

# New Jersey's State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup

Donald K. Hallcom, Ph.D.

Director, Prevention and Early Intervention  
New Jersey Department of Human Services  
Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services

# History

- \* The SEOW Charter was developed and refined in the latter part of 2006. The Charter outlines goals to be accomplished by the SEOW. These goals included:
  - \* Creation of a State Epidemiological Profile
  - \* Development of SEOW Work Plan and Goal Statement
  - \* Collection of National Outcome Measures data and Performance Measurement
  - \* Collection of Risk and Protective Factors Data
  - \* Analysis of Data
  - \* Ongoing Surveillance
  - \* Distribution of the Epidemiological Profile and other substance abuse prevention data

# SEOW Membership

- \* NJ Association of County Alliance Coordinators
- \* NJ Prevention Network (NJPN)
- \* NJ Association of County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors
- \* NY/NJ High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NY/NJ HIDTA)
- \* Rutgers University, School of Social Work
- \* Princeton House Behavioral Health
- \* Barnabas Health, Institute for Prevention
- \* NJ Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES)
- \* Rutgers University, Director, Center of Alcohol Studies
- \* New Jersey Hospital Association/Behavioral Health Constituency Group
- \* Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (GCADA)
- \* NJ Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services (DMHAS)
- \* NJ Department of Health (DOH), Center for Health Statistics (CHS)
- \* NJ DOH, Division of Family Health, Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS)
- \* NJ Department of Education (DOE), Coordinator, School Health Unit
- \* NJ DOE, Coordinator, Evaluation and Data Collection
- \* NJ Department of Labor
- \* NJ Department of Children and Families (DCF)
- \* NJ Prescription Monitoring Program
- \* NJ Juvenile Justice Commission
- \* NJ Department of Military and Veteran's Affairs
- \* NJ State Police
- \* NJ Alcoholic Beverage Commission
- \* NJ Highway and Traffic Safety

# Accomplishments

- \* Development of and updates to State Epidemiological Profile
- \* Identification of priorities for DMHAS Prevention Strategic Plan
- \* Provision of data for county/regional planning
- \* Development and administration of Older Adults Survey
- \* Expansion of membership on SEOW
- \* Enhancement of collaboration between State departments and divisions
- \* First steps towards inclusion of mental health data

# Challenges

- \* Integration of Mental Health data needs and requirements
- \* Assuring that our work is timely and needs-driven
- \* Assuring effective and regular communication with other state departments and divisions

# Projects Under This Initiative

- \* Update State Epidemiological Profile
- \* Provide training to counties to enable them to develop county-specific Epidemiological Profiles
- \* Conduct Social Network Analysis
- \* Prepare monthly reports and data fact sheets on timely issues for distribution to community stakeholders
- \* Include SA items in New Jersey BRFSS