



In Memoriam
David N. Nurco, D.S.W.
1928-1998



The substance abuse field lost a valued scientist and human being this past December. Dr. David N. Nurco had a long and distinguished professional career in the behavioral science field. For over 30 years he studied and collected data on the drugs-crime relationship, focusing particularly on narcotic addicts in Baltimore City. In his own words, his research revealed "how the focus of concern changed over the years from an examination of the extent and gravity of the drug 'abuse' phenomenon to its correlates in terms of impact on crime and characteristics of users and, finally, to the development and assessment of prevention and intervention strategies" (p. 1818). His research included the following topics:

- Narcotic Addict Careers
- Opportunity and Motivation for Using Narcotic Drugs
- Changing Patterns of Criminal Activity
- Addict Differences in Illegal Income and Employment
- Addict Variations in Type, Frequency, and Severity of Crime
- Vulnerability to Narcotic Addiction
- Social Support Services for Parolees
- Interventions Within the Correctional System
- Prevention and Early Intervention with Inner-City Youth

Dr. Nurco will be sorely missed by the substance abuse research community. To ensure the perpetuation of his work, Friends Research Institute, Inc. and Catholic University of America have established the David N. Nurco Memorial Scholarship Fund (see box below).

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from data from David N. Nurco, "A Long-Term Program of Research on Drug Use and Crime," *Substance Use & Misuse*, 33(9):1817-1837, 1998.

The David N. Nurco Memorial Scholarship Fund

The David N. Nurco Scholarship Fund has been established to support students who plan to pursue a career in behavioral research. Scholarships will be awarded on the basis of academic merit and financial need. Contributions to the fund may be made to: Friends Research Institute, Inc., P.O. Box 10676, 505 Baltimore Ave., Baltimore, MD 21285. For more information about the fund, visit CESAR's web site at www.cesar.umd.edu (go to CESAR BOARD, then Legislation, Grants, and Contracts, then Grant Calendars and Other Information).