

Scott Walker
Governor



Michael Waupoose
Chairperson

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Scott Stokes
Secretary

State of Wisconsin

State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse

1 West Wilson Street, P.O. Box 7851
Madison, Wisconsin 53707-7851

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To Interested Parties:

On behalf of the State Council on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse (SCAODA) I am pleased to provide you with a copy of the final report of the Controlled Substances Workgroup (CSW); *Reducing Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Abuse: A Call to Action*.

Communities across Wisconsin report that problems associated with the misuse of prescription narcotics, such as oxycodone and hydrocodone, as well as with illegal narcotic substances, such as heroin, are on the rise. In 2009, 5.5 million prescriptions were dispensed each month in Wisconsin, this includes all prescription medications as well as prescription refills. With such an abundant supply of medication in society, it is no surprise that prescription medications are commonly misused, abused and diverted for non-medical use. Between 2007 and 2008, 15% of Wisconsin adults reported using pain relievers for non-medical purposes and in 2009, 20.5% of Wisconsin high school students reported having taken a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription at least once in their lifetime.

The Prevention Committee of SCAODA, in recognition that prescription drug abuse and illicit narcotic abuse are growing problems in the state, established an ad hoc committee to examine controlled substances prevention. The ad hoc committee, known as the Controlled Substances Work Group (CSW) was tasked with studying this issue and making recommendations to reduce and prevent this type of substance abuse in Wisconsin. The resulting report identifies state recommendations for action as well as recommendations for local communities, community coalitions, health care providers and other key stakeholders as a starting point for action.

This report will be a valuable tool for those around the state who are interested in curtailing Wisconsin's prescription drug abuse epidemic. If you have any questions about the *Reducing Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Abuse: A Call to Action* report, please contact Dorothy Chaney at: chaney.dorothy@marshfieldclinic.org. If you or anyone you know would like additional copies of this report, it is available online at: www.scaoda.state.wi.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Waupoose".

Michael Waupoose
Chairperson

Cc: Governor Scott Walker
Kitty Rhoades
Kevin Moore