



State of New Jersey

GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE
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GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE TO HOST 20TH ANNUAL SUMMIT

Trenton (September 7, 2011) ... The Governor's Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse announces its 20th Annual Summit will be held this Friday, September 9th at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. The Council expects more than 600 attendees to celebrate National Recovery Month; participate in cutting-edge workshops; and, to recognize twenty-one County Volunteers of the Year. Attendees will converge on the Summit from throughout the State and are volunteers of local anti-drug coalitions and others who have taken the lead in addressing New Jersey's number one public health concern, alcoholism and drug abuse.

This year the Council will also recognize the first-ever recipient of the W. Cary Edwards State Volunteer of the Year Award. His wife, Lynn Edwards, will present the Award.

Edwards, who passed away last year, played an important role in the Council's enactment in 1989 while Attorney General in the Governor Thomas Kean Administration. It was also Edwards' vision to create a network of community-based efforts to address alcoholism and drug abuse, the Alliance to Prevent Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Program, and a dedicated fund for it, the Drug Enforcement and Demand Reduction Fund. His vision has been replicated throughout the United States and resulted in 402 Municipal Alliances being currently active in the State, the largest network of anti-drug coalitions in the country.

The Council has been charged by the Christie Administration to create a "Blueprint for a Drug-Free New Jersey – 2020" which is to be an action plan to address the State's future delivery of substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery services. The Council has also been charged with bringing focus to New Jersey's heroin and other opiate use epidemic amongst its youth.

The Council leads efforts to plan for and coordinate New Jersey's addiction prevention, treatment and prevention policy and services. It also administers the State's \$10 million Municipal Alliance Program, the largest network of community-based anti-drug coalitions in the nation with 7,000 volunteers serving on 402 Alliances encompassing 529 municipalities statewide which provided more than 3,500 anti-drug programs in 2010.

Conference details: Hyatt Regency Princeton, 102 Carnegie Center, Princeton
9:30 to 10:30am – Keynote Speaker, County Volunteers of the Year Recognition
12:15 to 12:30pm – Lynn Edwards presentation State Volunteer of the Year

To learn more about the Summit and the Volunteers of the Year visit the Council's Facebook page, facebook.com/gcada.newjersey or its Summit website, www.state.nj.us/treasury/gcada/summitportal.shtml.