

## Network for the Improvement of Addiction Treatment (NIATx)

### *What is it?*

NIATx helps addiction treatment providers improve access and retention in treatment for all of their clients. This is primarily accomplished by helping treatment providers use process improvement methods to achieve the four NIATx aims:

- Reduce days between a first contact and treatment admission
- Increase admissions
- Enhance continuation between and within levels of care and
- Reduce no-shows



Research shows that access to and retention in treatment are the greatest predictors of successful recovery outcomes. The four NIATx aims offer providers effective ways to plan for, institute, and measure improvements in client access and retention. They also promote a culture of quality improvement within treatment organizations which often leads to increased revenue and cost savings, improving the bottom line.

### *Outcomes:*

Nationally, over the last four years NIATx members have realized significant improvements in all of the following areas:

- 34 percent reduction in waiting times
- 33 percent reduction in no-shows
- 21 percent increase in admissions
- 22 percent increase in treatment continuation

Initial evaluations from Oregon's NIATx initiative has found a mean 37% reduction in days to admission (from 19.6 to 12.4 days) and an 18% improvement related to service continuation from the first to the second session of care (from 72% to 85%) (McCarty, et al, Drug and Alcohol Dependence, 88, 2007, 138-145).

## ***NIATx 200***

NIATx 200 is a five-year randomized control trial that seeks to identify the most cost-effective approaches for introducing quality improvement initiatives based upon the NIATx intervention model. This project involves 200 provider organizations across five states – Massachusetts, Michigan, New York, Oregon and Washington. Oregon has thirty-one provider sites participating, which together serve over 7,000 clients each year. Earlier research, including two Oregon providers, shows that it increases the numbers of people with addictions admitted to treatment, decreases waiting times and reduces no-shows, resulting in greater efficiencies and outcomes from public funded programs.

### **Oregon Successes**

#### ***Best Care Treatment Services: Redmond, Oregon***

Through proven motivational techniques, Best Care professionals help clients identify the outcomes that are most important to them. Read more at [www.oregon.gov/DHS/addiction/niatx/bestcare1family.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/DHS/addiction/niatx/bestcare1family.pdf)

#### ***LifeWorks Northwest: Hillsboro, Oregon***

Through recognized, culturally responsive prevention, mental health and addiction services, expert teams delivers the highest quality individual and group treatment-benefiting children, teens and families, adults, older adults and the community as a whole. Read more at [www.niatx200.net/pdf/successstory/LifeworksHillsboro.pdf](http://www.niatx200.net/pdf/successstory/LifeworksHillsboro.pdf)



For more information on the NIATx process, visit:

<https://www.niatx.net>

or

Oregon Department of Human Services, Addictions and Mental Health NIATx Web site:

<http://egov.oregon.gov/DHS/addiction/niatx/main.shtml>