

# Office of Substance Abuse

## Maine Department of Health and Human Services

The Issue in Maine:

- ❑ In 2005, the total estimated cost of substance abuse in Maine was \$898.4 million.
- ❑ This \$898.4 million translates into a cost equaling \$682 for every resident of Maine.
- ❑ Substance abuse treatment (\$25.2 million) comprised the smallest proportion of total cost (2.80%), while crime, \$214.4 million, comprised the largest proportion of costs (23.9%).
- ❑ The largest single cost category in 2005 was crime, accounting for an estimated \$214.4 million, followed by mortality, with estimated costs totaling \$204.2 million. Significant costs due to medical care (\$186.8 million), morbidity (\$155.6 million), and other related costs (\$112.2 million) were also incurred.



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The Maine Office of Substance Abuse (OSA) is the single state administrative authority responsible for the planning, development, implementation, regulation, and evaluation of substance abuse services.

The Office provides leadership in substance abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment. Its goal is to enhance the health and safety of Maine citizens through the reduction of the overall impact of substance use, abuse, and dependency.

### **Prevention:**

- ❑ Works to prevent and reduce substance abuse and related problems by providing leadership, education and support to communities and institutions throughout Maine.

### **Intervention:**

- ❑ Targets people at risk or in the early stages of developing substance abuse problems and to minimize future problems.

### **Treatment:**

- ❑ The treatment team works with the statewide provider network to assure access to a full continuum of quality treatment services and provides technical assistance to providers around program development, implementation, and best practices in alcohol and drug treatment programs.

### **Public Awareness:**

- ❑ The Information and Resource Center offers public assistance to those searching for general information relating to substance abuse and maintains listings of treatment facilities and support group meetings in Maine.

### **Data & Research:**

- ❑ The basic operating premise of the Office of Substance Abuse is that its work is guided by objective data. The data and research team gathers data from multiple sources to inform planning and resource allocation decisions.

### **Funding:**

- ❑ OSA is funded through Federal Block grants and Federal Categorical grants, Medicaid, Tobacco Settlement Funds and the State General Fund.
- ❑ OSA provides funds for services through contracts with agencies statewide and provides oversight and technical assistance to contracted agencies. It does not provide any direct services or money to individuals to receive direct services.

**Prevention Services:**

- ❑ Prevention Media Campaign: [www.MaineParents.net](http://www.MaineParents.net) –for parents of Maine teenagers; WorkAlert –for businesses to develop drug-free workplace policies - [www.maine.gov/workalert](http://www.maine.gov/workalert); Party Smarter--for high-risk drinkers ages 21-25 - [www.maine.gov/partysmarter](http://www.maine.gov/partysmarter)
- ❑ Substance Abuse and the Workplace – building healthy employees and reducing costs through prevention
- ❑ Inhalant Abuse Prevention Workgroup – integrating inhalant abuse prevention throughout current programs
- ❑ Alcohol Licensee Support
  - Card ME Program – a program for retailers to enhance in-store policies
  - On line policy generator for on and off premise alcohol licensees
  - Alcohol and tobacco compliance checks
  - Retail Beverage Service trainings for licensed alcohol sellers and servers.
- ❑ Law Enforcement Training
- ❑ School Support
  - Your Substance Abuse Policy: A Comprehensive Guide for Schools
  - Maine’s Higher Education Alcohol Prevention Partnership (HEAPP)
  - Substance Abuse and Violence Prevention for Schools
- ❑ State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup (SEOW) Grant
- ❑ Universal, Selected and Indicated Evidence Base Programs:
  - Healthy Maine Partnerships
  - Student Intervention Reintegration Program
  - Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Programs

**Intervention Services:**

- ❑ Maine Driver Education and Evaluation Program (DEEP) – provides therapeutic intervention into the cause of the behavior that resulted in an impaired driving offense.
- ❑ Maine Prescription Monitoring Program – provides patient specific reports to authorized health care professionals

**Treatment Services:**

- ❑ Substance Abuse Recovery Services collaborates with treatment providers, the recovery community, state offices and partners to augment services to those in recovery from substance abuse.
- ❑ Co-Occurring State Integration Initiative (COSII) serving people with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders
- ❑ Criminal Justice is focused on providing treatment services to correctional clients involved with the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC).

*The Office of Substance Abuse uses these initiatives to improve access and retention in treatment statewide for individuals with addictive disorders and co-occurring conditions.*

**Data & Research Surveillance Programs:**

- ❑ Community Epidemiology Surveillance Network (CESN)
- ❑ Maine Integrated Youth Health Survey (MIYHS)
- ❑ Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)
- ❑ Treatment Data System (TDS)

**Information and Resource Center**

- ❑ The Information and Resource Center offers many materials about substance abuse at no cost to Maine citizens. Books literature, and pamphlets are distributed free and videos are available to organizations, schools, and community groups. The IRC also maintains listings of treatment facilities and support group meetings.