



CAPTions

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A mini-newsletter from the Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies

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From the director

Most of our CAPTions readers are familiar with the newly-created White House Office of Faith-based and Community Initiatives. What you may not know is, there has been a healthy combination of substance abuse prevention research application and faith-based settings operating for some time. While many discuss the potential as well

as the cautious questions about faith-based groups and substance abuse prevention initiatives, our experience and a look at prevention research can contribute to the discussion. Central CAPT has worked with our consulting partner Faith Partners, Inc. and over 30 faith-based groups in adapting prevention applications as part of team ministry, getting clear on messages to congregation members, and of faith-based groups be-

coming more active in community-based prevention efforts.

In this issue of CAPTions, our experience to date is described, along with adapted curricula and a new video entitled "People of Faith, Partners in Prevention." We believe we can help you facilitate the value of beliefs and good works with the science of prevention application. Take a look.

Faith community initiative

Over the past three years, the Central Center for the Application of Prevention Technologies (CAPT), Faith Partners (a national non-profit interfaith organization), and the Johnson Institute have developed a model that assists congregations of all faith traditions in a process of congregational development that results in an effective, comprehensive and sustainable substance abuse prevention/recovery team ministry. The goal is to inform, strengthen and mobilize to action congregational leadership and religious networks to prevent and reduce substance abuse among the people they serve, in cooperation with other community resources.

Developing a congregational team is a step-by-step process that involves training and materials:

STEP 1 – Representatives from a congregation (clergy,

youth directors, social ministries staff and key lay people) get trained, gaining information about the role of the congregation in prevention, intervention and recovery and how to take the first steps toward initiating a substance abuse ministry.

STEP 2 – Newly-trained participants go back to their own congregation and conduct an exploratory meeting to determine interest in and commitment for a substance abuse ministry.

STEP 3 – Conduct a congregational survey to assess the needs and readiness of the congregation, to identify volunteers for the team and to gain support for the ministry.

STEP 4 – Inventory the congregation to identify resources to determine how to integrate the ministry into the life of the congregation.

STEP 5 – Team members

attend a 10-hour Congregational Team Training. This training provides team members with basic information about substance abuse prevention and recovery; introduces them to community resource people and programs; and assists them in developing a preliminary plan for their congregation.

STEP 6 – Teams return to their congregation and initiate a team ministry, using the manual "Building a Team Ministry: A Congregational Approach to Substance Abuse," an extensive step-by-step guide that includes many tools for assessing and planning congregational initiatives.

STEP 7 – Congregational teams increase their connections to community resources and continue their relationships with other teams through ongoing consultation, support meetings
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What's Happening?

APRIL 2001

29-May 4 CSAP's Model Program Conference, Kansas City, MO

MAY 2001

4 Internet Training, Madison, WI

14-16 Science-based Prevention Training, Social Marketing Training, Intervention Workshop, Madison, WI

JUNE 2001

6 Measuring Impacts/Outcomes, Indianapolis, IN

14-15 Central CAPT's 2nd Annual Technology and Prevention Conference, Troy, MI

22 Faith Intro Training, Cincinnati, OH

22 Youth as Leaders Training, Chicago, IL

22-23 Congregational Team Training, Cincinnati, OH



TECHNOLOGY CORNER

Come join others in the Central CAPT region for the Second Annual Technology and Prevention Conference: Working Together for Results.

This conference, convening June 14th and 15th 2001 in Troy, Michigan, will bring together people from the Central CAPT region to learn how prevention and technology can work together for enhanced results. Get hands-on experience with tools and techniques such as finding information on the Internet, creating effective PowerPoint presentations, planning and developing Web sites, sending e-mail, planning for technology and getting connected to the Internet. Gain insight to solve the unique challenges service organizations and coalitions face in integrating technology with their work. Meet others from around the region who are interested in harnessing the power of electronic technology to achieve superior prevention results.

To register and get updated information on this conference please visit our Web site at: <http://www.ccapt.org/techconf2001>. This Web site will be updated frequently. Visit often to learn more about scheduled speakers and other aspects of the conference.

Faith community initiative (cont'd from front) and additional training.

Currently the Central CAPT and Faith Partners are working with over 50 congregations in five states to implement this team ministry. To learn more about how you and/or your congregation can get involved, contact Roger Svendsen at the Central CAPT, 1-800-782-1878.

A new Central CAPT video "People of Faith, Partners in Prevention" helps make the case for faith communities applying proven substance abuse prevention principles and strategies among their communities. ■

Chat with the researcher

In accordance with our mission to bridge research and practice, Central CAPT announces a new feature, "Chat with the Researcher." Dr. Cheryl Perry will be available during the month of May to answer your questions. Dr. Perry is one of the developers of Project Northland, a model program for preventing teenage alcohol use. She also served as Senior Scientific Editor of the Surgeon General's report titled Preventing Tobacco Use Among Young People.

Direct your inquiries to Dr. Perry at capt-chat@miph.org. Central CAPT will make available what we (and you) learn through this dialogue at our Web site. ■

"View from the Beltway"

by Dr. Ruth Sanchez-Way, Prevention Director, Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

Beginning with this issue, our online version of CAPTions will highlight a column "View from the Beltway" that Dr. Ruth Sanchez-Way, Director of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention will author. This first article is entitled "The Silent Epidemic: Older People and Prescription Medication." Please go to our Web site at www.ccapt.org/beltway.html to access the complete article. ■



Center for
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