



ACCESS TO RECOVERY

Access to Recovery is a program that plays a crucial role in the ongoing struggle against alcohol and drug dependence. It offers treatment to individuals who have a good chance of recovery. One of the typical characteristics of alcoholism and drug dependence is denial that there is a problem. Since the people served by Access to Recovery are requesting help, they have broken denial and have taken the first major step toward recovery. Timely treatment can prevent the disastrous continuation and escalation of addiction.

Access to Recovery will be the primary resource in Baltimore and surrounding areas for all issues and questions related to alcohol and drug abuse, including family members calling for information, addicted persons calling for information and treatment resources, students calling about research projects, a recovering person calling about getting active in advocacy.

The Program:

- 1 An initiative of NCADD-Maryland founded in 1993 as the first of its kind in the United States. The program has served as a model for other states.**
- 2 Callers work one-on-one with an addictions counselor who helps them navigate an often confusing health care system to find appropriate treatment options.**
- 3 Every call made to the “clearinghouse” receives call back for referral.**
- 4 ATR staff will contact the providers and make arrangements for an appointment for the caller, and or family members.**
- 5 Every referral made is followed-up within one day to determine its success.**
- 6 In the past, there was an average of 125 calls monthly through the ATT program.**
- 7 Follow-up contact indicated that 40% of callers were successful in obtaining appropriate treatment as a result of the referral. This figure compares favorably with national statistics.**
- 8 In the past over 5,000 Marylanders have been served by Access to Treatment since 1993.**

The Need:

In the Baltimore metropolitan area, the proportion of residents in need of treatment is twice the national average for similar urban centers. Baltimore leads the nation in drug-related emergency room visits.

Benefits of ATR:

- 1 ATR will establish our Chapter as a primary resource in Baltimore for information related to alcohol and drug abuse.**
- 2 It will increase our ability to impact people that have been affected by these illnesses**
- 3 It will extend our reach in terms of potential supporters, both in terms of advocacy and fundraising**
- 4 It will help us to capture contact information on persons interested in our cause**