The New York Blending Project

Building Lasting Partnerships to Bridge Practice / Research Gaps
• The overall goal for our two-day Blending Conference is to set the stage to
  
  – expand access to treatment in the community,
  – extend the range of treatment approaches,
  – improve the quality of treatment, and
  – ultimately improve addictions outcomes and costs to society

• The primary goal of the New York Blending Project is to capitalize on this opportunity to assure that the Conference leaves a lasting legacy
• We need to establish a partnership of interested stakeholders and define an agenda for change

  – Blending Conference Planning Committee meetings since February, 2001
  – Several smaller Project meetings over past year
  – Project Kickoff Roundtable tomorrow to establish a lasting forum for communication and to develop of a broad range of collaborative projects
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<th>Opportunities for Blending</th>
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<td>• Buprenorphine</td>
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Lessons from the CTN

- Diverse Community Based Treatment Programs
- Diverse Funding Streams and Reimbursement Models
- Incentives to Implement New Treatments
- Quality and Commitment of Leadership and Line Staff
- Interest in Improving Treatment and Outcome
- Interest in Working with Research Community
Lessons from the CTN

- Diverse Academic Expertise
  - Neuroscience
  - Pharmacology
  - Behavioral Research
  - HIV
  - Sociology
  - Services Research
  - Design

- Interest in Working with Treatment Community

- Remarkable Ignorance of Broad Treatment World Realities
Lessons from the CTN

• Buy-in to Shared Goals
• Mutual Trust and Respect for Others’ Strengths, Needs and Priorities
• Coordination, Leadership
• Time
• Resources
Lessons from Los Angeles

• November 2000, Blending Conference
• LAPartners Kickoff Roundtable and follow-up meetings
• Identify project manager, driver to
  – Oversee communications, website
  – Organize conferences meetings
  – Generate and maintain enthusiasm
  – Create partnerships
  – Prepare regular reports, bulletins
  – Facilitate grant-writing
  – But not to “own” project
Lessons from Los Angeles

- Focus on Relevant Research / Practice Gaps
  - LA County Issues
  - Changing Environment
  - Proposition 36
  - Accreditation Mandates
  - Managed Behavioral Healthcare
  - Public Perception of Addictions Treatment
  - Provider Perceptions and Needs-Assessment
Lessons from Los Angeles

• Glossy County-wide Treatment Program Directory
• Special Issue of JSAT on LA Blending Conference
• Research Funding Opportunities
• Clinical Capacity Expansion Opportunities
• Follow-up CSAT Conference
New York and Los Angeles differ

• Addictions Treatment Tradition
• Addictions Treatment Funding
• State, County and Local Agencies
• Providers Groups
• Research Tradition
Challenges Ahead

• Coalescing a Stakeholders Group
  – OASAS, PIC, ASAP, ATTC, BOCES, IPDA, Providers, CTN, others

• Setting Realistic Agenda

• Coordination and Leadership

• Funding
  – Leveraging existing funds
  – New funds

• Communication
Thank You,
and Please Join Us Tomorrow