

# An Overview of Bureau of Substance Abuse Services Prevention Programs



MMA Annual Meeting & Trade Show  
Recent Developments in Addressing the Opioid Crisis  
1-20-17

Andrew Robinson  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health  
Bureau of Substance Abuse Services



# What Do We Do?



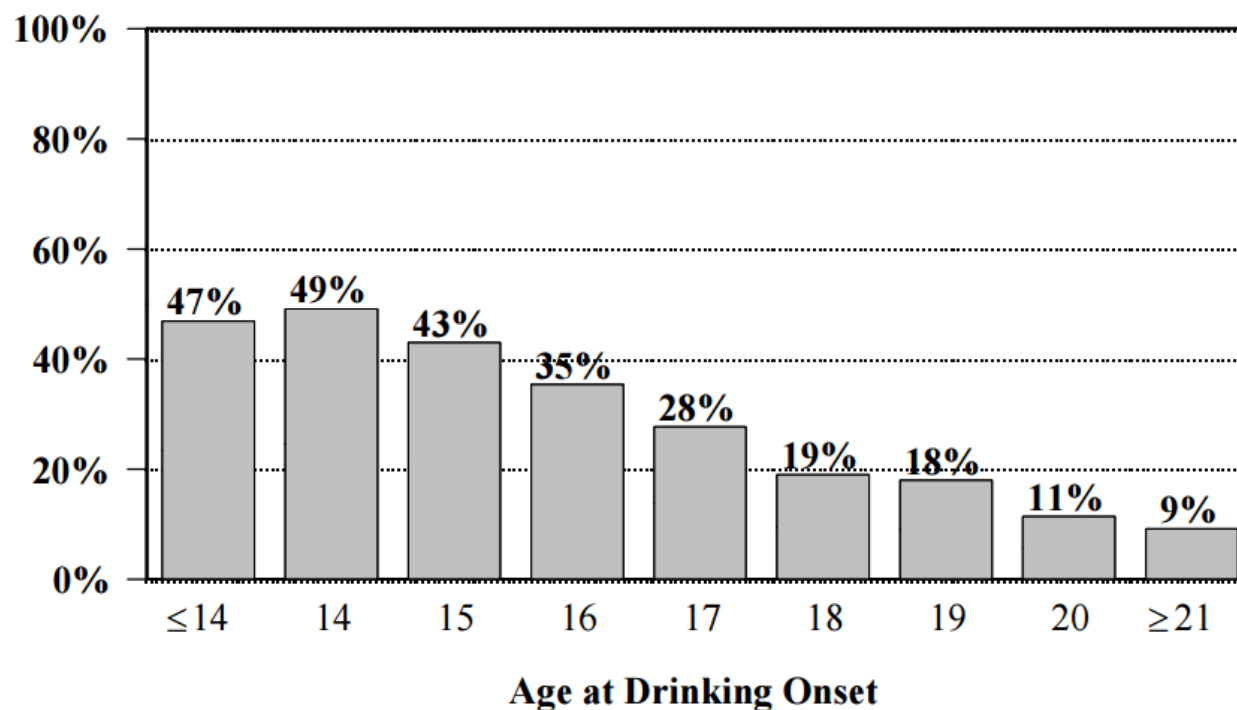
The Department of Public Health's Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) provides leadership and resources for cities and towns across Massachusetts as they work to prevent and reduce substance misuse in their communities.

Priority areas, determined by statewide data, include underage drinking, prescription drug misuse and opioid overdose prevention.



# The Need for Primary Prevention

**Percentage of U.S. Adult Drinkers Who Ever Used Other Drugs Illicitly, by Age at Drinking Onset**  
(N=27,616)

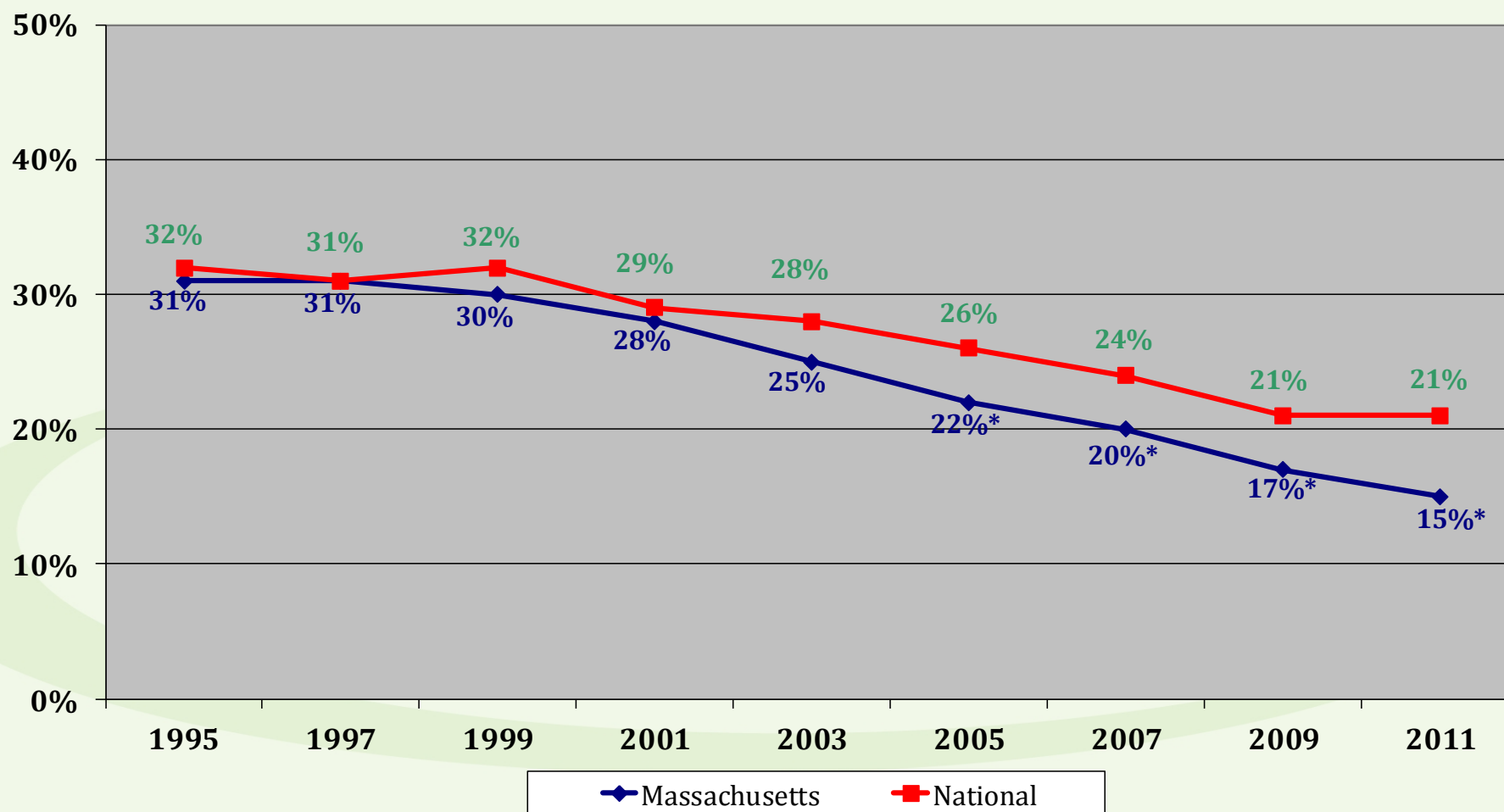


SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Hingson, R.W., Heeren, T., and Edwards, E.M. "Age at Drinking Onset, Alcohol Dependence, and Their Relation to Drug Use and Dependence, Driving Under the Influence of Drugs, and Motor-Vehicle Crash Involvement Because of Drugs," *Journal of Studies on Alcohol and Drugs* 69(2):192-201, 2008.



# The Need for Primary Prevention

## Age of First Alcohol Use in Massachusetts and the United States (Age <13)



Source: Massachusetts YRBS 1995-2011

(\*Indicates significance at a 95% level)



# Prevention is an Investment that Works



## Financial Statement:

- For every dollar invested in research-based prevention programs a savings of up to \$10 in treatment costs alone can be realized.<sup>1</sup>
- Abuse of tobacco, alcohol, and illicit drugs is costly to our Nation, exacting more than \$700 billion annually in costs related to crime, lost work productivity and health care.<sup>2,3</sup>

	Health Care	Overall
Alcohol	\$25 billion	\$224 billion
Illicit Drugs	\$11 billion	\$193 billion

1. NIDA InfoFacts, National Institute on Drug Abuse, National Institutes of Health, U. S. Department of Health and Human Services, February, 2004
2. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Excessive Drinking Costs U.S. \$223.5 Billion. [www.cdc.gov/features/alcoholconsumption/](http://www.cdc.gov/features/alcoholconsumption/). Updated April 17, 2014. Accessed March 9, 2015.
3. National Drug Intelligence Center. National Drug Threat Assessment. Washington, DC: United States Department of Justice; 2011. [www.justice.gov/archive/ndic/pubs44/44849/44849p.pdf](http://www.justice.gov/archive/ndic/pubs44/44849/44849p.pdf) (PDF, 8MB)





# What Does This Mean for You?



The **first step** is understanding the problem  
(We call this the *Assessment Phase* of our grant programs)





# What Does This Mean for You?



- **What kind of information can/should you collect?**
  - Youth Health Assessment (YRBS, CTC, Other)
  - Hospital/Health Data
  - Law Enforcement Data
  - Other archival data
  - Key Informants
  - Focus groups with relevant populations



# What Does This Mean for You?



- **What kind of information can/should you collect?**

## **Consumption and Consequence Data**

- These local data help you define the needs of your community specific to opioid misuse.
- Consumption data describe opioid misuse in terms of the frequency or amount used; these data help you see the usage patterns in your community. For example:
  - Number of youth ages 12–17 reporting current (within the past 30 days) misuse of prescription opioids
  - Number of adults ages 18 and older reporting use of heroin in the past year
  - Number of prescriptions for opioid pain relievers in a given year





# What Does This Mean for You?



- **What kind of information can/should you collect?**

## **Consumption and Consequence Data (Cont'd.)**

- The consequences of opioid misuse include physical and mental health conditions, increased health care use, and increased risk of overdose and death. Consequence data can help you better understand the problem in your community. For example:
  - ED visits involving the use of heroin or prescription opioids
  - Opioid-related hospital discharges
  - Deaths from opioid overdose
  - Opioid-related arrests



# What Does This Mean for You?



- **Why is this important?**

- Supports application for and use of valuable resources.
- Aids in prioritizing needs.
- Informs a thoughtful and purposeful plan.
- Ultimately aids in measuring success.

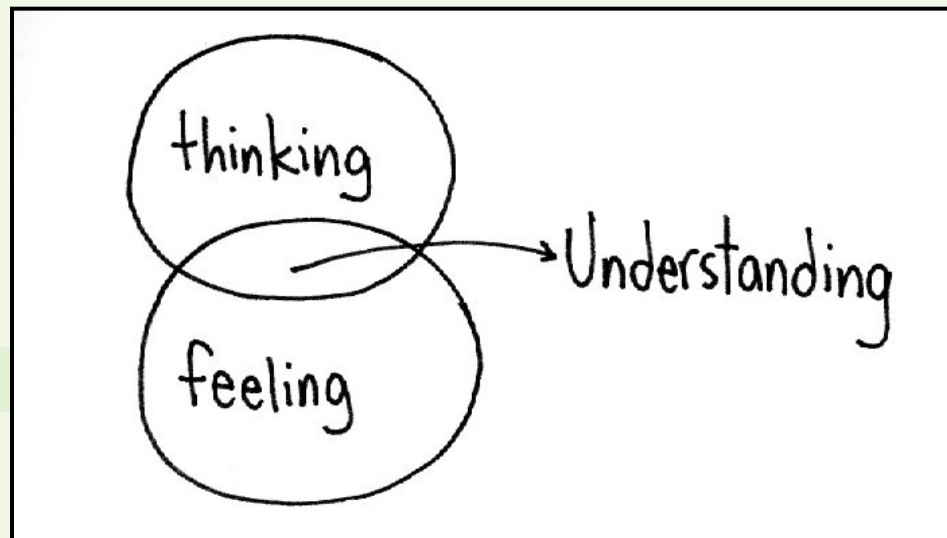




# What Does This Mean for You?



- **How does this actually help address the issue?**
  - Identified interventions are more specific to the particular needs of your community.
  - Interventions are better targeted to those for whom it is most necessary and relevant.
  - Interventions have a specific goal in mind.





# A Few Examples...

- **A Speaker**

- Why might you bring a speaker?
- Who might you have them talk to?
- What do you hope to accomplish?
- How will you know if you accomplished it?
- What does the evidence say?





# A Few Examples...



- **A School-Based Curriculum**

- Why might you implement a curriculum?
- Who might you have it target?
- What do you hope to accomplish?
- How will you know if you accomplished it?
- What does the evidence say?

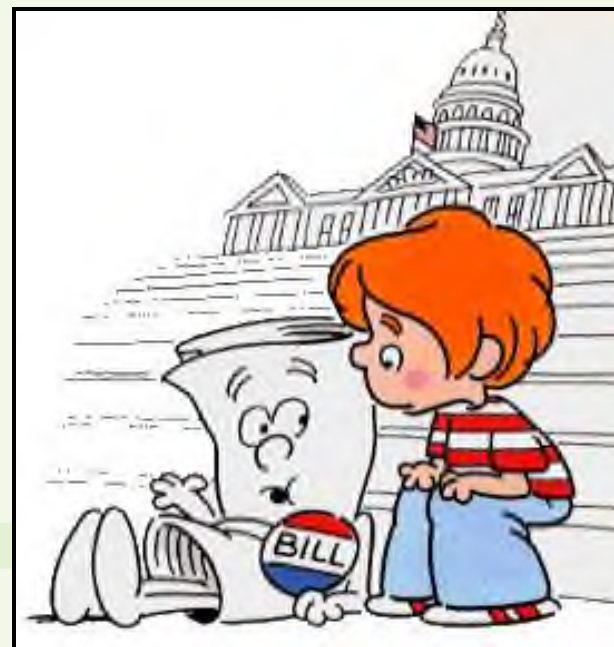




# A Few Examples...

- **A Policy/Practice Change**

- Why might you implement a policy/practice change?
- Who/what will it target?
- What do you hope to accomplish?
- How will you know if you accomplished it?
- What does the evidence say?





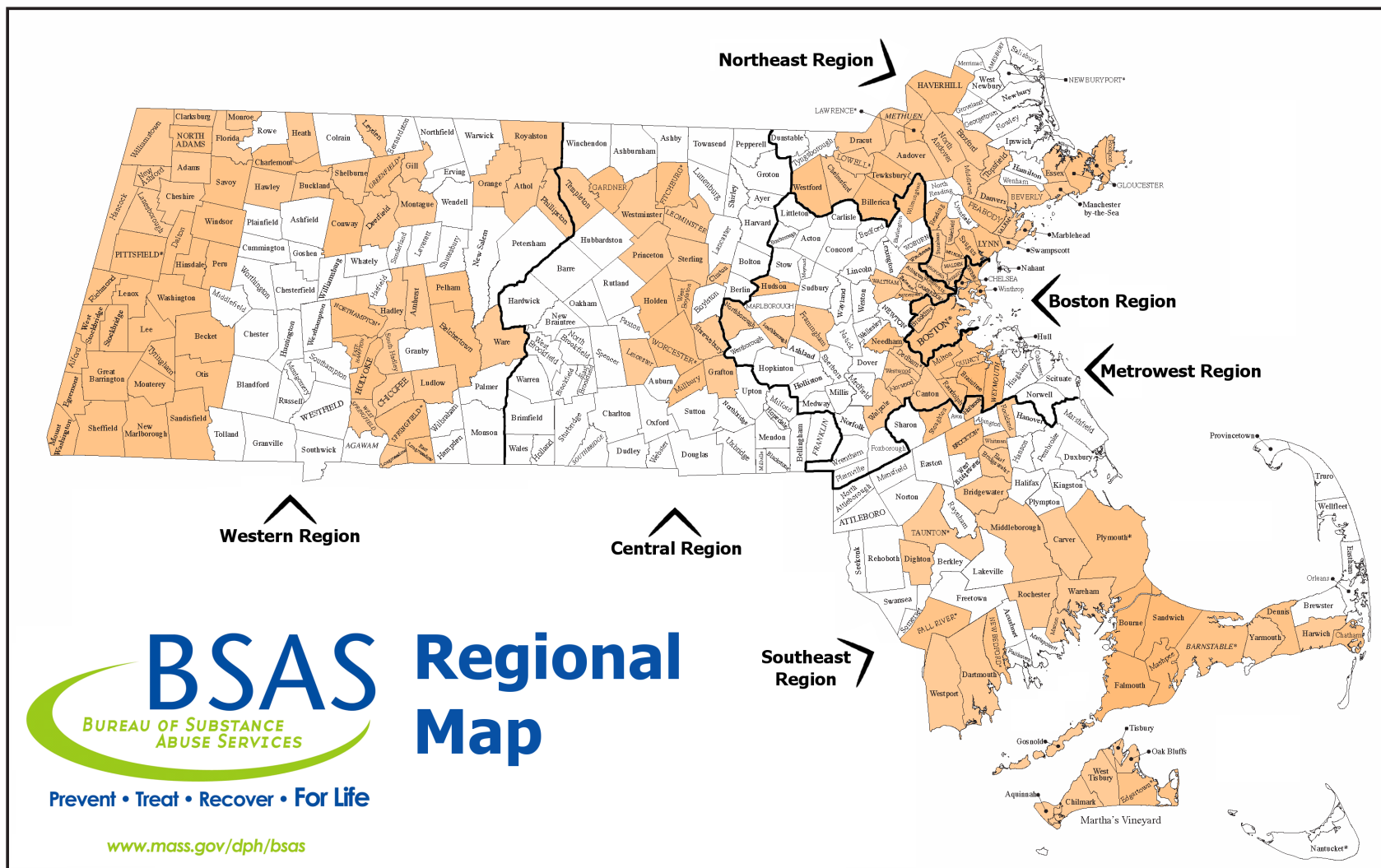
# What and Where Are Our Programs?



- **Massachusetts Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative (MOAPC)**
  - 19 municipal “clusters” (115 cities/towns) focused on *opioid abuse and opioid overdose prevention* (funded until June 2016 and up to June 2020).
- **Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC)**
  - 29 municipal “clusters” (143 cities/towns) *underage drinking and other substance use prevention* (ending in June 2018 and up to June 2022).
- **SAMHSA Partnership for Success 2015 (PFS2015)**
  - 16 cities focused on *prescription drug misuse and abuse prevention* among high school aged youth (ending in September 2020).



# What and Where Are Our Programs?

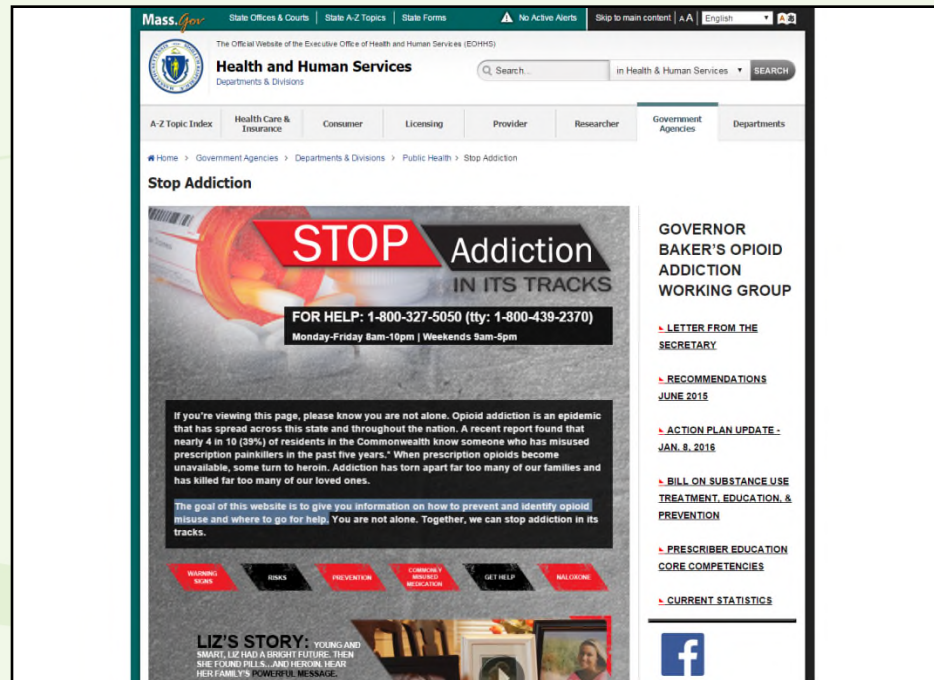
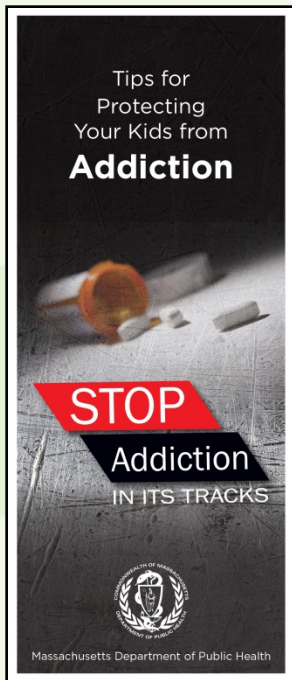




# BSAS “Stop Addiction” Website



- The BSAS “Stop Addiction” website was developed for parents, youth, older adults, and those who serve them. The goal of this website is to make available information on how to prevent and identify opioid misuse and where to go for help.







# BSAS “State Without Stigma” Campaign



- The BSAS “State Without Stigma” campaign was developed to address the stigma surrounding drug misuse that keeps people from seeking treatment by providing resources and facts to help change the dialogue around how the Commonwealth thinks about, talks about and treats people with substance use disorders.







# BSAS Resources for Communities



- **BSAS Website ([www.mass.gov/dph/bsas](http://www.mass.gov/dph/bsas))**
  - Prevention Information
  - Provider Guidelines for Services and Planning
  - Data and Statistics
- **MA Substance Abuse Information and Education Helpline ([www.helpline-online.com](http://www.helpline-online.com))**
  - Treatment and Prevention Services
  - FREE and Confidential Information and Referrals



# BSAS Resources for Communities



- **Massachusetts Health Promotion Clearinghouse**  
([www.mass.gov/maclearinghouse](http://www.mass.gov/maclearinghouse))
  - FREE Substance Abuse Prevention Materials
- **MassTAPP Website** ([www.masstapp.edc.org](http://www.masstapp.edc.org))
  - FREE Prevention Program Planning Tools and Guidance Documents
  - Successful Evidence-Based Strategies and Promising Practices
  - Community Resources
  - Funding Opportunities
  - Webinars, Trainings, and Events



# Contact Information



## Andrew Robinson

*Prevention Program Manager*

Bureau of Substance Abuse Services  
Massachusetts Department of Public Health

[Andrew.Robinson@state.ma.us](mailto:Andrew.Robinson@state.ma.us)