
⌘ VADAP VIEWS ⌘

The Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs

Spring, 2007

President's Message by Michael Fragala

Greetings fellow VADAP Members! March brings some exciting times to us. I want to remind all of you that the HBO is airing a new 14-part documentary in March. Based upon my reading of the advance materials and press releases, *The Addiction Project* will seek to "redefine drug and alcohol addiction". There will be a 90-minute centerpiece film followed by 13 additional films which will focus on "the neurological forces behind addiction, getting treatment, relapse, understanding particular therapies, and adolescent addiction." The films will apparently utilize the model in which addiction is seen as a chronic brain disease, examining the environmental, behavioral, and genetic factors that can make an individual more vulnerable to substance abuse.

Due to my interest in addiction, its treatment, and the day to day struggles of those facing its challenges, I believe That this series will be done well, will be well worth watching, and may help to continue the conversation already happening around the country vis-à-vis the disease model of addiction and recovery. The entire series is to be offered free to cable subscribers during four-day preview on HBO, March 15-18. That's right; anyone with cable will have FREE access to HBO the weekend of March 15th. As a kick off, Richmond has been chosen and will air a special showing of the film on March 13. Substance Abuse Addiction Recovery Alliance (SAARA) of Virginia and the McShin Foundation with Partners Presents: A premier viewing and Town Meeting ADDICTION! An HBO Special March 13, 2007 at the Byrd Theater in Richmond. Doors open at 5 pm and admission is free! Shows begins at 6 pm.

On a completely different note, this is quoted from a letter I received from my friend and colleague, John Bartlett. The VADAP Board, in conjunction with the CSAO, has invited John to attend one of our, 2007 Consortium Meetings in Richmond to do a presentation on the services he is currently offering. The date is not set, but keep watching. It will be soon. I was a Director of a residential center that almost succumbed to complete financial disaster in 2005 because of an infectious outbreak of staph infection and know first hand how this can affect an agency. Talk to your agency VADAP representative and ask about attending this important, informative meeting. We felt it was so important; we wanted to open this part of the meeting up for any and all interested persons regarding this subject.

"I have a question for you to consider. How many of your programs could survive financially with reductions in census approaching 70-80% that might exceed for 3 or more months? In addition, how many programs could function effectively with staff absenteeism approaching 50-60%? If, as I expect, the answer to these questions is "VERY FEW", the need to plan for the occurrence of a pandemic flu outbreak is highly critical to our field. I am NOT talking about planning at the public health level, but rather at the organizational and state level. Right now there is no pandemic flu outbreak in the world in humans. The high level of concern expressed by health organizations and businesses centers around the existence of a new highly lethal virus (the H5N1 virus) in birds. That virus is pandemic in birds in much of Asia, Europe, and North Africa, where it is highly lethal. H5N1 is also transmissible to humans (and highly lethal there, with a death rate approaching 60%), but at this point in time the transmission is inefficient. The concern is that, at some point, this avian virus could, through mutation or recombination in a host (like the domestic pig – a notorious breeder of new human viruses) acquire the genes necessary for efficient human transmission (think of the seasonal flu that strikes us every year). This new virus

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(Continued from page 1.) **President's Message**

would then combine the high lethality of the avian virus, with the efficient transmission of a seasonal flu virus...and with globalization, international travel, etc., produce a true pandemic approaching the levels of the 1918 Spanish flu (which caused 50 million deaths worldwide...675,000 of them in USA, with a much lower, and not so interconnected population).

The Avisa Group, in conjunction with the Fayette Companies, has developed and piloted an approach to business survival planning at the organizational level, for behavioral care.

In ending, I would like to assure you that I don't believe in flying saucers or end of the world scenarios (I did see War of the Worlds with my kids, however!). I was raised in a sailing family in New England and early on learned the advantage of planning (when you are sailing to Bermuda, there are no 7-11's to stop at to buy batteries). These measures could effectively help mitigate the risk of such an occurrence."

See you soon,
Mike Fragala,
VADAP President
mfragala@cox.net



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Followed by a
Town Hall Discussion

March 13, 2007
Doors Open at 5 pm
Show starts at 6 pm

The Byrd Theater
2908 West Cary Street, Richmond, VA

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Brought to Our Community by:

The McShin Foundation, SAARA of Central Virginia, SAARA of Virginia, Virginia Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services, Richmond Behavioral Health Authority, Rubicon, Inc., Regional Drug-Free Alliance, Faces and Voices of Recovery, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Join Together, National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, and Reckitt-Benckiser Pharmaceuticals.

HBO Premier

One in four Americans has a family member who is struggling with addiction. Over 80% of people with substance abuse or dependence disorder started using before age 18. Currently, addiction affects 22.2 million Americans. Yet only 9% are receiving the treatment they need.

In partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), HBO launches the ADDICTION project, an unprecedented multi-media campaign aimed at helping Americans understand addiction as a treatable brain disease, as well as spotlighting new medical advancements. Debuting THURSDAY, MARCH 15 (9:00-10:30 p.m. ET/PT), with the centerpiece documentary ADDICTION, the series is eye-opening and ultimately hopeful, providing guidance in navigating the often confusing world of addiction treatment and recovery.

For the first time, HBO will use all of its digital platforms, including the HBO main service, multiplex channels, HBO On Demand, pod casts, web streams, and DVD sales to support a campaign that includes a 14-part documentary series, a book published by Rodale Press, four independent addiction-themed films, a robust website and a national community grassroots outreach campaign funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. All films will initially be offered during a free HBO preview weekend from Thursday, March 15 to Sunday, March 18 in participating cable systems.

“HBO is utilizing all of its platforms to develop programming directly targeted to the various needs of the American public on this complex public health issue,” says Chris Albrecht, HBO’s chairman and CEO. “Our resources are committed to illuminating, demystifying and defining addiction – a problem that is riddled with misconceptions.”

ADDICTION brings together leading thinkers and organizations that are at the threshold of new treatments. Current advances in brain imaging science make it possible to see inside the brain of an addicted person, pinpoint the parts of the brain affected by addiction, and see how the addict’s brain differs, ushering in a great many advances in medical treatment. In fact, treatments for addiction are now as effective as treatments for other chronic relapsing diseases such as diabetes, hypertension or asthma.

A candid depiction of the emotional, psychological, social and political toll that addiction takes on the country, the ADDICTION project demonstrates conclusively that the disease is treatable and shows that there are millions of Americans in long-term recovery. Topics covered include: the nature of addiction, addiction in the workplace, and the protracted insurance battles waged by families, as well as the difficulty of finding and getting adequate treatment.

The ADDICTION project will be supported by an unprecedented 30-city nationwide community outreach campaign funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and coordinated by Join Together, Faces and Voices of Recovery, and the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA).

Visit www.addictionaction.org for information on hosting a house party.



VSIAS Latest News By Laurie Rokutani

VSIAS (Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies) is in the final flurry of arranging for all speakers, keynotes, presentations and workshops! The lineup is as powerful as ever with featured speakers: David Mee-Lee, Dennis Embry, Peter Bell, Janice Gabe, Trish Merrill, Delbert Boone, Mike Johnson, C.C. Nuckols, Mike Nerney, Michael Clark, Connie Klein, Bill Hale, Norma Finkelstein, Karen Ingersoll, Chris Wagner AND MORE big names!! Watch the website: www.vsi.org for latest information. New workshops are being posted to the schedule daily.

Also featured for 2007 are several tracks: MI (Motivational Interviewing) with 4 days and several sections of each level or focus of training: overview, advanced skills, co-occurring, group, supervisors, women; Adolescents; Criminal Justice; Prevention; Clinical; Advanced Skills; Women; Graduate course (anticipated). (Continued on page 4.)

(Continued from page 3.) **VSIAS Latest News**

Please note: VSIAS has been forced to raise conference registration rates for the first time in 5 years (we have, in fact, been losing money each year and need to be fiscally responsible). Unfortunately, the increase appears to be a bigger jump, because we have not raised rates gradually over the years. Early bird (before June 1) rates will be \$475/week or \$125/day; after June 1: \$550/week or \$150/day. These rates are still lower than most addictions summer schools across the country.

All registration will be online again this year and access is expected to be available April 1. Hotel reservations may be made (now) by calling the Hospitality House at 800-932-9192 and requesting the VSIAS special rates (\$89.90 plus taxes per room, single or double).

VSIAS celebrates its 6th anniversary this year, as Jamestown celebrates its 400th! There will be many special celebration activities in Williamsburg, so mark your calendars now: July 16-20, 2007, The College of William and Mary.

2007 VADAP Member Programs *Thank you for joining!*

Alliance for the Prevention and Treatment of Nicotine Addiction (APTNA)
ASSIST – South Hampton Roads/CDC, Inc.
Bethany Hall, Inc.
Blue Ridge Behavioral Healthcare Prevention Assessment & Counseling
Central Virginia Community Services Board
Chesapeake Community Services Board
City of Portsmouth, Behavioral Healthcare Services/SA Outpatient Treatment Services
City of Virginia Beach Dept. of Human Services Division of MHSAS
Danville-Pittsylvania Community Services
Eastern Shore Community Services Board
Hampton-Newport News Community Services Board/Hampton Roads Clinic
Hanover County Community Services Board
Henrico Area Mental Health, SAS
Living Free Health Services
Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Community Service Board
New River Valley Community Services
Norfolk Community Services Board
Pathways Treatment Center, Centra Health, Inc.
Planning District One BHS/Frontier Health
Rappahannock Rapidan Community Services Board
Richmond Behavioral Health Authority, SAS
Riverside Behavioral Health Center
Rubicon, Inc.
Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance of Virginia, Inc. (SAARA)
Southside Community Services Board
Vanguard Services Unlimited
Virginia DMHMRSAS/OSAS
Virginia Hospital Center, Addiction Treatment Program
Williamsburg Place & The William J. Farley Center

For more information on these programs, visit the VADAP website at:

<http://www.vadap.org>

Updated 03/01/07

Dear VADAP Members,

It's that time of year again. VADAP is now seeking nominations for the annual *Ginger Acey* and *Program of Excellence Awards*. These awards will be presented in July at the Virginia Summer Institute for Addiction Studies at The College of William & Mary. Please review the criteria listed below and consider nominating individuals and programs you feel worthy of recognition by VADAP.

Nominations should be made in the form of a letter describing the nominated individual or program and that addresses the respective criteria. Nominations must be signed and should identify the nominator. **The deadline for receipt of nominations is May 21, 2007.**

Nominations should be mailed to:

VADAP Awards Committee
P. O. Box 25014
Richmond, VA 23060.

Ginger Acey Award

The *Ginger Acey Award* is presented annually to an individual for their distinguished service to the field of substance abuse as demonstrated in one or more of the following areas:

1. serving as a catalyst for positive system change and development;
2. advocacy on behalf of substance abuse services and the consumers of those services;
3. involvement in leadership positions with organizations concerned with the provision of substance abuse services;
4. scientific contributions with practical application toward the improvement of substance abuse services; and,
5. enhancing public awareness of substance abuse and the effectiveness of appropriate treatment.

The *Ginger Acey Award* is not limited to individuals who are employed by or affiliated with programs, which are Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs members.

Program of Excellence Award

The *Program of Excellence Award* is presented annually to a program, which exemplifies the highest quality, and integrity as demonstrated in one or more of the following areas:

1. provides innovative, state of the art services to clients with substance abuse problems or at high-risk to develop substance abuse problems;
2. meets standards for quality programming including:
 - holds appropriate accreditation and licensure for which it is eligible;
 - evaluates both delivery and outcome of services;
 - demonstrates involvement in its community, as appropriate;
 - demonstrates commitment to staff development; and,
 - demonstrates responsiveness to the unique needs of its client population (e.g., removes barriers to program access and retention)

Nominees for the *Program of Excellence Award* shall be members in good standing of the Virginia Association of Drug and Alcohol Programs at the time of their nomination. If you are unsure of your current status, please email: cjreiner89@mindspring.com or go on the VADAP website www.vadap.org for your current membership status and membership number for 2007.



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Centra Health
Mental Health Services

www.centrahealth.com

Legislative Update

Thanks for your support in advocating for covering substance abuse services under the Medicaid program (\$5.5 million with a \$5.5 million match)(Budget Item 302 6c) and additional resources for Substance Use Disorder for the Community Service Boards (\$2.4 million)(Budget Item 312 5c).

We were also successful in gaining a Joint study Resolution for the JLARK (Joint Legislative Audit and Review Committee) to study the actual cost of substance use to the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This is truly a BANNER YEAR for advocates for resources for consumers with substance use disorder.

Final Call to Action for this General Assembly Session is to:

- 1.) Write a personal note to the Budget Conferees thanking them for their support.
- 2.) Visit www.saara.org and click on the Legislative Action Center. Send an email to your personal Legislators and thank them for the role that they played in having this legislation passed!

House Conferees

Delegate Vincent Callahan

P.O. Box 1173
McLean, VA 22101
Phone: (804) 698-1034
Fax: (804) 786-6310
Constituent Viewpoint: (800)-889-0229
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Delegate Lacey Putney

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Delegate Phillip Hamilton

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Senate Conferees

Senator John Chichester

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Senator William Wampler

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Fax: (276) 645-6722

Senator Stosch

Innsbrook Centre, 4551 Cox Road, Suite 110
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Phone: (804) 527-7780
Fax: (804) 527-7740

Senator Charles Colgan

10677 Aviation Lane
Manassas, VA 20110-2701
Phone: (703) 368-0300
Fax: (703) 257-2856

Senator Edward Houck

P.O. Box 7
Spotsylvania, VA 22553-0007
Phone: (540) 786-2782
Fax: (540) 891-8805
Email*: ehouck@adelphia.net

2007 Membership Application

Name of Agency _____
Please print all information clearly.

Name of Program _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip-Code _____

VADAP Contact _____

Phone _____ - _____ - _____ Fax _____ - _____ - _____

Email Address _____

Web Address _____

Program Director _____

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| Type of Membership | Regular (\$150) Check Enclosed | Small (<5 staff) (\$75) Purchase Order | New Member Renewing |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------|---|------------------------|

Make all checks payable to:

VADAP
P. O. Box 25014
Richmond, VA 23260-5014

Please return this form with your check or purchase order. You will receive a certificate with your VADAP Membership Number upon receipt.

Thank you for becoming a VADAP member!
