Local Police Promote Awareness of Drugged Driving on Nation's Roads**

ONDCP Press Release – 7/2/2010

BALTIMORE— Before one of the busiest holiday weekends on the Nation's highways, National Drug Control Policy Director Gil Kerlikowske and Maryland Attorney General Douglas Gansler today encouraged drivers to be safe and not to get behind the wheel after taking drugs.

At a news conference to raise public awareness of drugged driving, Kerlikowske and Gansler were joined by state and local police officials, including Baltimore Police Commissioner Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Baltimore County Police Chief Jim Johnson, and Maryland State Police Lieutenant Tom Woodward.

"As we approach the Fourth of July weekend, one of the busiest periods on our Nation's roads, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) is teaming up with state and local government partners to focus attention on an important public safety issue – drugged driving," said Director Kerlikowske.

"Several recent studies have shown that a significant number of drivers have drugs in their system when they get behind the wheel," said Kerlikowske. "But just as we have made progress in addressing drunk driving and texting while driving, we can raise awareness of drugged driving and educate people about the dangers it presents. Drugs negatively affect judgment, reaction time, motor skills, and memory."

Attorney General Gansler said he is "proud to partner with ONDCP and Director Kerlikowske in this public awareness campaign because drivers with drugs in their system put everyone else on the road at risk."

"While most Americans are conscious of the terrible consequences of drunk driving, the dangers associated with drugged driving are not known nearly as well by the general public," Attorney General Gansler said. "As the Fourth of July draws closer, law enforcement agencies across the country must use this as an opportunity to help raise awareness of the severe risks of drugged driving."

Kerlikowske noted that the Monitoring the Future survey released last year shows that, in 2008, one in 10

high school seniors admitted to having driven a vehicle after smoking marijuana in the two weeks prior to the survey interview. The National Survey on Drug Use and Health showed that 12 percent of 18- to 25-year-olds admitted to driving under the influence of an illicit drug at least once in 2008. And the latest National Roadside Survey by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration showed that one in eight weekend, nighttime drivers tested positive for illegal drugs.

In Maryland, Kerlikowske said, 83 percent of drivers killed in motor vehicle crashes in 2008 were tested for drugs, and more than 25 percent tested positive.

ONDCP is working to increase the number of states with effective drugged driving laws. Too often, Kerlikowske said, inadequate drugged driving laws allow people who drive after taking drugs to evade prosecution and avoid responsibility, thereby increasing the possibility that they will continue causing a public safety issue. Zero tolerance or per se laws will help this effort, Kerlikowske said.

The ONDCP director also said law enforcement officers need to be trained to detect the signs of drugged driving. ONDCP is working with NHTSA and other partners to increase training opportunities for law enforcement officers.

ONDCP is also working with its Federal government partners to improve and standardize lab testing to detect the presence of drugs in drivers. Establishing laboratory standards will improve the ability of law enforcement officials – including prosecutors – to hold drivers accountable and, when necessary, to help them get treatment.

ONDCP is also working with non-governmental organizations such as the American Automobile Association (AAA) and private citizens, including professional race driver Sarah Fisher, to raise awareness of the drugged driving issue.

To help promote public awareness, ONDCP has produced public service announcements featuring Director Kerlikowske with Attorney General Gansler, Ms. Fisher, and other public officials, including Virginia Governor Robert McDonnell and District of Columbia Metropolitan Police Chief Cathy Lanier. The PSA's can be viewed at:

[www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/druggeddriving](http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/druggeddriving)

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## New USDA Guidelines on Drinking

By Rob Fleming – 7/15/2010

The Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee is considering updates to the 2005 Guidelines which recommended two drinks a day for men and one drink a day for women. They recognized that the impacts of alcohol is cumulative, and that people sometimes drink more on one day that should be offset by reduced consumption later in the week. Here's what the chapter on alcohol has to say:

“The DGAC recommends that if alcohol is consumed, it should be consumed in moderation, and only by adults. Moderate alcohol consumption is defined as *average* daily consumption of up to one drink per day for women and up to two drinks per day for men and no more than three drinks in any single day for women and no more than four drinks in any single day for men. One drink is defined as 12 fl. oz. of regular beer, 5 fl. oz. of wine, or 1.5 fl. oz. of distilled spirits.

The substantial epidemiological literature is based on studies where individuals report their “average” intake as drinks per day, month or year. Because most US citizens do not drink every day, the DGAC also recommends that the definition for moderation be based on this general “average” metric over the course of a week or month instead of an exact threshold of “1 drink per day for women or two drinks per day for men” each day.”

The full text of the chapter on alcohol in the Advisory Committee’s report is at <http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/Publications/DietaryGuidelines/2010/DGAC/Report/D-7-Alcohol.pdf>

For those who would like to comment on the proposed Guidelines, the Federal Register notice is at <http://www.cnpp.usda.gov/Publications/DietaryGuidelines/2010/DGAC/Report/FinalFRN2010DGACReport.pdf> .

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## Legalization Would Cut Marijuana Prices 80 Percent, RAND Estimates

From JT Direct - 7/ 13/2010

A study on the expected impact of marijuana legalization in California predicts that the price of the drug would drop steeply, the [Sacramento Bee](#) reported July 8.

The [RAND Corp. study](#) estimated that marijuana prices would fall 80 percent if the drug is legalized as proposed in a pending ballot initiative that Californians will vote on this fall. That translates into as little as \$1.50 per joint -- a price point that could spark opposition to the measure, according to the [Christian Science Monitor](#).

The California Board of Equalization has projected \$1.4 billion in annual tax revenues from legalization, but study author Jonathan Caulkins of Carnegie Mellon University said that figure could be lower if a black market in cheaper, untaxed marijuana develops. On the other hand, tax revenues would be higher if California becomes a drug tourism market or traffickers buy the drug in California for resale in other states.

RAND also said that the cost of enforcing current marijuana laws is lower than some proponents of Proposition 19 have claimed. The report did not take a position pro or con on legalization but did note that the ballot initiative would put California in direct conflict with federal drug laws.

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## Wine Being Sold from Vending Machines in Pa.

From JT Direct - 7/ 8/2010

The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board is testing out a pair of wine vending machines located inside supermarkets, the [Associated Press](#) reported July 8.

Making a purchase isn't as simple as inserting your money and making a selection, however: buyers must run their state driver's license through a card reader and blow into an alcohol breath sensor first.

Currently, Pennsylvania limits wine purchases to state-run liquor stores, which many customers find inconvenient. If the pilot test is successful, however, the state could authorize placement of the machines in about 100 other retail locations.

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## Border Patrol Sees Surge in Teen Drug Smugglers

From JT Direct - 7/ 9/2010

The number of minors caught smuggling drugs from Mexico to Arizona surged 83 percent in 2009, [USA Today](#) reported July 7.

Last year, 130 minors were arrested on drug charges by the U.S. Border Patrol, part of what officials call a small but growing trend.

Cartels entice the youths, usually American citizens with family in Mexico, with promises of cash and light sentences if they are caught. Many of these teens are surprised when they receive serious jail time, officials said.

"One thing for sure," said Teresa Small, a Customs and Border Protection spokeswoman in San Luis. "They will get the hardest punishment possible."

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## Schumer Calls for FTC to Investigate Alcoholic Energy Drink Marketing

From JT Direct - 7/13/2010

Certain brands of alcoholic energy drinks are marketed with the intent of appealing to underage drinkers, charged [Sen. Charles Schumer](#) (D-N.Y.) in calling for an investigation by the U.S. [Federal Trade Commission](#) (FTC).

The [Associated Press](#) reported July 11 that Schumer singled out Joose and Four Loko brand energy drinks, which he said are packaged in colorful cans to resemble nonalcoholic energy drinks and fail to prominently disclose

their alcohol content -- which can be up to 12 percent by volume.

The drinks are sold in 24-ounce cans, in flavors like grape and orange, and cost around \$2.50.

"The style and promotion of these products is extremely troubling," Schumer wrote to the FTC. "Frankly, it looks to me as if manufacturers are trying to mislead adults and business owners who sell these products, while at the same time actively courting underage drinkers. This type of marketing is, at minimum, grossly irresponsible."

The maker of Joose said the products are only marketed to drinkers over age 21 and don't target college students.

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# International News

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## Fate of Safe-Injection Program in Hands of Canadian Supreme Court

From JT Direct - 7/1/2010

The Canadian Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether the federal government has the power to shut down a pioneering Vancouver program that provides drug addicts a safe place to inject their drugs.

The [Toronto Globe and Mail](#) reported June 24 that the Insite program has operated under a waiver of Canadian drug laws since 2003, but the current conservative government has sought to revoke the exemption and shutter the program. The British Columbia Court of Appeal ruled earlier this year that the province -- which supports Insite -- has jurisdiction over the program, not the federal government.

The initial federal exemption for Insite expired years ago, but British Columbia has allowed it to continue to operate.

191,000 in 2004-2005, according to the [U.K. Department of Health](#).

One in five Britons suffer from high blood pressure, and the country's notorious pub culture a likely factor: Men who drink more than eight servings of alcohol per day quadruple their risk of hypertension, while women who drink more than six per day double their risk.

"Sadly," said June Davison, of the British Heart Foundation, "these figures show thousands of people a week end up in hospital because their drinking habits are putting too much pressure on their cardiovascular system."

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## Price Controls Cut Binge Drinking, Canadian Province Reports

From JT Direct - 7/7/2010

The Canadian province of Saskatchewan's minimum-pricing policy on high-alcohol beverages has resulted in a decline in public intoxication as well as lower sales of potent products, the [Saskatoon Star-Phoenix](#) reported July 6.

The province is among a handful of governments worldwide to set minimum prices based on alcohol content. The policy has caused the prices of 36 targeted products to rise by up to 40 percent.

[Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority](#) officials said that public drunkenness and calls to police have declined in the areas where high-alcohol products are consumed most.

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## Britain Grapples with Drinking-Related Hypertension

From JT Direct - 7/1/2010

Treatment for high blood pressure as a result of binge drinking has increased 74 percent in five years in the U.K., the [Daily Mail](#) reported June 28.

Hospitals treated approximately 330,000 patients for drinking-related hypertension in 2008-2009, up from

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# Professional Development

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## Training

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### Free Capacity Building Grant Writing Training

From Funding Alert – 7/6/2010

OPGS, in partnership with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is offering a free Capacity Building Grant Writing workshop this summer. This two-day workshop will be held August

25 and 26, from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, at the DC Housing Finance Agency, 815 Florida Avenue NW, Washington, DC. (Green line Metro, African American Civil War Memorial). Registration is required. For online registration go to: <http://www.hud.gov/emarc/index.cfm?fuseaction=emar.registerEvent&eventId=526&update=N>. Space is limited so register today!

## Jobs

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### Federal Jobs

From Jobs.gov

Job Title	Announcement #	Pay Plan	Pay	Closing Date
<a href="#">Public Health Advisor</a> (SAMHSA)	HHS-SMA-2010-0050	GS-0685/13-13	\$89,033+	7/23/2010
<a href="#">Public Health Analyst</a> (SAMHSA)	HHS-SMA-2010-0050	GS-0685/13-13	\$89,033+	7/29/2010
<a href="#">Director, Division of Treatment and Recovery Research-NIAAA</a>	NIAAA-10-DTTR	AD-0601/00-00	\$74,872+	9/15/2010

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# Resources

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## Funds Offered

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### Partnerships Active in Communities to Achieve Health

From Funding Alert – 7/12/201

Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) announces to support collaborative arrangements among minority serving community-based organizations, community-based health care

entities, and social and supportive service providers that coordinate the provision of chronic disease management, evidence-based prevention and intervention programs, healthcare, social, and support services.

**Eligibility:** Nonprofit organizations and community-based organizations.

**Deadline:** August 2, 2010.

**Funds:** \$4,000,000 is available to fund 8-10 awards, ranging from \$400,000-\$500,000.

**Information:** Sonsiere Cobb-Souza at (240) 453-8444 or [sonsiere.cobb-souza@hhs.gov](mailto:sonsiere.cobb-souza@hhs.gov) ; or go to: <https://www.grantsolutions.gov/gs/preaward/previewPublicAnnouncement.do?id=11695&timeZone=&cancelMapping=cancelToAnnouncement> .

**State Single Point of Contact:** This grant is subject to "Intergovernmental Review" under EO 12372. Please go to <http://opgs.dc.gov/> , select "State Single Point of Contact" to comply.

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## Gannett Foundation Community Grants

From Funding Alert – 7/12/201

Gannett Foundation announces funds to support projects which include grass-roots educational programs (i.e., after school tutorial programs); at-risk youth programs; and services for special populations (i.e., homeless children, families in crisis, poor/ill elderly).

**Eligibility:** Nonprofit organizations and community-based organizations.

**Deadline:** August 17, 2010.

**Funds:** Awards range from \$5,000-\$10,000.

**Information:** [foundation@gannett.com](mailto:foundation@gannett.com) ; or go to: <http://www.gannettfoundation.org/> .

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## Orientation Workshop about Federal Funding for Individual Development Accounts

From Funding Alert – 7/12/2010

The Office of Community Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is offering

this free session about Assets for Independence, the Federal program that provides grant funding for Individual Development Account projects. Topics will include application requirements and procedures; tips for developing strong IDA projects; and pre-application information available from the AFI Resource Center.

The training is: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on July 29 and 8:00 am – 3:00 pm on July 30, 2010, at the Capital Hilton Hotel, 1001 16th Street, Washington, DC. For more information on the Assets for Independence and Individual Development Accounts, and to register, go to: [http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/afi/afi\\_calendar.html](http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ocs/afi/afi_calendar.html) or email [info@idaresources.org](mailto:info@idaresources.org), or call 1-866-778-6037.

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## HIV/AIDS Prevention

From Grants.gov – 7/15/2010

The Linkage to Living Program intends to: (1) demonstrate the effectiveness of a family-centered, integrated health and social service network approach to reducing HIV/AIDS incidence and improving health outcomes among high-risk minority populations in transition from domestic violence, incarceration, and substance abuse treatment; (2) address the health and social barriers that may contribute to HIV/AIDS incidence among high-risk racial and ethnic minorities; and (3) assist in the prevention of generational cycles of behavior that increases risk of future HIV infection among dependent youth.

In FY 2010 the L2L Program will support family-centered integrated health and social service resource networks that coordinate and assure provision of HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention services, healthcare, social and support services, substance abuse treatment, and behavioral health services.

For the full announcement, see [FY10 The Linkage to Life Program: Rebuilding Broken Bridges for Minority Families Impacted by HIV/AIDS.](#)

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# Community Calendar

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	<b>July</b>
<b>28</b>	Faces and Voices of Recovery <b>America Honors Recovery Reception</b> More here: <a href="#">About America Honors Recovery</a>
	<b>August</b>
<b>3</b>	NIDA-National Institute of Justice NIDA-NIJ Joint Initiative for Research on Retail Drug Markets 1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Office of Justice Program, National Institute of Justice Office of Justice Program, National Institute of Justice, 810 Seventh Street, NW More info: <a href="#">Dr. Bethany Griffin Deeds, Ph.D., DESPR</a>
	<b>September</b>
<b>TBD</b>	DC Recovery Community Alliance <b>Citywide Recovery Conference on SBIRT</b> 10:00 AM – Location TBD More info: <a href="http://www.dcrca.org">www.dcrca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:events@dcrca.org">events@dcrca.org</a>
<b>8-11</b>	CADCA <b>National Leadership Forum XX - Coalitions at Work: Restoring Communities</b> Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center   National Harbor, MD For more details, go to the <a href="#">meeting website</a> .
<b>8-11</b>	NCAD <b>National Conference on Addiction Disorders</b> Hyatt Regency Crystal City More at <a href="http://www.ncad10.com/ME2/Sites/Default.asp?SiteID=A53C336637E4447680C388F25D16C053">http://www.ncad10.com/ME2/Sites/Default.asp?SiteID=A53C336637E4447680C388F25D16C053</a>

<b>TBD</b>	DC Recovery Community Alliance <b>Citywide Recovery Conference on SBIRT</b> 10:00 AM – Location TBD More info: <a href="http://www.dcrca.org">www.dcrca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:events@dcrca.org">events@dcrca.org</a>
<b>17</b>	DC Recovery Community Alliance and area service providers <b>Open Houses</b> 1:00 – 5:00 PM at Malcolm X Park, 16 <sup>th</sup> and Florida, NW More info: <a href="http://www.dcrca.org">www.dcrca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:events@dcrca.org">events@dcrca.org</a>
<b>18</b>	DC Recovery Community Alliance <b>Recovery Fair</b> 1:00 – 5:00 PM at Malcolm X Park, 16 <sup>th</sup> and Florida, NW More info: <a href="http://www.dcrca.org">www.dcrca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:events@dcrca.org">events@dcrca.org</a>
<b>18</b>	DC Recovery Community Alliance <b>Rally for Recovery – Jazz Concert and Recovery Stories</b> 1:00 – 5:00 PM at Malcolm X Park, 16 <sup>th</sup> and Florida, NW More info: <a href="http://www.dcrca.org">www.dcrca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:events@dcrca.org">events@dcrca.org</a>
<b>23</b>	National Institute on Alcohol and Alcohol Abuse <b><u>National Advisory Council on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Meeting</u></b> 9:00AM – 3:00PM at the 5635 Fishers Lane Conference Room (Terrace Level), Rockville, MD09/23/2010
<b>26</b>	DC Recovery Community Alliance <b>Recovery Baseball Outing – Nationals vs. Braves</b> 1:00 – 6:00 PM at National's Park More info: <a href="http://www.dcrca.org">www.dcrca.org</a> or <a href="mailto:events@dcrca.org">events@dcrca.org</a>

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# Masthead

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## Editorial Information

Progress Notes is published free via E-mail on a monthly basis, with additional bulletins as needed. Comments, suggestions, and information content should be sent to [Editor@RecoveryWorks.Org](mailto:Editor@RecoveryWorks.Org)

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## Sources

Progress Notes benefits from many recovery news

services. If you want to get news faster, or you don't want the filtering and formatting that Progress Notes offers, you can subscribe to many of them yourself. Here are some of them:

- Join Together Online: [www.jointogether.org/news/](http://www.jointogether.org/news/)
- The (DC) Mayor's Office of Partnerships and Grants Development's Funding Alert: [http://service.gov.delivery.com/service/multi\\_subscribe.html?code=DCWASH](http://service.gov.delivery.com/service/multi_subscribe.html?code=DCWASH)

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## About the Logo

RecoveryWorks' logo is a gear (for the “Works”) surrounding a proposed symbol for Recovery, signifying that it is possible to hit bottom and bounce back, but that happens best in a community.

RecoveryWorks' name is taken from the legendary “Skunk Works”, a very creative and successful R&D shop at Lockheed Aircraft. It happened to be near a foul-smelling plastics factory and so was named after the Skunk Works of the Lil Abner comic strip. Somehow, RecoveryWorks seemed to catch the spirit more than “DrunkWorks”.