



State of New Jersey

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GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE APPROVES \$963,175 IN COMMUNITY-BASED ANTI-DRUG COALITION FUNDING TO ESSEX COUNTY *Matching requirement doubles impact of award to total of \$1.9 million in addiction prevention programs and activities*

TRENTON (April 18, 2012) – The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse today announced it has approved Calendar Year 2012 grant award to Essex County totaling nearly one million dollars at its monthly meeting held April 17th. The County grant awards will fund Municipal Alliances to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse which plan for and develop local community and evidenced-based addiction prevention strategies and programs as well as public education and awareness activities at the local level.

The State's Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program is the largest network of community-based anti-drug coalitions in the nation with 7,000 individuals and community stakeholders serving on nearly 400 Alliances encompassing more than 500 municipalities throughout New Jersey. Municipal Alliances are established by municipal ordinance and engage residents, local government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout New Jersey.

"New Jersey led the nation in 1989 with the establishment of its network of community-based anti-drug coalitions which has since been replicated by communities throughout the United States," said Acting Director John Hulick. "The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy has determined federal and state assistance for prevention is most effective when supporting programs that originate in, and are developed by, communities. These grant awards are consistent with federal direction in this regard and also ensure that the Alliances remain an integral part of the State's overall addiction prevention strategies allowing them to continue to lead efforts to address alcoholism and drug abuse in communities throughout the State. "

In 2011, the State's Alliances provided nearly 3,500 school and community-based programs and activities. The 2012 grant award to Essex County approved by the Council will provide more than 226 programs, nearly 55 percent of which are conducted in an educational setting; 18 percent of which offer safe and supervised alternative activities for youth; and the remainder of which are offered for early intervention programs, community-wide education of residents and to encourage collaborative community-based activities.

The Council receives funding to administer the Program from the Drug Education Demand Reduction Fund (DEDR) established to collect fines from individuals who are assessed such when convicted of a drug offense. County and Municipal Alliance award recipients are required to match the Council grants with a cash-match of 25% of the award and 75% in-kind-services. This matching requirement is unique to the country and has the effect of doubling the impact of the Council grant to total nearly \$1.9 million in programs and activities.

To date, the Council has approved nineteen of the twenty-one calendar year 2012 County grant awards totaling \$9.3 million with the matching requirement doubling the impact of the awards to a total of \$18.6 million.

For more information on the Council and the Alliance Program, go to <http://www.facebook.com/gcada.newjersey>.

