

FOIA MARKER

**This is not a textual record. This is used as an
administrative marker by the William J. Clinton
Presidential Library Staff.**

Collection/Record Group: Clinton Presidential Records
Subgroup/Office of Origin: National AIDS Policy Office
Series/Staff Member: Kristine Gebbie
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 8301
FolderID:

Folder Title:
[Conference Report NIDA [National Institute on Drug Abuse] Drug Abuse Research Conference]
[loose]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
S	66	5	2	2

file
Substance abuse

CONFERENCE REPORT
NIDA DRUG ABUSE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

OVERVIEW AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The conference was well attended by research scientists, physicians, however, the seminars and workshops relating to HIV/AIDS issues were not well attended and those that related to HIV/AIDS and women had even a lower attendance. The HIV, Drug Abuse and Women Issue table at the Thursday luncheon had only three people plus the moderator, while other tables were filled.

Policy Implication: We need to continue to push women's health issues especially as they relate to drug use and HIV, and to stress the connection between, drugs and the heterosexual transmission of HIV.

Dual diagnosis is becoming more prevalent. This is not because there are more drug users with underlying depression and anxiety disorders but because these disorders are being recognized and treated. The prognosis for drug users who are treated simultaneously for their drug dependence and their psychiatric problems is far more favorable than the prognosis of those drug users whose psychiatric problems are not treated. Whether the depression and anxiety symptoms existed before the addiction or are the result of the addiction is inconsequential. Policy Implication: In designing programs for drug abuse treatment, we should incorporate funding for treating underlying psychological problems. It is more cost effective that treating repeating relapses. Even treatment of some of the more severe psychiatric conditions such as schizophrenia and bi-polar disease in addicts is possible and advisable. Policy Implication: PLWA's dual diagnosed with drug addiction and psychiatric problems are being housed in HIV housing because they have been dismissed from their half-way houses. The half-way houses do not allow persons with psychiatric conditions to remain in residence. The skills needed to cope with drug addicted, mentally ill, patients with AIDS is often far beyond the abilities of the HIV/AIDS housing staff. Policy Implication: We need to assure that properly trained people are the caretakers in housing situations where dual diagnosed persons are living. Standard qualifications should be developed for group homes with tenants who have multiple needs.

OTHER POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Policy implication: WE NEED TO BUILD THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE HIV AND IDU COMMUNITIES. THIS COULD BE DONE AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL BETWEEN THE AIDS CZAR AND THE DRUG CZAR. ACCORDING TO DON DES JARLAIS, THE NEW AIDS ACTIVISM WILL DEMAND POLITICAL ACCOUNTABILITY FOR DRUG ABUSE ISSUES..THIS IS THE NEW ACTION AGENDA.