

RWJ Advancing Recovery Quarterly Report
AMHC March 1st to June 30th 2007

AMHC has partnered with the Maine Office of Substance Abuse and three other treatment entities in the State of Maine on the Robert Wood Johnson Advancing Recovery Grant. During the past ¼ AMHC has participated in Grant sponsored conference calls, meetings and national training held in Texas.

The major focus of AMHC effort has been to expand the role and use of medication in Substance Abuse interventions, treatment and recovery in Aroostook County. To accomplish this AMHC has worked with its staff, community and clients to expand the use and acceptance of the role medications have in recovery from Substance Abuse. We are pleased to report that our efforts have had a significant impact in Aroostook County.

Over the past quarter AMHC has made a specific effort in clinical consultation, team meetings and sub-team meetings as to the role of medication in Substance Abuse treatment and recovery. We have seen a shift in staffs' perception and acceptance of the role of medication in treatment and recovery. This shift was measurable and documented. AMHC Substance Abuse staff was surveyed in February of 2007 and again in May of 2007. The results of the survey show a clear change in staff's perception in a number of areas in relation to the use of medications.

AMHC continues to take an active role in area prevention efforts and community coalitions such as CADET and Link for Hope. Through the coalitions, contact with local law enforcement and health care providers AMHC is working to expand the communities understanding and acceptance of medications to support treatment and recovery. AMHC worked with local Rite Aid stores to set up a voucher system so clients could access the Advancing Recovery Funds. Prescriptions have been filled in Van Buren, Caribou, Fort Fairfield, Presque Isle and Houlton.

During the past quarter AMHC has expanded its ORT program by 29 clients. Nineteen (19) clients have received medications paid for with the Advancing Recovery Funds. Thirty-two (32) prescriptions have been filled with an average price of \$226.00 per prescription. There were 5 prescriptions filled for Chantix and 14 prescriptions filled for Suboxone. At this time AMHC has been billed \$5,216 for prescriptions with 9 prescriptions outstanding.

On June 11th and 12th AMHC had a non-scientific survey with clients coming to the ORT clinic. Twenty-nine (29) clients were seen on these two days and 16 clients completed the questions and turned them into staff, this is a 55% response rate for the clients seen on the two days and represents 36% of all ORT clients. Five (5) questions were asked of the clients: Is your employment better, Do you have less legal issues, Are your personal relationships better, Are you seeing positive changes in your life, and Is use of alcohol and other drugs less today.

- ★ Is your employment better, 38% of the clients responded not true, 19% indicated true and 38% said very true.
- ★ Less legal issues 25% clients reported not true, 12% true and 62% very true.
- ★ Personal relationships better .06% not true, 25% true and 56% very true.

- ★ Are you seeing positive changes in your life 25% true and 75% very true.
- ★ Use of Alcohol and other drugs less today, 12% true and 75% very true.

Clients provided comments as well such as “I still have ups and downs, but with proper work my life will get better”. “Things seem to be going slightly better, I’m sure they will keep improving as time goes on”. “Much improvement sober, working, better visits with my son”. “I thank God every day that I can get up and take my Suboxone and not have to be who I was on drugs or have to do the awful things I use to”.

The effort has show to have positive impact on the community. We are excited to continue this effort into the future, given the changes it is having in people’s lives.

Peter McCorison
Program Director for Substance Abuse AMHC

ORT Clinic Questioner

Please take a few moments to fill out this questionnaire. It is our sincere hope that you are finding the clinic helpful as recourse to reach your goals. We would like to learn from you what we can do to make the clinic better meet your needs.

All questions relate to your current life situations compared to your life when you were actively using Opiods.

Is your Employment situation better today?

1	2	3	4	5
Not True		True		Very True
6		3	1	6
37.5%		18.75%	6.25%	37.5%

Do you have less legal issues in you life today?

1	2	3	4	5
Not True		True		Very True
4		2		10
25%		12.5%		62.5%

Are your personal relationships better today?

1	2	3	4	5
Not True		True		Very True
1		4	2	9
6.25%		25%	12.5%	56.25%

Are you seeing positive change in your life today?

1	2	3	4	5
Not True		True		Very True
		3	1	12
		18.75%	6.35%	75%

Is use of Alcohol and other drugs is less today?

1	2	3	4	5
Not True		True		Very True
		2	2	12
		12.5%	12.5%	75%

Comments

Thank you for your time Peter McCorison