

**Report of the
SJR 73 Study of
Strategies and Models for
Substance Abuse
Prevention and Treatment
Work Groups**

August 18, 2010

SJR 73 Work Groups - Background

- Established pursuant to SJR 318 in 2009
- Work groups included:
 - Treatment & Recovery Models Work Group
 - Prescription Drug Work Group
 - Prevention Work Group
- Three meetings during 2009 to identify and evaluate issues affecting substance abuse treatment and prevention services and to develop recommendations for changes to the existing system of services to reduce the costs of substance abuse to the Commonwealth
- Continued through 2010 by SJR 73

SJR 73 Work Groups – First Meetings

- First meetings held August 10th and 11th
- Reviewed history and purpose of the work groups established by SJR 318 (2009) and continued by SJR 73 (2010)
- Reviewed major topics and recommendations presented to the joint subcommittee in 2009
- Developed study plan for the 2010 interim

SJR 73 Work Groups – Proposed 2010 Work Plan

Recommendation: Combine the Treatment & Recovery Model, Prescription Drug, and Prevention work groups into single work group; use small groups to collect information and develop recommendations on specific topics.

SJR 73 Work Groups – Proposed 2010 Work Plan

- Combined work group will meet as needed to receive and review information on specific topics identified in the work plan, identify priorities, and develop specific recommendations
- Work group will report to the full Joint Subcommittee at each scheduled meeting, present any draft recommendations, and receive direction from the Joint Subcommittee

SJR 73 Work Groups – Proposed 2010 Work Plan

Topics for 2010:

I. Current state service system

- Describe existing state service system
- Identify gaps in service and service needs
- Develop recommendations for addressing service gaps and needs

II. Changes occurring at the federal level

- Describe changes in federal law and policy occurring as a result of federal health care reform and identify opportunities for Virginia resulting from these changes
- Describe potential impacts to the SAPT Block Grant that may result from changes occurring as a result of federal health care reform
- Describe other policy changes occurring at the federal level that may impact substance abuse prevention and treatment services

III. Activities at the state level

- Identify various groups studying substance abuse treatment and prevention services in the Commonwealth, describe activities of these groups, and identify specific topics or issues that may require further study

SJR 73 Work Groups – Proposed 2010 Work Plan

IV. Options for continuing the work of the Joint Subcommittee

- Identify and evaluate options for continuing the work of the Joint Subcommittee and associated work groups after the end of 2010

V. Follow up on topics and recommendations from 2009

- Developing of a full continuum of substance abuse prevention, treatment, and recovery services
- Role of peer-support and recovery services
- Role of drug courts and expansion of the drug court model
- Use and effectiveness of the Prescription Monitoring Program, including interoperability with other states' systems
- Physician, prescriber, and pharmacist education and training related to identifying, treating and preventing substance abuse
- Role of community coalitions in prevention
- Environmental approaches to prevention
- Role of the public schools in substance abuse prevention and treatment for youth, including the impact of the loss of Safe and Drug Free Schools funding and strategies for providing services through schools
- Options for data collection, including a random survey of youth, to identify needs and priorities for substance abuse services
- Options for reducing administrative burden of survey and data collection requirements for localities

SJR 73 Work Groups – Proposed 2010 Work Plan

VI. New items for 2010

- Creation of a clearing house of information about substance abuse prevention, identification, and treatment to be made available to prescribers, pharmacists, and the public
- Potential impacts of classification of prescription drug abuse as a distinct disorder in the DSM 5
- Potential impacts of privatization of alcohol sales
- Potential changes to the existing service delivery system to increase effectiveness and efficiency of substance abuse treatment services