“Our destiny is ruled by people who don’t know what we do!”

Grace Davis, LCSW

“When we are silent we allow others to define us.”
Tips for a Successful Visit

- Get to know your legislator
  - Review their Congressional website
- Know where you are going! Be on time!
- More than one person?
  - Designate who will discuss what issues
- Introduce yourself/yourselves

BRING THE TOPIC HOME
- As you go through leave behind packet – how do these issues play out in the District
- Have specific examples & FACTS
- What’s important to them – consider your audience.
### Senate Office Buildings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Russell (SR)</th>
<th>Dirksen (SD)</th>
<th>Hart (SH)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Numbering System</strong></td>
<td>All rooms are three digits, the first digit including floor number and a prefix indicating office building</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Example</strong></td>
<td>Sen. Harry Reid’s office, SH 522, is located on the fifth floor of the Hart building</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Inside the House Office Buildings

- Use the floor plans below to orient yourself once inside House office buildings; the floor plans are identical for different floors within the same building.
- To identify offices, keep in mind that the first digit identifies the building (three digit numbers are in Cannon, four digit numbers starting with 1 are in Longworth, and four digit numbers starting with 2 are in Rayburn), the next number indicates building floor, and the last two numbers indicate specific office.
- For example, Room 2255 is on the second floor of Rayburn.

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Map of House Office Buildings

- Independence Avenue
- Rayburn
  - 2#79 to 2#88
  - 2#07 to 2#16
  - 2#00 to 2#06
  - 2#41 to 2#54
  - 2#30 to 2#40
- Longworth
  - 1#37 to 1#41
  - 1#24 to 1#36
- Cannon
  - #34 to #41

- Underground Tunnels
- S. Capitol Street
- C Street SW & SE
Bring the Issues Home

How prevalent are services/providers?

Addiction Treatment Providers in the 21st District
Over 500 licensed treatment beds; Over 800 licensed outpatient slots; Over 800 employees

La Hacienda Treatment Center, Hunt
135 bed licensed treatment center – detox, intensive residential, PHP*
183 employees

Starlite Recovery Center, Center Pointe
132 bed licensed treatment center – detox, intensive residential, PHP
150 employees

Serenity House, Fredericksburg
32 bed licensed treatment center – intensive residential, PHP
17 employees

Awakenings Hill Country, Fredericksburg
19 bed licensed treatment center – detox, intensive residential
20 employees

Methodist Specialty & Transplant Hospital, San Antonio
Substance Use Disorder unit in larger medical hospital – detox, PHP, IOP*

Ripple Ranch Recovery, Spring Branch
16 bed licensed treatment center – detox, intensive residential
32 employees

Laurel Ridge Treatment Center, San Antonio
252 bed psychiatric hospital with addiction treatment services – detox, PHP, IOP

Austin Recovery Drug & Alcohol Treatment Center, Buda
83 bed licensed treatment center – intensive residential + 120 Outpatient slots
93 employees
SUBSTANCE ABUSE TRENDS IN TEXAS 2017
A Report to the National Drug Early Warning System (Revised 11/6/2017)
Jane Carlisle Maxwell, Ph.D.
Addiction Research Institute
School of Social Work

Highlights

- Methamphetamine remains the major drug threat, according to half of the 18 DEA offices in Texas. There were 715 deaths due to methamphetamine in Texas in 2016, as compared with 539 due to heroin. Key indicators are far higher than when the drug was made from pseudoephedrine, and with the phenyl-2-proponone method, the drug is now 95% potent. Seizures at the Texas–Mexico border have increased by 103% since 2014. Methamphetamine in solution (“Liquid Meth”), which is easier to transport into the United States, is increasing and the price of methamphetamine has dropped by half. The relationship between methamphetamine and HIV is increasing, with the proportion of HIV cases resulting from men having sex with men now as high in Texas as it was in 1987 when HIV data were first reported.

- Heroin indicators are varied. Seizures along the Texas–Mexico border decreased 2%, although DEA-reported Mexican opium production is increasing to sustain the increasingly high levels of demand in the United States. Texas has not yet suffered the epidemic of overdoses seen in the northeast
Bringing Home the Issues

- Funding needs
- 42 CFR Part 2 & Confidentiality
- Addiction Workforce
- Legal Marijuana
- Patient brokering, others ethics issue
Don’t be Disappointed, Staff Members are Key!

“Staffers function as the legislators’ key information sources. They are exactly the right people to establish relationships with.”

- Rebecca Farley, Sr. Director of Policy & Advocacy for National Council for Behavioral Health
Tips for a Successful Visit

- Be brief, expect about 15 minutes
- Be smart, don’t make things up!
- Be gone! AFTER you ask for support for XXX.

- Non-partisan, singleness of purpose

- Emphasize YOU are their best resource
  - Show yourself to be knowledgeable & resourceful
  - Get their contact info, give them yours.

- Thank them for for their time!
The secret of advocacy .....
General ideas to weave into your message ...

- The right message, right messenger, right time.
  - HR 6 passed – how has it impacted you? What needs are still not being met?
- Connect behavioral health with overall health
  - Healthcare was a pretty universal campaign issue
- Prevention, treatment, recovery support are ALL good investments
- Why does this matter, why does it matter to you?
Your involvement makes a **BIG** impact!

One Phone Call = 50 Voters
One Email = 100 Voters
One Personal Visit = 500 voters
And of course

Let us know how we can help!

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