

## Politics and Policy: The Impact on Addiction and Recovery

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Chief of Communications and Policy  
Georgia Council on Substance Abuse  
#GARecovers

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## What's Right With You



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International  
Overdose  
Awareness Day  
31 August, 2021  
#EndOverdose

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Knowing the Stakeholders

Elected Officials / Staff

Appointed Officials / Staff

Media

Business Community

Community Organizations

Faith Community

Education Community

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How This All Works?

It's all about relationships

The Stigma is REAL

Leaders respond to two things

Show Up

Speak Up

Leaders want unity in a community

Leaders want us to advocate

It's a competition

Bi-partisan Issue

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Local

The Stigma

"Those People"

NIMBY

Zoning

Valor Station in Augusta, Richmond County

Community Recovery Center in Homer, Banks County

Mary Hall Freedom Village in Sandy Springs, Fulton County

Georgia Communities Working Group on Addiction and Recovery

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**SB 4 The Patient Brokering Bill**

**Senator Kay Kirkpatrick - SUPPORT**

SB 4 creates the first legal language to protect peers and their families from brokering in recovery houses and stops excessive and costly drug testing.

**STATUS:** Signed by Governor

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**SB 80 Prior Authorizations for Healthcare Services**

**Senator Kay Kirkpatrick - SUPPORT**

SB 80 - requires transparency around the requirements and restrictions for prior authorizations for healthcare services and makes data regarding prior authorization denials and approvals public.

**STATUS:** Signed by Governor

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**SB 105 The Probation Reform Bill**

**Senator Brian Strickland - SUPPORT**

SB 105 creates a unified process with clear criteria for early termination of felony probation that will make previous reforms work, and will unlock opportunities for people to earn early termination after three years through good behavior. SB 105 would be retroactive and apply to anyone on probation who met the criteria.

**STATUS:** Signed by Governor

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**HB 474**  
**Prescribe An**  
**Opioid**  
**Antagonist**

**Representative Sharon Cooper -**  
**SUPPORT**

HB 474 - A prescriber who issues a prescription for an opioid shall provide the patient receiving the prescription information on the addictive risks of using opioids and information on options available for safely disposing of any unused opioids where such options exist.

**STATUS:** Still alive for 2022

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**HB 272 The**  
**Raise the**  
**Age Act**

**Representative Mandi Ballinger - SUPPORT**

HB 272 - The Raise the Age Act - will raise the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to encompass non-violent 17-year-olds. Georgia is one of the last 3 states in the country to treat 17-year-olds as adults in the criminal justice system for any infraction.

**STATUS:** Still alive for 2022

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**Congressional**  
**Bipartisan**  
**Addiction and**  
**Mental Health**  
**Task Force**

**Representatives David Trone (D-MD), Ann**  
**McLane Kuster (D-NH), Brian Fitzpatrick**  
**(R-PA), and Jaime Herrera Beutler (R-WA)**

promote policies to combat the addiction and mental health crises in America

**Over 100 members / Georgia**

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**Recovery Support Service Set Aside in Federal Budget**

President Joe Biden has introduced his FY 2022 Budget which includes a 10% set-aside for recovery support services.

The Budget includes:

- 1.7 billion increase - Substance Use Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Block Grant = \$3.5 billion total
- \$750 million increase - State Opioid Response Grant (SORG) = \$2.25 billion total
- \$500 million increase - Peer Support Technical Assistance Center = \$1.5 billion total

\$10 million increase - Building Communities of Recovery = \$20 million total

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**The Family Support Services for Addiction Act**

"The Family Support Services For Addiction Act would assist nonprofits that provide family support services for addiction treatment, ensuring that families can access the treatment option that is right for their loved one.

will help families navigate the difficult and intimidating process of assisting a loved one with substance use disorder provides a community-based approach to addiction treatment, helping families navigate their insurance coverage and explore treatment options to assist their loved one

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**The Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) 3.0**

The bi-partisan Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) 3.0 would increase the funding authorization levels for the Comprehensive Addiction & Recovery Act (CARA) programs enacted in 2016. The act put in place additional policy reforms to help combat the opioid epidemic that has worsened during the coronavirus pandemic

bipartisan, national effort designed to ensure that federal resources are devoted to evidence-based education, treatment and recovery programs that work

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**Giving States Flexibility and Resources to Include Alcohol Use Disorder in State Opioid Response Grants**

A recent administrative decision regarding State Opioid Response (SOR) grants has restricted the use of these lifesaving funds for anyone who needs support for alcohol use disorder (AUD)

gives states greater flexibility, opportunity, and resources to include the treatment of AUD in the administration of State Opioid Response SOR grants

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Addiction Recovery Awareness Day 2022  
ARAD

GEORGIA RECOVERS TOGETHER

**ARAD 2022**  
ADDICTION RECOVERY AWARENESS DAY  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 2022

CONNECT WITH US  
#ARAD2022  
#GARECOVERS

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**Moving Forward**

Support at local, state, Federal levels

Our coalition must unite get active

Social Media

COVID-19 - the perfect storm

GCSA is here to help

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