

# Public Support for Health Interventions

- 88% of Americans say treatment is extremely or very important to helping people get better.
- 82% believe that, like diabetes, addiction is a health condition that requires ongoing attention and support.
- 87% see treatment as an ongoing process, sometimes needing more than one period of treatment.

*Lake Research Survey, July 2009*

# CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM FLOODED WITH LOW-LEVEL NON-VIOLENT DRUG POSSESSION OFFENDERS

According to SAMHSA, in 2007:

- 57 % of people entering treatment for marijuana were referred by the CJ system.
- Of total MJ treatment admissions, 37% of people reported not having consumed MJ in the previous 30 days.
- Another 16 % reported having consumed MJ just 3 or fewer times in the month prior to their admission.

*TEDS 2009 Report: <http://www.dasis.samhsa.gov/teds08/teds2k8natweb.pdf> (Table 3: <http://oas.samhsa.gov/TEDS2k7highlights/TEDSHighl2k7Tbl3.htm>)*

# To Treat or Not To Treat:

## Evidence on the Prospects of Expanding Treatment to Drug-Involved Offenders

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- **88 % OF DRUG COURTS EXCLUDE PEOPLE WITH ANY HISTORY OF VIOLENT OFFENDING;**
- **69 % EXCLUDE PEOPLE WITH CO-OCCURRING SUBSTANCE AND MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES;**
- **50 % EXCLUDE PEOPLE CURRENTLY ON PROBATION OR PAROLE;**
- **49 % EXCLUDE PEOPLE WITH PRIOR TREATMENT HISTORY.**

# NEEDED “FIXES” FOR DRUG COURTS

- LIMIT ADMISSION TO SERIOUS OFFENDERS / HARD CASES (STOP CHERRY-PICKING CLIENTS)
- INSURE ADEQUATE TREATMENT, ESPECIALLY ACCESS TO NARCOTIC REPLACEMENT THERAPY (METHADONE, BUPRENORPHINE)
- USE DRUG TESTS SOLELY AS A TREATMENT TOOL

# FEWER DOLLARS FOR INJUSTICE + MORE DOLLARS FOR JUSTICE

Re-Direct federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grants from law enforcement to drug treatment / alternative sentencing schemes - including drug courts

# RE-DIRECTING BYRNE GRANT FUNDS – CALIFORNIA

- In 2009, \$90M in Byrne/JAG funds were directed to treatment and probation
- In 2010, an estimated \$35M will come to California

*(See Handout and Contact Info for Margaret Dooley-Sammuli)*

# *CREATE CONTINUUM OF INTERVENTIONS UNDERNEATH DRUG COURT*

- **COMMUNITY-BASED TREATMENT TO NVDPO'S OUTSIDE OF CJ SYSTEM WITH INSURANCE PARITY DOLLARS.**
- **ADOPT PRE-PLEA DIVERSION - IF SHOW X,Y.Z, BY CERTAIN DATE, THEN CASE GOES AWAY.**
- **POST-PLEA/CONVICTION DIVERSION – PROBATION FOR LOW LEVEL TO INTERMEDIATE RISK OFFENDERS.**



## **Downscaling Prisons**

Lessons from Four States

New York, Michigan, New Jersey and Kansas expanded access to treatment to control prison growth.