

# Road to Recovery



## NCADD-NJ's Road to Recovery Campaign

NCADD-NJ's Road to Recovery Campaign is a grassroots effort to highlight public policies that help individuals overcome addiction or mental illness through life-saving intervention, education, and treatment, as well as remove common barriers to living healthy lives in recovery. Addiction is a disease that touches many lives. Taking a comprehensive public health approach to this growing problem is urgent.

NCADD-NJ has identified legislation that can save lives and encourage those struggling with addiction or mental health issues to get well and become, like many in recovery, productive members of our communities. Finding and sustaining recovery can be hard, so focusing on policies that make long term recovery easier is a cause worth fighting for with your grassroots support.

Advocates already have grassroots victories for the Road to Recovery Campaign. The following bills have become law with the work of our dedicated advocates.

## ROAD TO RECOVERY CAMPAIGN VICTORIES!

**A.471** permits automatic expungement for individuals completing drug court.

**A.2292/S.372** mandates substance misuse instruction developed in the state Department of Education for the Core Curriculum.

**S.384** requires jails and prisons to supply medications to inmates for chronic illnesses.

**S.383** trains certain doctors in jails and prison on dealing with people with addictions.

**A.2334/S.295** allows anyone to get naloxone without a prescription.

**S.1687** (adopted) provides for issuance of certificate of work suitability to certain offenders including those with substance use disorders.



For more information and status of the "Road to Recovery" campaign visit [www.ncaddnj.org](http://www.ncaddnj.org)

## Here is a list of bills advocates are working on in the ongoing Road to Recovery Campaign

### Addressing Addiction in Young People:

*Addiction and overdoses are preventable. Addiction and overdoses are on the rise in young people. Helping our young people where they are being educated is urgent and can save lives.*

**S.491** requires public and non public secondary schools to annually conduct written or verbal substance use screening on all students using a particular screening program (SBIRT).

**A.542/S.1830** requires high schools to stock naloxone, authorizes school nurses to administer, and provides them with legal indemnification.

### Removing Barriers & Expanding Recovery Support in our Communities:

*Once an individual is on the **Road to Recovery** there are obstacles. These bills will help remove common barriers and establish communities and policies where people in recovery can thrive.*

**A.1467** facilitates the establishment of four new peer-to-peer Recovery Community Centers.

**A.3456/S.2100** (with amendments) removes prohibition on voting by persons convicted of indictable offense who are on parole, probation, or incarcerated.

### Addressing Addiction Recovery and Mental Health Together:

*The majority of people struggling with addiction also struggle with a mental health issue. Stigma of those struggling has led to discriminatory policies, and the need for additional education and tactics to help those on the front lines of addressing these illnesses in our communities.*

**A.2031/S.1339** ensures health insurance coverage for behavioral health care services and enhances oversight and enforcement of mental health and addiction parity laws.

**A.216** requires police training for interactions with persons who may have behavioral health issues.

### Treat Addiction as a Health Condition:

*We must continue to take a comprehensive health approach to the addiction crisis. Here are a few bills that would assist in prevention, treatment and recovery efforts as a health issue.*

**S.1756** requires health benefits coverage for buprenorphine and naloxone under certain conditions.

**A.3292/S.2244** requires prescription opioid medications include warning sticker advising patients of the risk of addiction and overdose



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