



Alliance Newsletter 10/24/18

Dealing with Substance Abuse - Resources for your Staff

How is your agency dealing with substance disorders with clients? What types of support does your agency offer? What training is required for your staff in this area?

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) offers information that can be helpful when working with clients with a substance disorder.

SAMHSA lists the following treatments as recommended for those doing non-clinical support services:

- Transportation to and from treatment and recovery-oriented activities
- Employment or educational supports
- Specialized living situations
- Peer-to-peer services, mentoring, coaching
- Spiritual and faith-based support
- Parenting education
- Self-help and support groups
- Outreach and engagement
- Staffing drop in centers, clubhouses, respite/crisis services, or warmlines (peer-run listening lines staffed by people in recovery themselves)
- Education about strategies to promote wellness and recovery

SAMHSA also gives some **recommendations** specific to each kind of substance disorder, whether that be alcohol, cannabis, stimulant or opioid.

Check out other **resources** on SAMSHA's website.

The **National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)** also provides information on substance disorders. Here are some **webinar recordings on Trauma and the Opioid Crisis**. (Note: you will need to download Adobe Connect to listen to the recordings, but there is no charge to download.)

We have a new group! The News, Events, and Opportunities Board!

This new group will function as a community board that members can use to post member-led events or trainings! (Make sure to read our **Event Sharing Policy** regarding event posts.)

This is also where the Alliance will post:

- Webinars
- Relevant HT news
- Advocacy opportunities

Looking for an intern? The Institute of Shelter Care wants to help facilitate connecting intern candidates with agencies that are interested. They will post descriptions of potential interns on this board with relevant education and work experience. If a candidate seems like a good fit for your organization, simply reach out to the candidate using the contact information listed.

[News, Events, and Opportunities Board](#)

We want to make sure all your questions are answered. The Alliance has a new **FAQ page** -- check it out! If there is a question you think should be added to this page, let us know by emailing us at membership@shelteredalliance.org.