

WHERE DO I APPLY?

At the Essex County Division of Welfare Office.
The address and telephone numbers are as follows:

18 Rector Street, 6th fl., Newark, NJ

{973} 733-4653

733-4654

733-4618

733-4615

733-2053

Inform your worker to call the Substance Abuse Unit in the Emergency and Special Services Unit, 5th floor. Or come to the 6th floor yourself and ask for help at the desk

If you report to the 50 South Clinton Street office in East Orange just have your worker call the numbers listed above.



COUNTY OF ESSEX
DEPARTMENT OF CITIZEN SERVICES
DIVISION OF WELFARE

Putting Essex County First

Joseph N. DiVincenzo, Jr.
County Executive

Anibal Ramos, Jr.
Director
Department of Citizen Services

Bruce Nigro
Division Director
Division of Welfare

HOW TO OBTAIN HELP
FOR
DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE

Substance Abuse Initiative {SAI}

HOW DO I APPLY FOR DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PROGRAM

The Substance Abuse Initiative Program provides free services through the Work First New Jersey (WFNJ) Program to help individuals get treatment for alcohol or drug abuse program.

How Do You Admit You Want Or Need Help With Your Drug Or Alcohol Use?

For many years, drugs may have been a big part of your life. In fact, you may use drugs just to feel “*normal*”. Perhaps you’re not even sure you have a drinking or drug problem, but a small part of you thinks you might. Could it be that you can’t hold a job? Does it seem that your life is a mess? Do your children have problems? Have you had encounters with the law? You may very well have the disease of addiction.

What is the (SAI) Substance Abuse Initiative and

These are free services provided by Work First NJ to help you get treatment for drinking or drug abuse.

Who Can Get Treated?

If you are a WFNJ/TANF or GA recipient who is required to participate in a work activity, you are eligible for treatment services. Pregnant women are eligible also.

Who Will Take Care of My Children, If I Go Into Treatment/ How Will I Get To Treatment?

The services of Child Care and Transportation are provided as part of the support services in treatment. Some mothers may be able to take their younger children to treatment with them or you will be placed in outpatient programs and live at home.

What Will Happen If I Admit To A Drug or Alcohol Habit – Will My Children Be Taken Away From Me or Will I LOOSE MY BENEFITS?

NO! – NO! – NO! THE INFORMATION YOU SHARE ABOUT YOUR DRINKING OR DRUG USE REMAIN **STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL**

How Do I Get Help?

There are a few ways:

1. Ask your worker, you will immediately be put in contact with a professional and caring family service worker skilled in substance use.
2. Continue to fail to show up at a work activity and chances are you will receive a sanction. To remove that sanction, you will have to be seen by a Substance Abuse Care coordinator and show good intent to deal with your disease of addiction. This means you will attend treatment as part of your work activity to get back your benefits.

What If Treatment Doesn’t Work?

It may take several tries – relapsing is part of your recovery. The Substance Abuse Initiatives will continue giving you treatment as long as you need it. Depending on what substance abuse program you are placed in - you may also get help for your significant other. No matter what the problem, you will receive professional and caring support from licensed and skilled care coordinators.

I Use Methadone - What Should I Do?

You still need treatment for substances, even if you are taking methadone. Methadone centers are not drug treatment centers. Ask to be referred to SAI.