



## WOMEN'S *Addiction Services* LEADERSHIP *Institute*

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (**SAMHSA**), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (**CSAT**) is pleased to announce the establishment of the Women's Addiction Services Leadership Institute (WASLI). WASLI is one of several initiatives supported by SAMHSA to strengthen our capacity to serve women with substance use disorders. There is an urgent need to accelerate leadership in women's services to address current challenges such as a changing and aging workforce, financial shortages, service improvement goals, and collaborative opportunities. To respond to this need **SAMHSA/CSAT** has created the Women's Addiction Services Leadership Institute.

WASLI has roots in the Partners for Recovery-Addiction Technology Transfer Center Leadership Institute; it has been customized to specifically meet the needs of professionals working in the women's substance abuse treatment field.

### GOALS

The goals of WASLI are to strengthen the capacity of treatment organizations to meet the substance abuse treatment needs of women by:

- Developing and improving leadership skills of participants
- Creating a network of the next generation of leaders in women's services
- Establishing a model of women's leadership training

### WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE OVERVIEW

SAMHSA/CSAT will hold a nomination and application process to select eighteen Associates to participate in WASLI this year. The program, program supplies and materials and most travel expenses are supported through SAMHSA/CSAT. The Program includes:

- **INDIVIDUALIZED LEADERSHIP ASSESSMENTS.** Associates engage in assessments, including a 360-degree leadership inventory, to better understand their leadership styles, actions, strengths and areas for improvement.
- **FIVE DAY IMMERSION TRAINING.** The Women's Leadership Institute training is customized to meet the goals of professionals working to address the treatment needs and concerns of women. Topics include: leadership practices, conflict resolution, negotiation, presentation skills, facilitating change, women's leadership strengths, and mitigating women's leadership challenges. (May 18-22, 2009)
- **COACHING AND ACTION LEARNING.** Associates implement an Individual Leadership Improvement Plan

to build and enhance a wide range of interpersonal, communication and leadership skills. They also complete a Women's Services Leadership Project to expand their leadership skills while employing them to meet agency/organizational needs. Coaches, selected both because of their leadership in women's addiction services and their capacity to motivate others, provide ongoing guidance and accountability.

- **ENHANCEMENT TRAINING.** WASLI offers an ongoing series of leadership teleconferences and webinars and a three-day, in-person Enhancement Training.
- **GRADUATION AND WASLI NETWORK.** Upon completion of the six month program, participation in a Graduation Webinar allows Associates to share their leadership projects and receive a Certificate. Coaches and Alumni can participate in the WASLI Network, a loosely knit association of leaders in women's treatment.

### SUPPORTERS

SAMHSA/CSAT is the primary convener and guiding force for the Women's Leadership Institute. Other supporters include: the Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC) Network National Office, the State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS), the Women's Services Network of the National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors, the National Council on Community Behavioral Healthcare, NAADAC- The Association for Addiction Professionals, Advocates for Human Potential, Inc., and the North Highland Company.

For more information about the Women's Addiction Services Leadership Institute, please email us at  
**Leadership@ahpnet.com**