

## BENEFITS OF AAP ORGANIZATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

As the oldest and largest provider group in the state, AAP provides a unique forum to stay in touch with how chemical dependency treatment centers are answering today's challenges. Regular gatherings of industry leaders provides an opportunity to discuss treatment philosophy, current events, challenges as well as what is working. The AAP prides itself on our ability to find a common ground to advocate for those in need through open dialogue on the issues and respect for our differences.

### **1. Representation in the Washington State Legislature**

Since 1979 AAP has had year-round representation in Olympia and continues to be the primary voice for treatment providers. We work to advance the field while also improving access to treatment for those in need, regardless of economic level. Most of the legislation we enjoy today has been shaped either through AAP's leadership or with considerable input from AAP members. Members receive weekly legislative reports on the issues impacting us during Legislative Sessions and as needed throughout the year. Fact sheets and talking points are provided on issues of concern to assist you in communicating with your legislators.

### **2. Annual Provider Conference**

Since 2006 the AAP has sponsored a conference to keep providers abreast of new directions in treatment but also to energize the workforce. Each year the conference celebrates some aspect of treatment services—pioneers, counselors, support staff, treatment programs, etc.—to recognize the accomplishments of this new profession. A track for law and ethics is always part of the program to help with basic certification renewal requirements.

### **3. Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Weekly subscription**

Each week you receive an electronic copy of **Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Weekly** at no extra cost. **Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Weekly** consistently deals with the most pressing issues for those in our profession. And it gives you the information you need in a concise, easily manageable format: reports that help you to stay up-to-date on local and national legislation and treatment innovation.

### **4. Affiliation with State Associations of Addiction Services (SAAS) in Washington, DC**

AAP is the only Washington State organization to affiliate to the SAAS, which represents chemical dependency treatment providers on the national level. AAP members not only receive regular information on activities in Washington DC but also have opportunities for input into policy and white papers as well as discounts at the Annual SAAS/NIATx conferences. Today SAAS is working daily representing the chemical dependency treatment provider on insurance and parity, health reform, and federal budgets. With NIATx they are creating tools and standards to assist the treatment provider in this time of change and you receive these months before they reach other treatment providers.

### **5. Discounted lab rates with Sterling Laboratories**

Through our group purchasing power, AAP has established discounted rates for AAP members—the savings on which often cover the full cost of AAP dues. These rates are not given to non-members.