

NEWS RELEASE



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NCADD-New Jersey awarded RWJF grant to improve addiction treatment outcomes

TRENTON ... (July 17, 2006) –The National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-New Jersey (NCADD-NJ) is the recipient of a three-year, \$282,000 grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) through its *New Jersey Health Initiatives* program. The funds will support the implementation of a state-of-the-art model of improving addiction treatment outcomes.

NCADD-NJ will serve as the lead agency of the Client-Directed, Outcome-Informed (CDOI) treatment improvement project. CDOI will be piloted at treatment facilities operated by the New Hope Foundation and is expected to significantly improve client retention rates, a critical component to long-term addiction recovery. Project results will be presented to policy-makers as well as to other treatment providers to encourage adoption of the model by other programs throughout the state.

NCADD-NJ President and CEO Wayne Wirta said, “We are thrilled to have received this award from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. We welcome the opportunity to further CDOI in New Jersey, and we anticipate that client drop-out rates will be reduced, greatly increasing the likelihood of long-term recovery from addiction. This project marks the beginning of what will become NCADD-NJ’s Institute of Excellence, covering addiction treatment, issues advocacy and recovery leadership.”

Addiction research consistently points to client retention as the single-most important factor in successful treatment outcomes. The CDOI model seeks to measure and increase the individual client’s engagement, in that the more engaged clients are in their own treatment, the likelier it is they will be retained for the full course of their treatment and achieve long-term addiction recovery.

Project Director Mollie Brodsky-Greene of NCADD-NJ said, “The CDOI model is a natural complement to the client-centered approach that we have taken in our Substance Abuse Initiative. For the last eight years, we have used a client-centered, multi-dimensional approach to assessment and

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case management. The CDOI model incorporates clients' own perceptions about how their needs are being met. It provides objective, validated tools with which to measure client engagement.”

CDOI is based on the evidence-based outcomes measurement model of two leaders in the addictions field, Dr. David Mee-Lee and Dr. Scott Miller. Dr. Mee-Lee is the co-author of the American Society of Addiction Medicine's Patient Placement Criteria, Second Edition, and has been a consulting physician of NCADD-NJ's Substance Abuse Initiative since its inception, in 1998. Dr. Miller is the co-director of the Institute for the Study of Therapeutic Change and has published widely on peer-reviewed treatment improvements. He is also a renowned international lecturer.

NCADD-NJ is a non-profit organization that has dedicated itself for more than 20 years to educating New Jersey's citizens about alcohol and drug use issues, to advocating on state policies concerning individuals addicted to alcohol or other drugs, and to reducing the stigma that frustrates a public health approach to the disease of addiction. More information about the council is available at its website, www.ncaddnj.org.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing the country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 30 years, the Foundation has brought experience, commitment and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

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