



QUESTIONS TO ASK CANDIDATES

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Use the following five questions to ask candidates for local, state and federal office about key addiction recovery issues. There's space for you to add in a question for local and state issues of importance to the recovery community where you live.

1). Over 23 million Americans are struggling with addiction, a health condition that is extremely costly to them, their families and communities because it can lead to other health problems, incarceration, lower workplace productivity and family and school problems.

Do you support increased funding for addiction prevention, treatment and recovery support services?

2). With the enactment of national health reform and the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, millions of Americans are or will be eligible for care for addiction just like other health conditions.

If elected, would you support efforts to implement the health care reform law including provisions to provide mandatory coverage for addiction care on the same level (parity) as with other medical problems?

3). Many people who are in jails and prisons have alcohol and other drug problems including addiction. Despite the fact that there is effective treatment for addiction that reduces recidivism and helps close the revolving door in and out of costly jails and prisons, many people don't receive any treatment for their addiction while incarcerated and/or after they come home to their families and community.

Do you support strengthening access to addiction treatment and recovery support services for people who are or who have recently been incarcerated?

4.) Twenty million Americans are in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs, yet many still find it difficult to get an education, a good job, a driver's license, or to vote due to discriminatory state and federal policies and laws.

Do you support or oppose the repeal of these laws, which basically prevent people who have paid their debt to society from contributing to their families and communities in a positive way?

5). A question about an issue of importance to your community here.