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A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Maryland Community Services Locator (MDCSL) Website Links Maryland Residents to Nearly 9,000 Community Resources

The Maryland Community Services Locator (www.mdcsl.org) is an interactive online directory developed to assist professionals and community members in locating community services. The MDCSL allows users to obtain organizational contact information and other details, map resources by location, and get instant directions to programs. Since its launch in October 2007, the website has expanded to include nearly 9,000 criminal justice, health, and social services programs throughout Maryland, which are each verified annually by MDCSL staff. In addition to being able to find programs by location, the MDCSL now offers the following features.

- Enhanced service information—including services offered, populations served, and payment options—for 5 of the 25 types of programs (HIV/STD Testing Sites, Housing Programs, Substance Abuse Treatment Programs, Support Groups, and Victim Services) is now available. The MDCSL team is currently working to make enhanced service information available for several new areas, including adult education, job readiness/employment, and food and family assistance programs.
- Another addition to the site is the *Resource Links* section, located on the left-hand side of the homepage. This section includes a listing of 180 hotlines organized by type; extensive resource links organized by topic (such as Cash Assistance, Foreclosure Resources, Energy/Utility Assistance, and Veterans Benefits and Programs); and links to other state- and county-level resource directories.

Stay Informed on Recent MDCSL Developments

We encourage you to visit *Informational Materials on the MDCSL* (http://www.mdcsl.org/avjsc/csl_info.asp) to:

- Join our email listsery to receive periodic updates regarding new website features.
- Sign up for a monthly online webinar by visiting and registering to participate.
- Access free online MDCSL tutorial videos and recorded webinars which can be viewed at any time
- Download or order free MDCSL informational materials, such as flyers and posters.

SOURCE: CESAR, The Maryland Community Services Locator (MDCSL). Funded by the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention under grant number BJAG-2007-1465. For more information, or to share resource information, please contact us at 301-405-9796 or mdcsl@cesar.umd.edu.

Interested in Establishing a Community Services Locator in Your County or State?

CESAR can share lessons learned during the development and implementation of the MDCSL, provide consultant services, or manage the development of your program. Please send inquiries to mdcsl@cesar.umd.edu.