

# RASE Project: Buprenorphine Coordinator Program

Office: 717-232-8535

Fax: 717-232-8515

Research has found that an addiction to Opioids result in changes of brain chemistry and function. As such, some individuals with an addiction to Opioids require medication in conjunction with standard drug and alcohol treatment protocol. This treatment is overseen by a physician who may prescribe certain FDA approved medications.

In addition, as substance abuse disorders are multifaceted health issues, successful treatment requires both medical treatment and ongoing case coordination and support services. These additional requirements, while necessary, directly impact system capacity by placing another burden on the prescribing physician. Thus, many physicians are reluctant to take on additional patients requiring these services, which in turn have led to a shortage of prescribing physicians. In light of these factors, it's often difficult for consumers to obtain the help they need.

The Buprenorphine Coordinator Program seeks to reduce the above burden by providing the coordination of care necessary for a qualifying individual's treatment to be successful.

## The Program coordinates services for individuals by:

- Referral and access to appropriate counseling;
- Assessment to determine emergent and ancillary needs;
- Development of Recovery Plans that address areas of need;
- Coordination of ancillary services to support the recovery process, such as: housing, employment, health care, etc;
- Assisting individuals in the identification of recovery support groups;
- Providing ongoing monitoring of individuals' successes and/or challenges while enrolled in the Program;
- Developing specific peer support groups for those individuals receiving buprenorphine treatment;
- Educating physicians and psychiatrists on buprenorphine and the need for this pathway to recovery and the importance of recovery as a lifelong process;
- Increasing the number of outpatient providers willing to treat individuals who have been prescribed buprenorphine.

## A brief Q & A:

**Q.** I believe this program may benefit me, who should I contact?

At this time, all calls are being routed through the RASE Project's Harrisburg office at 717.232.8535.

**Q.** I am in need of Suboxone, can you help?

If able, the coordinator will try to connect people with a physician prescribing Suboxone.

**Q.** I receive Suboxone, what are the requirements of this program?

To participate in this program individuals should be 1) a resident of York/Adams Counties or surrounding counties and 2) have CCBH (Medical Assistance). **Please Note:** These are guidelines. Coordinators will attempt to work with anyone needing assistance.

**Q.** What is the process after contacting the coordinator?

When calling the RASE Project, an intake will be done over the phone. This intake will usually take about an hour. At that time, an appointment will be made to meet with the coordinator.

This program is ***not*** funded by either York or Adams Counties and is made possible through a grant received by the RASE Project to cover these services.

Coordinators provide services in Dauphin, Cumberland, Perry, York/Adams, Lancaster and surrounding counties.

**For more information please contact the RASE Coordinator at: Office: 717-232-8535 Fax: 717-232-8515**