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CAADPE AND EDGE RELEASE REPORT ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

Identifying Barriers to Employment After Substance Use Disorder Treatment

Sacramento, CA – The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE) partnered with EDGE to publish a new report, *Identifying Barriers to Employment After Substance Use Disorder Treatment*. It is estimated that 2.9 million Californians (9%) age 12 and older had a substance use disorder in 2021.5 According to a 2019 California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) evaluation, 95% of individuals in SUD treatment were of working age. This enlightening report takes a hard look at the impact this glaring data represents and the repercussions individuals who seek substance use disorder face when trying to re-enter the workforce.

Individuals with SUD histories who are seeking employment:

- are not getting the jobs they want;
- often times the pay is too low for them to accept;
- need more vocational/technical training;
- need more case management/counseling and supportive services to prevent relapse;
- need housing stability, transportation, and childcare; and
- lack digital literacy and/or competency

"According to the [Department of Health Care Services, over 10,000 people died from all-drug overdoses from October 2020 to September 2021](#) in California because they didn't have the help they needed to manage their condition. We can no longer afford to let the stigma of a substance use disorder stand in the way of our communities getting the help they need or jobs that will help save lives. We stand at the cusp of unprecedented investments in behavioral health, and now is the time to see those with lived experience as an asset to this work." said Robb Layne, Executive Director of CAADPE. "

In this report, we highlight recommendations and opportunities critical to reversing damage already caused to, as well as positively impacting, those living in recovery. In addition, this will only increase the talent pool for many industries that are facing workforce challenges. Without taking these measured steps, we risk undermining the community of people who are impacted by substance use disorder, which includes clients, providers, and policymakers.

[You can view this report by clicking HERE.](#)

To schedule a presentation of this report to your Board, Members, or staff, please contact Jennifer Yancey at jennifer@caadpe.org.

About the Foundation:

Established in 1989, CAADPE member agencies now provide substance use disorder treatment services at over 300 sites in California. CAADPE is the ONLY state-wide Association representing all types of substance use disorder treatment programs in California.

Membership in CAADPE is by agency, and each member agency is represented at CAADPE by their chief executive leader or his/her designee.

CAADPE is organized by chapters throughout the state and headquartered in Sacramento for easy access to state government. At the state-wide level, a volunteer **board of directors**, elected by the members, guides the Association and its policies on issues vital to its members.

It is through the **committee structure** that CAADPE addresses the needs of the field and identifies the policy issues of the organization. CAADPE members are urged to volunteer their time in their respective areas of expertise. <http://www.caadpe.org>

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