



During the month of September, DCFS is joining organizations, churches and substance abuse providers all around America in celebrating the 20th Annual observance of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction **Recovery Month**. DCFS is pleased to partner with the Birth Parent Council in recognition of this celebration. This year's theme, "*Together We Learn, Together We Heal*" is especially appropriate for the hard work and collaboration that we do on behalf of our communities. **Recovery Month** is a time to celebrate people who are in recovery and those who have helped them. **Recovery Month** also serves to educate the public on substance abuse as a national public health crisis. Addiction is a treatable disease, and recovery is possible. **Recovery Month** highlights the benefits of treatment for not only the affected individual, but for their family, friends, workplace, and society as a whole. Addiction is a very serious public health challenge that touches every community. Educating the public reduces the stigma associated with discussing addiction and facilitating treatment. Accurate knowledge of the disease helps people to understand the importance of supporting treatment programs, those who work within the treatment field, and those in need of treatment. If you are interested in finding more information about Recovery Month and **Recovery Month** activities in your community please consult the SAMSHA website: <http://www.recoverymonth.gov/>.

The following are three, free activities at DCFS that child welfare and substance abuse staff, foster parents, educators, clients both past and present, community partners or stakeholders are cordially invited to attend. Persons attending any of the these events can receive two DCFS Training Clock Hours and/or IAODAPCA Continuing Education Credit Hours for Substance Abuse Professionals.

Thursday, September 17, 2009, Cook North DCFS/DASA Partnership Meeting – "DCFS Recovery Support Program Overviews" (A Safe Haven; Forever Free; TASC Recovery Coach Program and Intact Family Recovery) and Voices of Recovery Testimonials, 10 AM- Noon, 1911 S. Indiana 10th floor Conference Room, Chicago, IL 60616.

Friday, September 18, 2009, Cook South DCFS/DASA Partnership Meeting – Viewing a Web-Cast, "The Road to Recovery: Together We Learn, Together We Heal" and Voices of Recovery Testimonials, 10:00 AM – Noon, 6201 S. Emerald, Large Conference Room. Chicago, IL 60621. Following Partnership Meeting, everyone is invited to participate in the Cook South's "End of the Summer Cook Out" @ \$6.00 per person.

Wednesday, September 23, 2009, Cook Central DCFS/DASA Partnership Meeting – "Lunch and Learn" will be sponsored by Reckitt Benckiser; pre-registration is required. To RSVP please contact Rita Houston to leave your name, phone 773 371-6488 or email through Outlook or Rita.Houston@illinois.gov. The onsite seating begins at 11:30 A.M. The program and film will be Noon - 2:00 P.M. at the Maywood location, 1701 S. 1st Ave., 10th floor conference room, Maywood, IL. There will be viewing of an award winning documentary film of a Chicago family from the Henry Horner housing development called, "Legacy". A brief discussion and Voices of Recovery Testimonials will follow the movie.