



# GATHER/GTHHSC Substance Abuse Committee June 2005 Fact Sheet

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**Student Drug Testing** - MA Governor Romney's administration is calling on the state legislature to provide funding for public schools that want to initiate student drug testing. Salem and New Bedford are the only 2 towns in MA that are considering student drug testing. Also, \$9.1 million in additional funding to provide detoxification service for up to 8,000 state residents.

**Needle Exchange** – On April 25, the Westport, MA BOS voted unanimously to begin a needle exchange program, but 3 days later, public backlash caused the board to reverse its decision, as well as ban any future needle-exchange program in the town.

**Herb Helps Curb Binge Drinking** – Volunteers were told to spend a 90 minute session drinking beer and watching TV. (Incidentally, the hospital had no trouble finding volunteers for the study, which required them to hang out in an “apartment” complete with television, recliner and fridge stocked with beer.) Those who took kudzu pills drank an average of 1.8 beers per session, compared with the 3.5 beers consumed by those who took a placebo.

**Campaign to Stop Teen Drinking Parties** – In Portland, ME, the District Attorney prepared letters for parents of high schoolers, produced public service announcements for radio and television, and informed her office that it will be cracking down on adults who provide alcohol or venues for alcohol parties to children. She plans to pursue jail time for adults who are caught providing a place for teens to drink. (A Limington mother was sentenced to 30 days in jail and paid a \$1,000 fine for providing alcohol to kids at her son's birthday party. Rhode Island is doing a similar campaign.

**Steroids v. Alcohol** – Alcohol, not steroids, is most glorified by sports leagues and kills more kids each year than every other drug combined. (1,400 college students die each year from alcohol-related injuries)

**Substance Abuse Services Publications** are found at [www.mass.gov/dph/bsas/pubs.htm](http://www.mass.gov/dph/bsas/pubs.htm)

## **Evaluation Tools Websites:**

[www.evaluation.inforum.cdc.gov](http://www.evaluation.inforum.cdc.gov) (On-line evaluation resources)

[www.globalhivaluation.org](http://www.globalhivaluation.org) (Slides and video presentations as a toolbox of relevant documents and materials)

[www.apa.org/pi/aids/introprogrameval.html](http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/introprogrameval.html) (American Psychological Association)

[www.ctb.ku.edu](http://www.ctb.ku.edu) (University of Kansas Community Tool Box – Also working on Spanish version)

[www.utsouthwestern.edu/utsw/cda/dept156726/files/181124.html](http://www.utsouthwestern.edu/utsw/cda/dept156726/files/181124.html) (Rapid assessment resources)

[www.urban.org/nnip/](http://www.urban.org/nnip/) (National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership)

[www.ttac.org/power-of-proof/index.html](http://www.ttac.org/power-of-proof/index.html) (Power of Proof)

[preventionpathways@samsha.gov](mailto:preventionpathways@samsha.gov) (Interactive)

[www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/dhap/selection.asp](http://www.cdcnpin.org/scripts/dhap/selection.asp) National Prevention Information Network)

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