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March 21, 2011

Dear Opioid Treatment Program Director:

On behalf of the American Association for Treatment of Opioid Dependence (AATOD), I am writing to urge your participation in the **2011 Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Supplement** sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT), in conjunction with SAMHSA's Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality (CBHSQ). Participation is voluntary, but highly encouraged.

Mathematica Policy Research, on behalf of SAMHSA, is conducting the OTP survey in conjunction with the 2011 National Survey of Substance Abuse Treatment Services (N-SSATS).

This is a first ever, SAMHSA-sponsored facility survey specific to opioid treatment programs (OTPs). All substance abuse treatment facilities recognized by SAMHSA as operating a certified OTP are being asked to complete the survey. Pending funding, the OTP Supplement will be conducted on an ongoing basis every three years.

Your participation is critical to ensure the quality and completeness of the data that this survey will provide. The timing of this effort is especially fortuitous given recent changes in our field. Data collected by the OTP Supplement will provide better and more current information about the services available at OTPs. This information will assist in our efforts to advocate for funding for OTPs at the State and national levels. Also, data from the OTP Supplement will inform our work with SAMHSA as the agency continues to provide guidance, education and technical support to OTP facilities like yours on various programmatic issues. The answers you provide for this survey will be completely confidential. The data will only be shown as an aggregate and your facility's individual answers will not be identifiable.

The survey is designed for easy and efficient completion on the Internet. You can access the survey by logging on to <https://survey.nssats.com>. Please log on and complete the survey as soon as possible.

If you have any questions about the survey or would like to request a paper copy of the questionnaire, please call the OTP Helpline at **1-888-324-8337**. Feel free to contact me at our offices in New York if you have any questions about the survey instrument. From my point of view, it is helpful to have all OTPs actively

participate in completing the survey instrument. As a former administrator, I am all too aware of the dynamic nature of operating an OTP. Thank you for setting aside the time to do this, so that the data collection will be as comprehensive as possible.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark W. Parrino". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M".

Mark W. Parrino, MPA
President