



New York Association of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Providers, Inc.

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ASAP 2004-2005 BUDGET REVENUE RECOMMENDATIONS

Generate \$35 million in Needed Revenue: A Penny a Beer

ASAP recommends creation of a "Penny a Beer" fee to generate an additional \$35 million for treatment and prevention services. A poll done recently by Penn, Schoen, and Berland Associates indicated that **58%** of those who vote favor an increase in the price of beer especially if it was used to support treatment and prevention services. The fee proposed by ASAP in combination with New York's current excise tax would still be below the national average of 25 cents per gallon of beer.

Voters support a "penny a beer" and expansion of treatment and prevention services. ASAP recommends using *the proceeds of the proposed fee to strengthen treatment and prevention programs*. We recommend creation of a dedicated fund that would be used annually to address unmet needs for prevention and treatment in communities throughout NYS and to address the significant workforce crisis affecting treatment and prevention programs

Use New Medicaid Revenue to Strengthen Treatment and Prevention

The Governor's budget proposal includes Medicaid rate equity for Methadone Treatment Programs that will generate an estimated \$14 million in new revenue for the field. The Governor's budget proposal reduces this \$14 million in anticipated new revenue by \$3.5 million to offset the state share of the increase and reduces it by another \$4.5 million to be used somewhere other than for chemical dependency services. ASAP requests that the Senate and Assembly restore the \$4.5 million cut and use it to strengthen treatment and prevention services.

ASAP, aware that the state faces difficult fiscal issues, recommends use of the proposed revenue recommendations (\$35 million from a "penny a beer" fee and \$4.5 in new Medicaid revenue) to restore cuts to treatment and prevention programs and to strengthen the field.

Coalition Members Addiction Treatment Centers of OASAS • Association of Alcohol Recovery Care Homes • Association of New York City Addiction Programs • Central New York Alcohol & Drug Association • Coalition for Community Services • Coalition of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Programs of Northeastern New York • Committee of Methadone Program Administrators of New York State • Consortium of Alcohol & Substance Abuse Services • Council on Addictions of New York State • Hudson Valley-Catskill Coalition • Nassau Coalition of Chemical Dependency Providers • North Manhattan Service Providers • Northern Tier Providers Coalition • RecoveryNet • Statewide Black & Puerto Rican/Latino Substance Abuse Task Force • Quality Consortium of Suffolk County • Therapeutic Communities Association of New York • Westchester Putnam Coalition of Alcoholism & Substance Abuse Programs • Western New York Chemical Dependency Consortium