

## Access To Recovery II (ATR)

ATR is a pilot program that provides vouchers to pay for services or purchase needed items to help eliminate barriers to recovery. An eligible client can access needed services ranging from transitional housing to work boots. Purchases are made with vouchers and are based on a person's specific need.

In December 2007, Dr. Terry Cline, Administrator for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), presented the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services' (DSHS) Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA) with a second grant to provide transportation, housing and other support for Washington residents recovering from alcohol or other drug addiction.

"Providing people who have substance abuse problems with choices regarding their treatment and recovery supports makes sense," said SAMHSA Administrator Terry Cline, Ph.D. "It helps empower them from the very beginning in the fight for their life. Access to Recovery provides individuals the flexibility needed to find their own path to recovery."

Increased choice protects individuals and encourages quality.

The goal of this voucher program is to expand capacity, support client choice, and increase the array of faith-based and community-based providers for clinical treatment and recovery support services. Individuals with recent history of methamphetamine use or incarceration will be prioritized for enrollment. DASA has also added priority for National Guard and military veterans returning from service in Iraq or Afghanistan who are in need of recovery support services

The first ATR grant helped more than 11,000 people in Washington receive treatment and recovery support services, exceeding the target of 9,900 people. Compared to patients who did not receive ATR services, ATR contributed to higher treatment completion rates, higher employment rates and earnings, and fewer arrests.

The new grant for approximately \$13.9 million will be available through 2010. Families will work with assigned recovery support specialists to develop recovery plans that identify the help they need to achieve and maintain recovery. The goal is to serve 6500 recovering individuals.

ATR II will be implemented in the same six counties that participated in ATR I: Clark, King, Pierce, Snohomish, Spokane and Yakima.

Visit SAMHSA's Access To Recovery for more information <http://www.atr.samhsa.gov/>.

DASA has issued a [Final Report](#) to summarize the achievements of ATR I.

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<http://www1.dshs.wa.gov/word/hrsa/dasa/GB/APPNDXR.doc>

SAMHSA Press release

<http://www.dhhs.gov/news/press/2007pres/09/pr20070920a.html>

DASA News release

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/mediareleases/2007/pr07120.shtml>

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