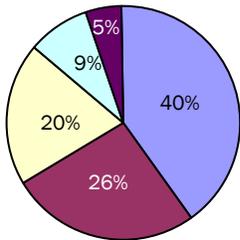


OHIO ATR HIGHLIGHTS

Data through September 30, 2008

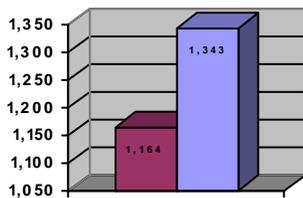
PREMIER ISSUE, FEBRUARY 2009

ATR Service Distribution



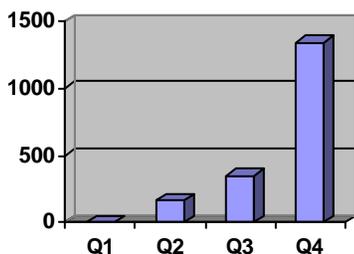
- Benefit Coordination
- Clinical/Treatment
- Supp. Trans. Housing
- Employment Services
- Other Services

Client Target vs. Clients Served



- Client Target
- Clients Served

Cumulative Number of Clients Served by ATR in Ohio During Sept. 2007—Oct. 2008 (Quarters 1, 2, 3, 4)



WHAT IS OHIO'S CHOICE FOR RECOVERY?

In his 2003 State of the Union Address, former President George W. Bush proposed a new substance abuse treatment initiative – a competitive, three-year grant available to states, U.S. territories and tribal organizations, called “Access to Recovery” (ATR).

ATR enables grantees to administer a voucher program for clinical substance abuse treatment and recovery support services to special populations. The program emphasizes client choice, consisting of physical, mental, emotional and/or spiritual continuum of care. It also measures success in the numbers of clients who remain abstinent from drugs and alcohol six months after program completion, obtain employment, enrollment in school and acquisition stable housing.

On behalf of the State of Ohio, the Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services (ODADAS) applied for the grant in 2006 and, along with 17 other grantees, was chosen to participate.

“We are very grateful to be a part of Access to Recovery,” said ODADAS Director Angela Cornelius Dawson. “To date, Access to Recovery has empowered more than 67,000 Americans across

the U.S. to take charge of their recovery from addiction. Now Ohio is able to offer its citizens the same opportunity.”

ODADAS was awarded a grant of \$13.9 million to be divided over three years and used to provide addiction treatment and recovery support services to adult men and women, residing in Cuyahoga, Mahoning, Stark and Summit Counties. The additional eligibility requirements are an assessment with an alcohol/other drug diagnosis, low-income, criminal justice involvement within the last two years, incarcerated, arrested or otherwise under criminal justice supervision and diagnosed with any kind of substance abuse disorder.

ATR clients are often referred to the program by parole/probation officers, but may be referred by social service agencies or other organizations. Once accepted into the program, clients’ services are coordinated by trained staff at one or two coordination points in each of the participating counties: Oriana House and Hispanic Urban Minority Alcohol and Drug Addiction Outreach Program (UMADAOP) in Cuyahoga County, Treatment Alternatives for Street Crime in Mahoning

and Stark Counties and Oriana House in Summit County.

Examples of clinical treatment services clients may receive include:

- individual counseling
- group counseling
- intensive outpatient
- 90-day residential treatment

Examples of recovery support services include:

- marriage education
- parenting/child development services
- child care
- employment services
- transportation
- supportive transitional housing services
- case management services
- relapse prevention
- support groups
- spiritual support

The average voucher amount per client is \$2,000, but dollar limits are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Clients choose the providers from whom they wish to receive service.

During its first year of ATR, Ohio served 1,343 clients by its 70 treatment and recovery support services providers. Year 2 of ATR began this past October and has, thus far, enrolled 848 new clients into the program.

Ohio's Choice for Recovery Program Information

Grant Administrator:

Ohio Dept. of Alcohol and Drug
Addiction Services (ODADAS)
614-466-3445

Project Director:

Alisia Clark
614-466-8036

CLIENT PROFILE

The subject of this *Ohio ATR Highlights* issue Client Profile is WA, a male client, in his forties, from Summit County. When we spoke with WA, he had been gainfully employed for six months and was celebrating eight full months of sobriety. He told us he attributes his success partly to Community of Christ, a recovery-based church that "gave him hope and brought him down to earth when he was unable to do it on his own." He also credits the ATR program, specifically Truly Reaching You (see ATR Provider Highlight) which, by providing him with free clothing, food and shelter for the first three months following his release from a community-based corrections facility alleviated a lot of the burdens associated with transitioning back into society and allowed him to seek employment and maintain his sobriety from a 25 year addiction to crack cocaine and other drugs.

WA, who had served two previous prison terms, racked up eight DUIs and had his driver's license suspended 32 times, describes the impetus to recovery as "having someone to believe in other than yourself." In his case, that someone is God. "When you're sober, you want to give back to society, you want to pay your taxes, you don't want to hurt other people."

ATR Provider Highlight: Truly Reaching You "A Hand Up, Not a Hand Out"

Truly Reaching You is one of the 25 provider agencies currently participating in ATR in Summit County. Now beginning its 10th year of operation, Truly Reaching You, headed by Director of Ministry Perry Clark, wants the public to know there are people who care.

As a provider of recovery support services, affiliated with ATR since May 2008, this nonprofit organization with an all-volunteer staff of nine, assists individuals re-entering their communities following incarceration. At present, Truly Reaching You owns four homes – one housing a family and the other three housing a total of 10 adult men, with an average age of approximately 42 years, all in recovery from substance abuse disorders.

Clients admitted into Truly Reaching You are welcomed into a nurturing and secure home-like atmosphere upon release from prison, and given clothing,

toiletries and other necessities, free of charge. They are provided with employment referrals to enable them to develop marketable employment skills. In exchange, clients agree to complete at least 20 hours of community service per month which might include volunteering at local churches and businesses, assisting elderly neighbors with chores and rehabbing the agency's properties. In addition, all residents are required to attend twice-weekly church services, spend at least three days a week actively looking for a permanent job and participate in ongoing addiction recovery services.

The average length of stay in any of the Truly Reaching homes is seven months, during which time residents are able to secure employment and save enough money to cover two months of future rent and living expenses. When this transition is complete, Clark helps them find their

own apartments or homes and begin the next chapter of their lives.

When asked to name Truly Reaching You's biggest success story, Clark tells of the former resident who beat a debilitating cocaine addiction and has remained drug-free and productive taxpayer for four years. He also relates the story of a former Truly Reaching You resident who also found long-term sobriety while in the program, re-established his independence and remarried his wife.

Clark admits the Truly Reaching You concept is unique and may not be for everyone. However, he suggests that any adult in the Akron area who is genuinely ready to reform his or her life, seek him out so that he may explain the program in detail. He says, "You really need to prepare your heart to be successful here."

What is GPRA?

For the ATR program, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration will assess program performance through accountability measures as well as through outcome measures. GPRA (Government Performance and Results Accountability) data must be collected in an interview at baseline (i.e., the client's entry into the project), six months post baseline and at discharge (or exit from ATR services). Grantees will be required to obtain a minimum 80% six-month follow-up rate. **Ohio's Year One End (September 30, 2008) ATR GPRA rate: 76.1%**

Help ODADAS Build Its ATR Mailing List

Be sure to share this newsletter with as many of your colleagues as possible. Copies may be printed from the ODADAS website: www.ada.ohio.gov by clicking the Ohio's Choice for Recovery icon. If you know of an individual or a provider agency interested in receiving this newsletter, please have them contact Project Director Alisia Clark at 614-466-8036.