

September 13, 2024

Open Letter to Massachusetts Lawmakers

The Overdose Crisis is Growing Worse: Pass Substance Use & Recovery Legislation

Dear Speaker Mariano, Senate President Spilka and all Massachusetts Lawmakers,

We all know and love people who are deeply impacted by addiction. For many of us, it's our own struggle; others see the effects of substance use disorder in our communities or right up close at home. There isn't a day that goes by without several people in the Commonwealth dying from an overdose or losing loved ones to this disease.

As individuals and institutions working to combat the opioid epidemic, we know the Commonwealth must do more to prevent addiction, help people find pathways to treatment and recovery, and save lives. Public health professionals are doing all they can with the tools and resources they have, but we urgently need legislative solutions to respond to substance use and help the people of Massachusetts.

We appreciate that the House and Senate have each taken steps to address this crisis, and we urge you to continue your efforts until a bill is signed into law by the Governor.

Please pass substance use and recovery legislation in the 2023-2024 session and keep working to alleviate the crises of addiction and overdose going forward.

1199SEIU - Massachusetts A New Way Recovery Center	Greater Boston Legal Services CORI & Re-entry Project	Middlesex Human Service Agency
ACCESS Drug User Health Program Access HOPE	Greylock Recovery Center Hampden County Addiction Task Force	NamaStay Sober Naranon
ACLU of Massachusetts Actual Criminal Legal Roundtable of the Southern New England United Church of Christ	Hampden-Wilbraham Partners for Youth Coalition Harm Reduction Hedgehogs 413 (HRH413)	National Association of Social Workers - MA Chapter New Beginnings Reentry Services, Inc
Addiction Treatment Center of New England	Health in Justice Action Lab at Northeastern University School of Law	New England Users Union New Start

AIDS Action	Health Resources in Action	New Way Peer Recovery Center
AIDS Project Worcester	High Point Treatment Center	NNCC's Milagros "Terry" Rodriguez Wellness Center
All Inclusive Support Services	Holyoke Health Center	North Shore Community Health Centers
HCS D	Hope Beyond Hope	North Shore Physicians Group
American College of Physicians - MA Chapter	Inside the Sun Inc.	One Shared Spirit
Association for Behavioral Healthcare	Institute for Health and Recovery	Our United Communities
Bay State Community Services	Justice Resource Institute	Parsons Hill
Baystate Medical Center	Law Enforcement Action Partnership	Plymouth Recovery center
Berkshire Medical Center	Law Office of Lisa Newman-Polk	Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative
Boston Medical Center	Learn to cope Inc	Positive Action Against Chemical Addiction, Inc.
Boston HealthCare for the Homeless Program	Lynn Community Health Center	Pregnancy Justice
Boston Medical Center	Lynn Health Task Force	Prisoners' Legal Services of Massachusetts
Boston Public Health Commission	M.I.R.A.C.L.E. MAMAS INC.	Progressive Massachusetts
Boston University Medical Students for Harm Reduction	Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians	Project ASSERT
Boston Users Union	Massachusetts Action for Justice	Real Cost of Prisons Project
Brockton Area Multi Service Inc.	Massachusetts Assoc. of Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Counselors Inc.	Recovery Homes Collaborative
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center	Massachusetts Association for Mental Health	Renewal Integrative Psychotherapies LLC
BWH Bridge Clinic	Massachusetts College of Emergency Physicians	Renewal Recovery, LLC
Center for Expressive Arts, Therapy and Education (C.R.E.A.T.E!)	Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth	RIZE Massachusetts Foundation
CHOiCE Recovery Coaching Inc.	Massachusetts General Brigham	Room to Grow Recovery Support Center, St Francis
CIR/SEIU	Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association	Roxbury Youthworks, Inc.
Coalition for Social Justice Action	Massachusetts Law Reform Institute	S.A.S.S Recovery Inc
Collectively Determined	Massachusetts Medical Society	SafeSpot Overdose Hotline
Committee for Public Counsel Services		SEIU 509
		SIFMA Now

Common Collab

Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals

Craig's Doors: A Home Assoc.

Division of Addiction Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital

Downtown Emergency Service Center

DragonFly Health Solutions

Duffy Health Center

End Hep C MA

End Mass Incarceration Together (EMIT)

Fenway Community Health Center

Folding Chair Project

Galilee Ministries

Gandara Center, Stop Access Coalition

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)

Grayken Center for Addiction at Boston Medical Center

Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery

Massachusetts Psychiatric Society

Massachusetts Public Health Association

Massachusetts Recovery Advocacy Project

Massachusetts Section, American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists

Massachusetts Society of Addiction Medicine

Massachusetts Young People in Recovery

Material Aid and Advocacy Program (MAAP)

Mental Health Legal Advisors Committee

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

MGH Addiction Consult Team

MGH Primary Care Leadership

Smoke Works

South Shore Hospital

Spectrum Health Systems, Inc

Square One

St. Francis House

Tapestry Health

Team Sharing, Inc

Tenten Program

The F8 Foundation

The Megan House Foundation

The Sun Will Rise Foundation, Inc.

UTECH Inc.

Veterans Inc.

Victory Programs

Western Mass Substance Addiction Providers Association

Women and Incarceration Project, Center for Women's Health and Human Rights

YWCA Boston