

## MASSACHUSETTS

### State Director:

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**Substance Abuse Treatment:** In FY 2013/2014, 52,362 Massachusetts residents were admitted into substance abuse treatment through SAPT Block Grant-funded programs. This data includes detoxification treatment (24 hour care), rehabilitation/residential treatment, ambulatory (outpatient), and opioid replacement therapy. In fiscal year 2012, BSAS funded 24 treatment organizations providing services in multiple locations throughout Massachusetts with SAPT funds.

*Massachusetts treatment admissions by primary substance of abuse (TEDS, 2014):*

- Heroin: 54.5%
- Alcohol: 24.0%
- Alcohol with secondary drug: 9.0%
- Other opiates: 5.0%
- Marijuana: 3.2%
- Cocaine (smoked): 1.5%

**Substance Abuse Prevention:** The Bureau of Substance Abuse Prevention Unit focuses on preventing alcohol, marijuana, and other drug abuse, with a particular focus on the under 21 population. Their initiatives include funding for 31 prevention coalitions across the State to address underage drinking; 13 grants enabling partnerships with 71 communities to participate in the Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative program; 8 grants to address prescription drug misuse and abuse among persons aged 12 to 25 in high-need communities; and funding “drug take-back” boxes for residents to return drugs at their local police stations. In addition, they offer training and curricula on overdose prevention, education for all addiction treatment providers and staff of homeless shelters and correctional institutions, technical assistance to communities in addressing substance abuse prevention and a wealth of free educational materials on overdose prevention, underage alcohol use, prevention of drug use and abuse, as well as safe use and disposal of prescription medications.

**Examples of Prevention Programs in Massachusetts:** BSAS funds a variety of prevention programs throughout Massachusetts that provide services to a diverse range of populations, all with individual risk factors and community needs. BSAS also funds a Statewide media campaign called “Parent Power.” This online media campaign targets parents as key prevention messengers to their kids. The site offers communication tools and tips for how to discuss drug use with children and educational information about warning signs, health consequences, and legal ramifications. The site provides general information on alcohol and other drug use, as well as specific assistance on the nonmedical use of prescription drugs and marijuana use. The resources are also available in Spanish. Parents can read and download materials free of cost from the BSAS website.

**Federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant:** The SAPT Block Grant is the cornerstone of each State’s substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery system. The grant is allotted to States by a formula based on the overall level set by Congress each year. The SAPT Block Grant allotments for Massachusetts are included below:

- FY 2016: \$39,845,084
- FY 2015: \$39,588,772
- FY 2014: \$39,563,072
- FY 2013: \$32,265,047

### Opioid Overdose Deaths:

Opioid overdose deaths have been on the rise nationally. Massachusetts has seen increases in opioid-related deaths due to both heroin and prescription opioid use.

- 2011 Heroin Deaths: 145 (2.2 per 100,000)
- 2014 Heroin Deaths: 474 (7.0 per 100,000)
- 2011 Prescription Opioid Deaths: 178 (2.7 per 100,000)
- 2014 Prescription Opioid Deaths: 187 (2.8 per 100,000)

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