

REPORT OF THE
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
TO STUDY THE PROBLEMS OF
ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

1984 - 1985

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REPORT OF THE
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
TO STUDY THE PROBLEMS OF
ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE
1984 - 1985

To the Honorable Richard W. Riley, Governor of South Carolina and the Honorable Presiding Officers and members of the General Assembly.

The Committee to make a full and complete study of the illicit drug problems in South Carolina with a view to formulating and recommending appropriate legislative proposals for coping with the problem, was created by Concurrent Resolution S-771 of the General Assembly, approved April 24, 1970. The creating resolution authorized the establishment of a nine-member committee to consist of three members from the Senate, three members from the House and three members appointed by the Governor.

The Committee was formally organized on August 31, 1970, and was made a permanent committee on June 22, 1971.

Since the enactment of modernized drug legislation in 1971 and the creation of a permanent drug and narcotics study committee, the members have continuously worked to become knowledgeable and keep abreast of the activities in the areas of drug education, treatment, aftercare, rehabilitation and law enforcement, and in addition to discover for themselves how the interrelationship of these divisions contributes to an effective and meaningful drug program.

On June 14, 1977, legislation was ratified which changed the name of the Committee to The Joint Legislative Committee to Study the Problems of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. The membership was increased from nine members to twelve members, and the Committee has since given the same attention to

alcohol and drug problems as it has previously given to drug problems alone.

Approved and Respectfully Submitted.

SENATE MEMBERS:

Senator J. Verne Smith, Chairman
Senator Nikki Setzler
Senator Peden B. McLeod
Senator Elizabeth J. Patterson

HOUSE MEMBERS:

Representative Joyce Hearn
Representative Parker Evatt
Representative Victor Rawl
Representative Robert Hayes

GOVERNOR'S APPOINTEES:

Mr. Sterling Laney
Mr. Donny Wilder
Mrs. Leslie Harrison
Dr. Gale Caution

The Committee has continuously stayed abreast of the activities of those agencies deeply involved in the alcohol and drug problem. In the following pages is a short synopsis of the activities of these agencies as they reported to the Committee.

JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE
PROBLEMS OF ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

The 1984-1985 legislative years have seen the Committee make notable advancement in legislation. The challenge of keeping abreast of the activities of various State divisions and their interrelationships was met enabling South Carolina to further its goals in relationship to meaningful alcohol and drug legislation and programs.

For 1984 and 1985 Committee emphasis has focused on the involvement of young people in alcohol-related accidents. The Committee was motivated to proceed with legislation after being informed that in other states where the age was raised, after having been lowered, there was twenty-eight per cent reduction in alcohol-related traffic fatalities in age groups under 21. The Committee has continued to research and study the problems of this issue with deliberate concern and effort. Interaction with citizens' action groups was substantial and furthered the Committee's awareness regarding consumption of alcoholic beverages by young people in South Carolina.

The Committee's Annual Report will not suffice as a complete overview of the year's progress. The formulation of legislation from thought, study, drafting, and introduction through the Governor's signature into law cannot portray the complete picture. A fair conception would include being aware of the tremendous interaction between both Houses of the General Assembly, Committee work and interaction with various state offices and agencies. Through the leadership of the Committee, two (2) significant pieces of legislation raising the drinking age for South Carolina youth were enacted.

Act #414 of 1984 raised the age for purchase or possession of beer and wine from 18 to 19 years of age effective January 1, 1984 and from 19 to 20 years of age effective January 1, 1985.

Act #117 of 1985 would raise the purchase age of beer and wine to 21 years of age effective September 14, 1986.

The enactment of this legislation was influenced by the Governor's Committee on Highway Safety, the Attorney General, the South Carolina Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission, the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation, Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Parent Teachers Association.

Significant progress was made through the year on various alcohol and drug related issues. Although efforts were concentrated on the aforementioned legislation, the Committee determines that it will continue to achieve its goal of keeping abreast of the activities of those agencies involved in the alcohol and drug problems in the State.

The following is the 1985 Legislative Session Status Report of Bills introduced regarding Alcohol and Drug Abuse:

1985 Legislative Session Status Report
of Bills introduced regarding
Alcohol and Drug Abuse

1. S.110 (Lee) and H.2155 (Gulledge and others): Would provide that 25 percent of proceeds from forfeiture of items and money seized in drug arrests which presently goes to governing bodies (county councils, etc.) for use in law enforcement or drug rehabilitation would go directly to police to use in enforcement only. Senate Bill in Senate Judiciary, and House bill on 6-5-85 was read the 3rd time and sent to Senate, Senate introduced and referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.

2. S.132 (Theodore, Verne Smith & others) and H.2316 (Fair and others): Would strengthen prohibition against use or the manufacturing of fraudulent identification. Senate bill passed Senate, tabled in House Judiciary. House bill on floor for second reading.

3. H.2017 (Russell and P. Bradley): Establishes new felony crimes of pharmacy robbery, pharmacy larceny and armed pharmacy robbery. On house floor for second reading.

4. H.2025 (Kirsh and T. Bradley): Increase penalty for possession of liquor by persons under 21 from \$25 to \$100 fine to a \$100 to \$200 fine. Passed both houses, sent to Governor. Governor signed 4-2-85. Act #34

5. H.2133 (Klapman and others): Would prohibit consumption of beer, wine and liquor on the State House grounds or in State House. (Referred to Committee on Judiciary)

6. H.2201 (Blackwell): Would repeal temporary Sunday liquor license. In House Judiciary Committee.

7. H.2239 (Wilkins and others): Would redefine paraphernalia and make possession, sale or distribution a criminal act. In House Judiciary Committee.

8. H.2261 (Judiciary Committee): Would raise purchase age of beer and wine to 21 to be effective September 14, 1986. Passed both Houses, sent to Governor, signed into law 5-24-85. Act #117

9. H.2282 (Kirsh and others): Same as S.132. In House Judiciary.

10. H.2296 (Koon and others): Would establish preliminary breath test, body fluid samples, and administrative suspension. In House Judiciary.

11. H.2317 (Fair) and S.247 (Theodore and others): Would eliminate promotional activities such as happy hours. House bill in House Judiciary and Senate bill in Senate Judiciary.

12. S.197 (Fielding and others) Would allow open containers of beer and wine in limousines with partition between driver and passengers. Passed Senate, on House floor for second reading.

13. H.2327 (Gulledge and others) and S.223 (Lee): Would allow searches of houses for illegal liquor during dark. House bill tabled in Committee. Senate bill sent to Governor, signed into law 5-21-1985. Act #92

14. H.2356 (Harvin): Would establish unlawful BAC at the .10 level. In House Judiciary.

15. S.224 (Mitchell): Would require notification of license suspension by certified mail. In Senate Transportation.

16. S.248 (Judiciary): Would make possession of paraphernalia a criminal act. Passed Senate, in House Judiciary. Tabled in Committee.

17. S.313 (Long): Would give one-half of drug fine money to law enforcement. All now goes to Morris Village. In Senate Finance.

18. H.2617 (Gulledge): Would increase from one-half to one mile distance from school for additional penalty for sale of drugs. In House Judiciary.

19. S.436 (Verne Smith and others): Should establish preliminary breath test, administrative suspension and body fluid samples. In Senate Transportation.

20. H.2775 (Harvin): Would restructure crime of driving under suspension. In House Judiciary.

21. H.2782 (Hearn and others): Would make transfer age on all alcoholic beverages 21. In Senate Judiciary.

22. H.2802 (Fair): Would allow for suits under dram shop concept and require license holder to file proof of financial responsibility. In House Judiciary.

23. H.2815 (J. Bradley): Would allow issuance of traffic ticket for operation of watercraft under the influence. In House Judiciary.

24. H. 2831 (Gulledge): Would allow SLED Narcotics Office to execute and serve search warrants, arrest warrants, subpoenas, and summonses. Passed House, sent to Senate. Signed by Governor on 6-7-85. Act #143

25. H.2848 (Woods and others): Instructs Commission on Higher Education to promulgate regulations concerning use of drugs by athletes. On Senate floor for second reading.

26. S.561 (Theodore and others): Would establish a statewide juvenile pretrial program. In Senate Judiciary.

27. S.570 (Applegate and others): Would increase all DUI suspension times by six months. In Senate Transportation.

SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

Last year's State Health Plan identified alcohol and drug abuse problems as South Carolina's number one priority need. In fiscal year 1984-85, the state continued to move forward in its efforts toward the prevention and control of these problems that impact upon so many facets of the lives of our citizens and our communities.

Major achievements of the legislative year included enactment of the bill changing the state's purchase age for beer and wine from 20 to 21 effective September 14, 1986, continuation of the agency's FY86 appropriation of the \$1 million State Block Grant initially funded with supplemental monies for per capita distribution to county alcohol and drug abuse authorities, and enactment of legislation providing that Alcohol and Drug

Safety Action Program clients pay for the cost of their assessment prior to entry into other services, which is expected to provide an additional half million dollars annually in supporting ADSAP services.

Clients served and services provided throughout the state continued to increase thanks to additional appropriations made available by the General Assembly in FY85 for contracting with local programs. However, even with these increases, funds available to the state's alcohol and drug abuse system are not yet able to meet the pressing needs of all communities, and there were no new funds appropriated for FY86. The agency will, therefore, continue to work toward more adequately meeting South Carolina's alcohol and drug abuse needs for increased funding and for legislation under consideration in the General Assembly.

The number of clients seen by the alcohol and drug abuse service-delivery system during FY85 increased by 8 percent over those seen in FY84 (from 33,144 to 35,797). The number of hours of services provided these clients increased by 18.1 percent (from 295,730 to 349,343). It is interesting to note that, since FY78, there has been a 49 percent increase in clients served and a 109 percent increase in service hours provided, even though state funds supporting this system increased only 29 percent (and decreased 17 percent when adjusted for inflation) in the same period. The SCCADA has continued to emphasize prevention programs while continuing to maintain the intervention and treatment programs at optimum levels as possible. The agency anticipates continuing these efforts while seeking also the resources to deal more effectively with the continually increasing public demands, and it looks forward to continuing its relationship with the legislative branch of state government in working together toward these goals.

CLIENTS SERVED AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY COUNTY ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE AUTHORITIES
FY83/84 VERSUS FY84/85

	<u>ADSAP</u>	<u>ScIP</u>	<u>OBI</u>	<u>Occupational</u>	<u>Other Intervention</u>	<u>Voluntary Clients</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number of Clients Served							
FY84	12,605	3,767	4,699	1,372	28	10,671	33,144
FY85	13,369	4,880	4,253	1,365	233	11,697	35,797
% Difference	+6.1	+29.5	-9.5	-0.5	+732.1	+9.6	+8.0
Outpatient Hours							
FY84	142,883	39,873	43,579	7,224	228	61,643	295,730
FY85	157,748	56,859	37,185	7,663	2,900	86,958	349,343
% Difference	+10.4	+42.6	-14.7	+6.1	+117.2	+41.1	+18.1
Residential Days							
FY84	707	77	1,244	303	0	35,297	37,841
FY85	601	24	830	125	0	36,937	38,521
% Difference	-15.0	-68.8	-33.3	-58.7	N/A	+4.6	+1.8
Detox Days							
FY84	179	30	108	31	0	19,187	19,615
FY85	130	0	100	24	0	20,789	21,073
% Difference	-27.4	-100.0	-7.4	-22.6	N/A	+8.3	+7.4
Average Hours Outpatient Service Per Client							
FY84	11.34	10.58	9.27	5.27	8.14	5.78	8.92
FY85	11.80	11.65	8.74	5.61	12.45	7.43	9.76
% Difference	+4.1	+10.1	-5.7	+6.5	+52.9	+28.5	+9.4

SUBSTANCE ABUSE INFORMATION
SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

During fiscal year 1984-85, the South Carolina Department of Corrections continued to provide a range of human services to the inmate population. Services provided in the area of addiction include: (1) initial reception and evaluation screening and evaluation to identify inmates with alcohol and drug problems, (2) individual and group therapy to resolve personal, social, family, adjustment, emotional, or addictions problems, (3) Alcoholic Anonymous Groups, (4) Narcotics Anonymous Groups and (6) placements at the Earle E. Morris Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center for intensive alcohol or drug rehabilitation treatment during the last 60 days of the inmate's incarceration.

The South Carolina Department of Corrections received and assessed 6,750 new inmates during fiscal year 1984-85. The following information represents a summary of inmate self-reports about their substance abuse histories:

A. How was current offense substance abuse related to crime?

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Offense committed while under influence of both alcohol and drugs | 10.5% |
| 2. Offense committed while under influence of drugs only | 8.9% |
| 3. Offense committed while under influence of alcohol only | 22.1% |
| 4. DUI offense | 3.5% |
| 5. Offense instrumental to obtaining drugs | 1.1% |
| 6. Offense involved drug dealing | 4.3% |

B. Percentage of inmates acknowledging convictions in the following categories:

<u>CONVICTIONS</u>	<u>DUI</u>	<u>PUBLIC DRUNK</u>	<u>DRUG OFFENSE</u>
0	68.7%	69.3%	70.0%
1	16.6%	13.0%	19.9%
2	7.3%	5.4%	6.5%
3	3.9%	3.0%	2.3%
4	2.1%	1.7%	.6%
5	1.3%	7.6%	.6%

C. Inmates acknowledge a substance abuse problem?

Yes	35.8%
No	64.2%

Through the Department's Institutional Social Work Services program, consisting of 31 Social Workers, the following services and the number of inmates participating are as follows:

<u>SERVICE</u>	<u>NUMBER OF INMATES PARTICIPATING</u>
1. Alcohol/Drug Education Course	973
2. Alcohol/Drug Group Therapy	238
3. Alcohol/Drug Individual Therapy	126
4. Alcoholics Anonymous Groups	1,185
5. Brief Alcohol/Drug Counseling	237
6. Narcotics Anonymous Groups	665

In order to enhance their training in the area of substance abuse treatment, eight Clinical Social Workers attended the South Carolina School of Alcohol and Drug Studies and 20 Clinical Social Workers attended a two day seminar on Addictions and the Family.

In association with the South Carolina Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, the Department of Corrections is developing a special Drug and Alcohol Education course for inmates. This course will be completed and available for inmates during October, 1985.

There are Alcoholics Anonymous Groups in eleven (11) correctional institutions and Narcotics Anonymous Groups in ten (10) correctional institutions. Community volunteer sponsors conduct such groups.

Fifty-six inmates were placed at Morris Village during their last 60 days of incarceration for intensive alcohol and/or drug treatment.

The Department of Corrections will strive to increase the present level of substance abuse services for fiscal year 1985-86 and work toward increasing services to incarcerated and exiting inmates through cooperating State agencies. Five new Clinical Social Workers will be employed to provide treatment services to Lieber Correctional Institution, and an additional eleven Clinical Social Workers will be employed to improve deficiencies within the existing Statewide Institutional Social Work Services program and to enhance the reception and evaluation of incoming inmates.

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION SUBSTANCE ABUSE EDUCATION

Superintendents in all 92 school districts continued their participation in the Substance Abuse Education Program. Three hour graduate credit courses for 48 teachers were developed in conjunction with the University of South Carolina and the College of Charleston. The two courses were taught on campus and scholarships were provided for participants.

The substance abuse education National Diffusion Network (NDN) grants in eight districts were funded, monitored, and evaluated. These grants were used to fund the Ombudsman Program, The Me-Me Program, and the New Model Me Program. Unit staff

scheduled and monitored all eight training sessions for the eight school districts implementing the substance abuse education NDN programs.

The substance abuse education consultants provided films and printed materials, upon request, for schools during their Alcohol and Narcotics Education Week. They also developed in conjunction with the Office of Instructional Technology two thirty minute tapes for use by teachers and parents of middle school aged students. The tapes were done by Dr. George Orvin, adolescent psychiatrist at the Medical University of South Carolina.

The unit assisted in developing an agreement between the State Department of Education and the South Carolina Commission on Alcohol and Drug Abuse to define each agency's role in the Education Improvement Act regarding the School Intervention Program. The unit also assisted the South Carolina Department of Highways and Public Transportation with the presentation of the "Scared Stiff" program for high schools in South Carolina.

One unit consultant was involved in the Practice Effective Teaching program training which was quite extensive and demanding.

STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

NARCOTICS SECTION . . . The Narcotics Section was formed in 1971 with the advent of legislation charging SLED with enforcement of laws pertaining to the illicit traffic in narcotics and dangerous drugs (Section 44-53-480, South Carolina Code of Laws). The section is given the responsibility for providing investigative assistance to local enforcement agencies and for initiating overt and covert investigations into major narcotic and dangerous drug traffickers operating interstate and intrastate.

The Narcotics Section maintains a close liaison with other state and federal agencies in coordinating investigations against illicit drug traffic and provides intelligence information to these agencies regarding such traffic activity.

There are 27 agents and a supervisor assigned to the section-all working under the direction of the Chemistry Department.

During the Fiscal Year 1984-85, the Narcotics Section received and processed 275 requests for investigations from federal, state and local agencies. These requests for investigations generated 464 investigations by the section.

TOTAL VALUE OF DRUGS PURCHASED
OR SEIZED (ESTIMATE) \$13,148,311.50

STATE TOTALS

<u>Sale/</u>	July-December	January-June
<u>Manufacturing</u>	<u>1984</u>	<u>1985</u>
Opium	419	457
Marijuana	941	893
Synthetic		
Narcotics	4	8
Other Drugs	66	80
 <u>Possession</u>		
Opium	189	227
Marijuana	3,199	3,338
Synthetic		
Narcotics	1	2
Other Drugs	204	175

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
MORRIS VILLAGE

This has been a positive and productive year for Morris Village. Thirteen hundred and ten (1310) residents were admitted during this fiscal year and quality, comprehensive treatment services have continued.

Programatically, the Village administration and staff have continued to assess and modify programs as indicated by resident needs. Toward the end of this fiscal year the new Preparation for Treatment Program which was in its early stages of implementation, will result in a more comprehensive

orientation to and preparation for treatment for newly admitted residents. The Special Treatment and Evaluation Program and the Young Adult Program continue to provide excellent services for those special populations, and the standard treatment program continues to increase the quality of services rendered.

During the past year, the Village's relationship with sister facilities and agencies has continued to improve as we have entered into cooperative agreements and Memoranda of Agreement with other agencies and are renewing existing Memoranda with several Mental Health Centers.

Our Quality Assurance program continues to develop and improve, and has assisted the Village staff in better monitoring of services. During the ensuing year the emphasis on quality assurance will continue, with further emphasis upon utilization review.

Of particular importance has been the opportunity for professional staff of the Village to assist the Deputy Commissioner, Division of Alcohol and Drug Treatment Services, in providing program consultation to other departmental facilities in planning for additional programming for alcohol and drug patients. This has proven to be a valuable experience for both our staff, and those of other facilities.

During this fiscal year, the Village was honored to entertain and orient a visiting group from Colombia, South America. The purpose of the visit was to familiarize these visitors with alcohol and drug treatment efforts and approaches in South Carolina, and particularly in the Department of Mental Health.

Also during the year we had the opportunity to revise our Philosophy of Treatment, and to finalize our facility By-Laws.

Additionally, we were pleased to receive the endorsement of the Commission on Mental Health for the construction of our long-awaited Clinical Conference Area.

Finally, as we approach the new fiscal year with anticipation and excitement, we trust that current

Fine and Forfeiture monies, which support fifty (50) staff positions at Morris Village, will continue to be available for direct services to residents from all areas of South Carolina. Any significant erosion of these funds will, of necessity, result in decreased services to residents and a reduction in available beds.

cc: Jaime Condom, M. D., Interim State Commissioner
Dr. Racine Brown, Assistant State Commissioner

SOUTH CAROLINA
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT

For the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, 1984 has been a year of continued increase in treatment and vocational rehabilitation services to substance abuse clients. Through its two alcohol treatment centers, the Department continued to provide significant rehabilitation services to substance abusers to enable them to remain in or return to gainful employment as tax payers rather than tax recipients.

In order to better serve the private and public sectors, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department has implemented employee intervention programs, statewide. These programs address individual needs of those troubled employees meeting Vocational Rehabilitation eligibility guidelines before they have to be separated from their present employment due to alcohol and substance abuse.

The needs of persons with substance abuse problems are complex, and place considerable demands on South Carolina's treatment network. Whether these persons are unemployed or in danger of losing their employment due to their inability to function without abuse of alcohol and/or drugs, their rehabilitation needs are increasingly being met by the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department, as is indicated in the following comparison table.

SOUTH CAROLINA
VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION DEPARTMENT

FISCAL YEAR	DISABILITY	NEW REFERRALS	CLIENTS RECEIVING SERVICES	CLIENTS REHABILITATED
1980	Drug Addiction/Abuse	320	647	144
	Alcoholism	1,736	3,551	709
1981	Drug Addiction/Abuse	370	729	135
	Alcoholism	1,947	3,715	829
1982	Drug Addiction/Abuse	488	873	188
	Alcoholism	2,211	4,308	939
1983	Drug Addiction/Abuse	564	1,065	243
	Alcoholism	2,120	4,296	1,073
1984	Drug Addiction/Abuse	595	1,136	252
	Alcoholism	2,144	4,251	1,027
Five Year Percentage Increases:				
	Drug Addiction/Abuse	46%	43%	43%
	Alcoholism	19%	16%	31%

SCVR ALCOHOL REHABILITATION CENTERS

An integral part of the Department's rehabilitation response to the needs of persons with vocationally handicapping substance abuse problems is Palmetto Center in Florence and Holmesview Center in Greenville. These two residential alcohol treatment centers, operated by Vocational Rehabilitation, provide clients with a comprehensive program of group and individual therapy; vocational evaluation; adjustment training; psychological evaluation; recreational, family, nutritional, and media therapy; plus religious and A.A. activities. The length of treatment is either 30 or 60 days, depending on the needs of the particular client, and admission is on a voluntary basis.

Additionally, both centers conduct extensive outpatient services in the form of weekly group therapy sessions for family members of current and past residents, and after-care therapy groups as follow-up for residents who have completed their inpatient treatment. The services of the Centers'

programs also include training opportunities on alcoholism and alcohol treatment which are extensively utilized as part of the curriculum in nursing education programs by community treatment and rehabilitation individuals, employers, and other interested groups.

Referrals to the centers come from human service agencies and interested Individuals all over South Carolina. These referrals are coordinated through the local Vocational Rehabilitation counselor in the referral's home community to provide initial evaluation and establish a service relationship with the referral prior to admission to treatment so that follow-up services leading to successful job placement, continued sobriety, and participation in some form of after-care therapy can occur with more effective results. This continuous service relationship provides a unique approach to the successful rehabilitation of this significant vocationally impaired client population.

In FY 1984, Palmetto Center in Florence provided residential treatment services to 493 clients, whose average length of stay was 29 days, with total client service days of 13,604. Also, 776 treatment hours of group therapy were rendered in the Family and Ex-Resident Programs.

During this same year, Holmesview Center in Greenville served 353 clients whose average stay was 33 days, totaling 10,767 total client days of service. Also, 782 treatment hours of therapy were provided to families and ex-residents in the Non-Resident Program.

In addition, the South Carolina Vocational Rehabilitation Department continues to operate a program in cooperation with the South Carolina Mental Health Department at the Earle E. Morris, Jr., Alcohol and Drug Addiction Center. This program provides vocational evaluation, adjustment training, counseling, and referral to local Vocational Rehabilitation counselors for job placement and follow-up services. During 1984, Vocational Rehabilitation services were provided 595 Morris Village residents with 310 referred for

follow-up services by Vocational Rehabilitation offices throughout the state and 101 were provided follow-up services after discharge by the Morris Village Vocational Rehabilitation staff.

In addition to this network of specialized facilities and programs, Vocational Rehabilitation has, functioning in the majority of its local areas, counselors who specialize in Vocational Rehabilitation services to substance abuse clients. These specialty counselors provide services as well as provide liaison with other agencies, such as substance abuse commissions, for coordinated service efforts to this population. In some areas these specialty counselors even operate ongoing group counseling sessions for substance abusers, in order to help them either gain or maintain gainful employment.