



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

September 4, 2007

CONTACT: José A. Álvarez (619) 515-6635

## **HHSa OFFICIALS EMPHASIZE THAT TREATMENT WORKS** ***September is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month***

SAN DIEGO—September is National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month and San Diego County HHSa (Health and Human Services Agency) officials are encouraging people with substance abuse problems to access services to help them kick their addiction and remain drug free.

“We’re reminding people that HHSa offers treatment and recovery services to help them escape the stranglehold of addiction,” said Susan Bower, Deputy Director for HHSa’s Alcohol and Drug Services (ADS) division.

During Recovery Month, ADS will be sponsoring a series of activities to educate the public about the dangers of alcohol and other drug use, including alcohol and drug displays at the County’s 35 libraries.

ADS provides an integrated system of community-based alcohol and other drug prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery services throughout the County via contracts with local service providers.

“These programs and services are helping to improve the lives of individuals and their families affected by alcohol and drug abuse,” added Bower.

People with substance abuse issues can get the help they need by calling the County’s Access and Crisis line at (800) 479-3339.

Established in 1992, National Alcohol and Other Drug Addiction Recovery Month is part of the federal government’s effort to highlight the societal benefits of substance abuse treatment, educate the public about the problem of substance abuse and celebrate people who are on the road to recovery.

###