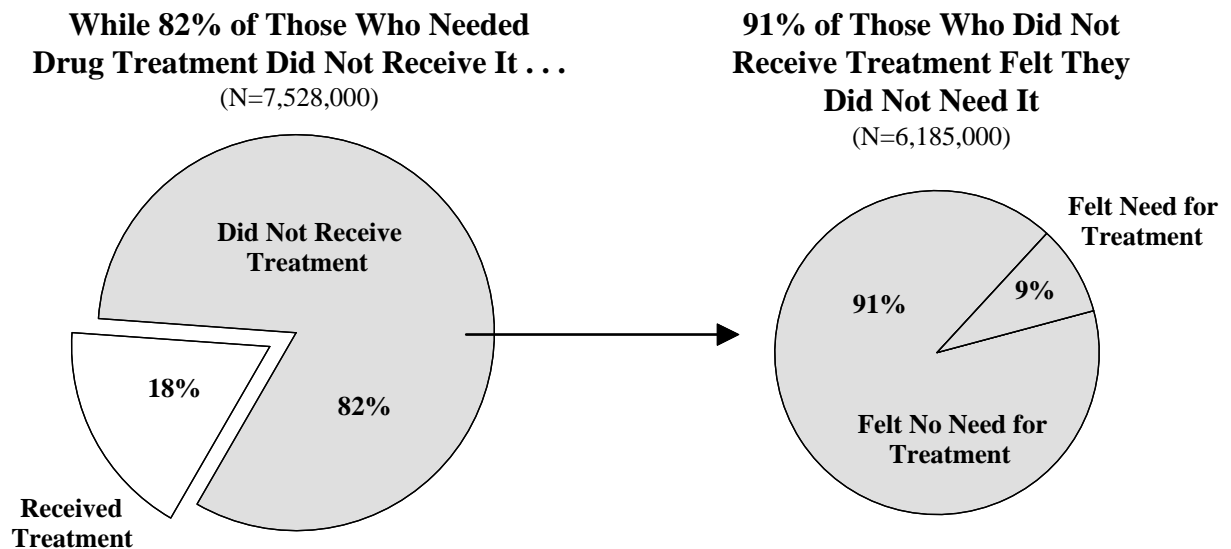


## A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

### *Most of Those Who Need Treatment for Illicit Drugs Do Not Receive It or Think They Need It*

According to data from the 2007 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 82% of the estimated 7.5 million who needed treatment\* for an illicit drug problem in the past year did not receive it. While there are many reasons for not receiving treatment, a primary one appears to be a lack of perceived need. Nearly all (91%) of those who were assessed as needing but did not receive treatment for illicit drug problems said that they did not feel that they needed treatment (see figure below). Similar results were found for alcohol treatment. A lack of perceived need for treatment may mean that people don't think they have a problem, they think their problem is not serious enough to warrant treatment, or they think they can handle their substance use problem on their own.



\*Respondents were classified as *needing treatment* if in the past year they met the diagnostic criteria for abuse or dependence on the substance or received treatment for the substance at a specialty facility. A *specialty facility* was defined as an inpatient or outpatient rehabilitation facility, an inpatient hospital, or a mental health center.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), *Results from the 2007 National Household Survey on Drug Use and Health: National Findings*, 2008. Available online at <http://www.oas.samhsa.gov/nsduhLatest.htm>.

#### **Find Listings and Directions to Maryland Treatment and Other Community Resources**

The interactive Maryland Community Services Locator (MDCSL) website ([www.mdcsll.org](http://www.mdcsll.org)) allows users to quickly find detailed resource listings for a variety of Maryland community resources, including substance abuse treatment and housing services. Recent additions to the MDCSL include listings of primary and secondary public schools and free public internet access sites.