

## Recovery Month—Fast Facts

2011

### The Economic Costs of Substance Use and Mental Disorders

- After individuals receive treatment for their substance use disorder, total medical costs per patient per month are cut in half—from \$431 to \$200
- For every \$1 invested in treatment, taxpayers save at least \$7.46 in costs to society.
- Less than 10% of people with substance use disorders receive treatment, at a societal cost of over \$300 billion annually
- Substance use disorders cost employers more than \$100 billion annually through increased accidents, increased health care claims and lost productivity.
- The annual economic cost of mental health problems is estimated to be at least \$79 billion. Most of this (\$63 billion) reflects the cost of lost productivity in the workplace.
- In Washington State, among adults surveyed for the **Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System** in SFY 2009, 10.5% reported that, in any of the past 30 days, a mental health condition or emotional problem kept them from doing their work or other usual activities.

Prevention Works ~Treatment is Effective ~People Recover

Source:  
SAMHSA Recovery Month  
Toolkit  
[www.recoverymonth.gov](http://www.recoverymonth.gov)

  
Washington  
Recovery Help Line  
24-Hr Help for Substance Abuse, Problem Gambling & Mental Health  
866-789-1511  
[www.waRecoveryHelpLine.org](http://www.waRecoveryHelpLine.org)