

Outreach to Faith-Based Organizations

Jean LaCour

NET Training Institute, Inc.

John Daigle

Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse
Association

Access to Recovery Regional Technical Assistance

FAITH COMMUNITY

- Faith is the Energy motivating thousands of programs that address:
 - Abstinence
 - Jobs and Education
 - Prison aftercare
 - Homelessness, and
 - Many other areas

CLINICAL TREATMENT

A system of state-of-the-art
addiction protocols and practices

ACCESS TO RECOVERY

The result when the faith
community and clinical treatment
work together

IMAGINE:

- Two parallel universes finding ways to connect
- Faith-based programs and clinical treatment flowing together

FACT:

It's essential for PEOPLE on both sides to:

- Get to know one another
- Make adjustments
- Learn another language
- Accommodate one another
- Increase capacity and multiply resources
- Insure Access to Recovery

Laying the Groundwork: Florida

- Florida's evolutionary process
- An example to give hope to other States, Territories, and Tribes

Laying the Groundwork: Florida's Pre-Faith-based Era

- 1980s: Religious exemption from licensure for church-based recovery ministries
- 1,500-2,000 faith-based beds
 - grassroots and historical / traditional
- 1996: Florida Certification Board approves faith-based addiction counselor training

Laying the Groundwork: Florida's Faith-based Era

Interchange:

- "The NET" & Florida certification board
- State substance abuse director & charitable choice mandates
- Restorative justice movement & State funding for faith-based prison aftercare beds in 2000
- Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association & new Florida faith-based association in 2001

Laying the Groundwork: Florida's Faith-based Era (cont'd)

System Change:

Southern Coast ATTC, www.scatt.org

- Faith-based and clinical treatment committee 2002 - 2003
- Guiding principles, goals, tools, and service continuum of treatment and faith-based addiction services

Challenges to Cooperation

Fear Factors for CBOs:

- Dilution of standards of care
- Established protocols/systems threatened or devalued
- Recovery support services competition
- Established funding by government jeopardized
- Concerns about implementing spirituality/religion in treatment

Challenges to Cooperation (cont'd)

Fear Factors for FBOs:

- Dilution of expressions of faith
- Non-traditional protocols and spiritual approaches disrespected
- Government funding leads to unhealthy dependency and compromise
- Negative perceptions of others in faith community/stigma
- Spirituality versus religion confusion
- Staffing requirements unknown

Keys to Connecting: Level the Language Barrier

FBO defined: organizations that are self identified as motivated by or founded upon religious conviction

Categories of faith-based organizations:

- Faith-permeated
- Faith-centered
- Faith-background
- Faith-secular partnership
- Secular

www.working-group.org

Keys to Connecting: Recognize What FBOs Already Provide

- Prevention, clinical treatment, recovery support services
 - Faith-based addiction service continuum
 - Emphasis on abstinence as a critical outcome

www.scattc.org

Keys to Connecting: Locate Potential Faith-based Providers

- Traditional: Salvation Army, Catholic Charities, Lutheran Services, Teen Challenge
- Grassroots Recovery and Mercy Ministry referrals
- Clinical treatment staff
- Area ministerial or religious associations

Locate Potential Faith-based Providers (cont'd)

- Detoxification staff may have referral lists
- Homeless coalitions
- Chaplains in law enforcement and criminal justice agencies
- Self-help and support groups, 12 Steps-AA, NA, AlaNon, etc.
- White Bison affiliates in "Wellbriety" Movement

Considerations for Tribal Providers

- Have traditional healing practices and providers been standardized, credentialed and quantified for reimbursement purposes?
- Can the traditional healing practices be standardized for reimbursement purposes?
- Don't assume!
- To be an ATR provider requires standards and quantifiable units of care.

Sample Ideas for Creative Connection

- Expand recovery support through faith-based networks of “mercy ministries”
- Use practical language in standards for recovery support services

Sample Ideas for Creative Connection (cont'd)

- Encourage “staff sharing”
partnerships among organizations
so that spiritual as well as clinical
skill sets can be used in both
programs

Sample Ideas for Creative Connection (cont'd)

- Develop staff mentoring and/or shadowing program between FBO & CBOs
- Allocate funds for practical faith-based addiction training for FBO staff to begin goal setting for counselor certification – workforce development

Resources

www.working-group.org "Harnessing Civic and faith-based Power to Fight Poverty". Section V - Categories of faith-based Organizations. "Agreed Statement of Current Law on Employment Practices, Faith-Based Organizations, and Government Funding" June 2003

www.scattc.org Southern Coast Addiction Technology Transfer Center, see Products, "Report from the Florida Faith and Community Based Treatment Committee June 2003"

www.fadaa.org Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association, Collaborations between FBO-CBOs, John Daigle, Exec. Director

www.wecareamerica.org Resources for locating, supporting, and funding faith-based organizations

Resources

www.netinstitute.net faith-based addiction counselor training and program consultation

www.whitebison.org Native American 12 step resources, "Wellbriety" Movement

www.alphaministries.org "Faith Factor" training for addiction and recovery services.

www.flfaithbased.org An alliance of recovery and human resources in Florida

www.casacolumbia.org National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, "So Help Me God: Substance Abuse, Religion, and Spirituality"