

At-A-Glance

Advocate

Greater Macomb Project Vox members advocate at both a local and state level for policies and priorities that are pro-recovery. People in recovery hold jobs, pay taxes, raise families and contribute. A pro-recovery agenda has significant long-term advantages for Michigan. It improves the state's economic landscape; reduces stress on families; saves untold millions of dollars in addiction-related healthcare costs; and substantially reduces such social ills as theft, abuse, crimes of violence, and drunk driving.



Tens of thousands of Michigan residents are already in recovery. Thousands more are ready to recover but still need basic help, such as a bed in a treatment facility. Michigan's ongoing budget crisis continues to be a major obstacle. Legislators find recovery programs an easy target for cuts. The thinking appears to be "You did this to yourself. And we don't want to pay for it anymore." The powerful stigma attached to addiction continues to bend policy across America, gambling far more money on punishment and prisons than on recovery.



Even so, progress is being made. Greater Macomb Project Vox has provided expert testimony for state lawmakers, in an effort to retain state-funded treatment programs. Working closely with the Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse and CARE, Greater Macomb Project Vox is playing many roles in changing Michigan's system of care to one that is recovery oriented. For the first time, members are now serving on the Macomb County Substance Abuse Advisory Committee, providing input to the Macomb County Mental Health Board.

Through letter writing campaigns, the local recovery advocacy community was a large part of helping move parity legislation through the steps to becoming law.

Greater Macomb Project Vox members made sure that Macomb County led the way in obtaining the most signatures of any county in Michigan on petitions addressed to the Michigan Association of Community Mental Health Boards. The purpose of the petitions was to let policy makers know that treatment funding should be a priority as they consider budget cuts.

EDUCATE

We envision a community where programs designed to prevent alcoholism and other drug dependency are welcomed and those suffering the consequences of addiction are supported by a multi-tiered treatment modality focused on long term recovery.

We envision a system of care that addresses discrimination and destructive stereotypes that constitute barriers to treatment and community integration. Greater Macomb Project Vox recognizes the role of the person in recovery as a full partner in the recovery management team and the multi-tiered intervention design is operated and evaluated in collaboration with individuals and families in recovery.

Because a pro-recovery agenda is fiscally sound and socially wise, we work to bring this vision to policy makers and the public at large. To this end, Greater Macomb Project Vox members have been quoted in many local and national publications, speaking out and helping to put a face on recovery.

Greater Macomb Project Vox members facilitate several groups that provide educational and support services to members of the recovering community.

The groups quarterly newsletter is fast becoming a hub of information for the recovery advocacy movement and it's allies across the state and nationally.

	<h3>Newsletter</h3>		A publication of Greater Macomb Project Vox Issue 13 March 2013								
	<p>Presented in recognition of April as Alcohol Awareness Month !! Back by popular demand!! 2 Locations!!</p> <p><i>"An informed and excited audience of 400+ was the plus. It was a unique opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to recovery and community involvement."</i></p> <p>BILL W. and Dr. BOB</p> <p>By Stephen Bergman and Janet Nurecy Directed by Lisa Mellin</p> <p>1000 Broadway, Detroit, MI 1st St. 6th Fl. 3rd St. 4th Fl. 4th Fl. 5th Fl. Minutes 9:45 and 10:30 2:00 P.M. Tickets available at www.billandbob.com, at venue, and at door.</p> <p>Brought to you by The National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence-Greater Detroit Area</p> <p>Macomb County Stage Reading Sat 4:24 at 4:00 P.M. The Bill, From "9 Minutes From 90 Minutes" Limited Seating. Reservations suggested. Call 586-461-0814 for tickets.</p> <p>Brought to you by Greater Macomb Project Vox Call 586-461-0814 for additional details. TICKETS \$10.00-ALL PERFORMANCES</p> <p><small>Performances of this work does not imply affiliation with our approval or endorsement from Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.</small></p> <p>APRIL IS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH!</p> <p><small>Alcohol Awareness Month encourages local communities to focus on alcoholism and alcohol-related issues. AAM began as a way to inform the public that alcoholism is a treatable disease, not a moral weakness, and that people addicted to alcohol can and do recover.</small></p>										
<p>APRIL IS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH!</p> <p><small>Alcoholism is a chronic relapsing personal illness with social roots and preventing an alternative perspective that holds other things "From Faces and Voices of Recovery with Bill"</small></p>			<p>Include this issue:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Parity Update</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shed Some A.A. D-Production Delivered</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Back Our Best Deal</td> <td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bill of Mind (or Think the play is back?)</td> <td>1</td> </tr> </table>	Parity Update	2	Shed Some A.A. D-Production Delivered	1	Back Our Best Deal	4	Bill of Mind (or Think the play is back?)	1
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Celebrate

Greater Macomb Project Vox believes that public celebration of accomplishments and contributions offer an opportunity to recognize people in recovery, their families, and those who help them and encourages others to seek treatment. We organize special events to raise awareness about the reality of recovery. We believe this not only gives those in recovery the opportunity to “give back” and socialize in a safe environment, but also celebrates the power of community support and understanding.

For the last four years members of Greater Macomb Project Vox have participated in the National Celebrate Recovery March and Rally. On September 12, 2009 events were staged all over the country that brought an estimated 70,000 people together to join in supporting the recovery community. For the first time, the September events surrounding Celebrate Recovery included using art as activism with theater productions and poetry readings. This was possible because Project Vox was at the table as part of the planning committee

In August of 2009, over 100 folks in recovery and their allies enjoyed a wonderful sober evening of cruising, dancing, and dining aboard the Detroit Princess Riverboat.



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