

From Potholes to Public Health: Ensuring Impact with Opioid Settlement Funds

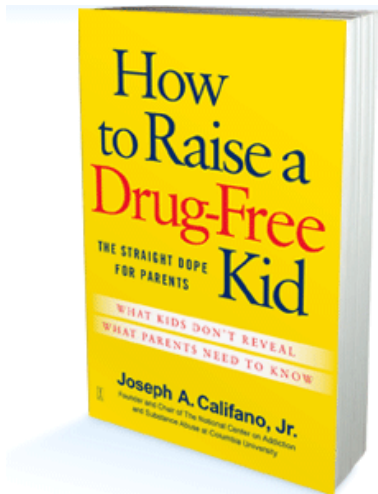
The National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL)
Saturday, March 7th

Creighton Drury, CEO – Center on Addiction

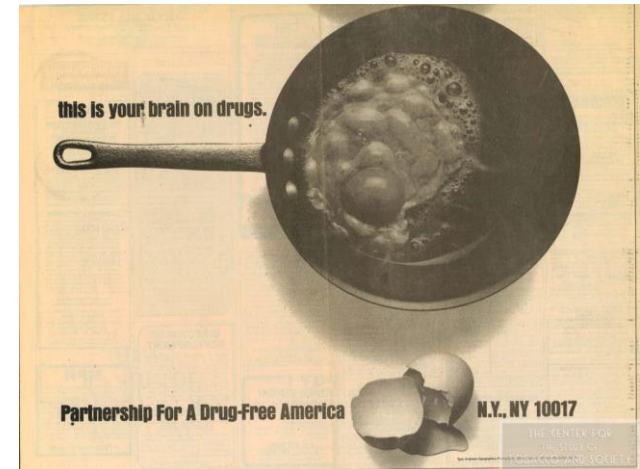
Merging for greater impact



The National Center on
Addiction and Substance Abuse
at Columbia University



The Partnership
for a Drug-Free
America®





What We Do

1. ***Advance Effective Care*** through our team of experts who help families and providers better prevent and treat addiction, ultimately saving lives.
2. ***Shape Public Policy*** by sharing our policy research expertise and partnering with families and other experts to effectuate public health advancements.
3. ***Change Culture*** by activating the voices and stories of families to reduce stigma and increase compassion and understanding for the disease of addiction.

Most money is spent on the **consequences** of addiction

Only 2% is spent on prevention and treatment!!

WHAT IT SHOULD GO TOWARDS:	Health care infrastructure	Support and promoting health	Solutions based on science and evidence
WHAT IT DOES GO TOWARDS:	Criminal justice infrastructure	Punishment and blame	Solutions based on stigma, anecdote and intuition

Catch it early



>90% of people with a substance problem began smoking, drinking or using other drugs before age 21.

Increase access to **quality** treatment



Only **2 in 10** people who need care receive any sort of addiction treatment.

Treat addiction as a **disease**

- Ensure policies reflect a **public health approach**, rooted in science and compassion
- Make quality treatment **accessible and affordable** so that everyone who needs help can get it

Improve **addiction treatment**

- Increase the **availability of medications** to treat opioid use disorder
 - i.e., methadone, buprenorphine, naltrexone
- **Help patients** and families **find** quality addiction **care**
 - Call-line/database with real time information

Improve **addiction treatment**

- Use **financial incentives** to promote integration into mainstream healthcare
 - Support conversion to electronic health records for addiction treatment providers.
- Invest in provider **training**
 - Educate and train physicians, nurses and other prescribers in addiction treatment.
 - Fund fellowships in addiction medicine.

Improve **addiction treatment**

- Leverage purchasing power and licensing to **improve quality of care**
 - Enhance reimbursement for certified evidence-based addiction treatment.
- Improve **insurance coverage**
 - Enforce the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA)
 - Require plans to cover all medications that treat opioid use disorder (methadone, buprenorphine, naltrexone)

Invest in prevention

- Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)
- Ensure that schools and communities implement effective prevention initiatives
- Reduce access to prescription opioids
 - Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs (PDMPs)
 - Safe prescribing initiatives for pain management
 - Prescription drug take-back programs

Reduce **overdose** and other harms

- Distribute naloxone widely
- Increase access to methadone and buprenorphine
- Implement syringe exchange programs (SEPs)
- Monitor and react rapidly to emerging drug threats

Our Resources For States

- **Ending the Opioid Crisis: A Practical Guide for State Policymakers, 2017**
 - <https://www.centeronaddiction.org/addiction-research/reports/ending-opioid-crisis-practical-guide-state-policymakers>
- **Opioid Settlement Priorities: Recommendations from the Addiction Solutions Campaign, 2018**
 - https://www-qa.addictionsolutionscampaign.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Opioid-Settlement-Priorities_5.17.18.pdf

What Not to Spend the Settlement On



For More Information:

www.centeronaddiction.org

Creighton Drury

cdrury@centeronaddiction.org

212-841-5248



THANK YOU!