

IC&RC and NAADAC will share information to all affected by the on-going merger discussions

For Immediate Release - Alexandria, VA

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Members of the National Certification Commission (NCC) of NAADAC, The Association for Addiction Professionals, the International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium (IC&RC) and the Society of Credentialed Addiction Professionals (S.CAP) announced their commitment to share as much information as possible in discussions on unifying their independent credentials for addiction counselors into one national credential. Representatives met from July 29th to 31st, 2005 in Alexandria, Virginia, to assess the merger's progress, develop a business plan and to ensure that all those in the addiction profession had access to timely and accurate information on the process.

Beginning on Monday, August 8, 2005, a section will be added to the NAADAC (www.naadac.org) and IC&RC (www.icrcaoda.org) websites outlining frequently asked questions. Both sites will be updated as the discussions progress.

"We recognize this process is not simply about merging credentials, but that it has an impact on people's livelihoods. We are committed to sharing as much information about our discussions as is possible," said NAADAC President Mary R. Woods, RNC, LADC, MSHS and IC&RC President Jeff Wilbee, CAE.

The representatives were pleased with the progress of the discussions and wanted to acknowledge the questions being asked by individual credential holders, as well as local, state and international certification boards.

"IC&RC and NAADAC are working to ensure that all people involved will retain their credential status, their member benefits and a powerful voice for the addiction profession," emphasized Wilbee and Woods. "We would like to thank the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (SAMHSA/CSAT) and Partners for Recovery for their support of these discussions and for the unification of the addiction profession."