CASAColumbia KNOWS

that substance use involving tobacco, alcohol and other drugs can threaten public health and safety, and that addiction is a complex brain disease—driven by genetic, psychological and environmental influences—that requires medical attention.

Although effective strategies exist to prevent and treat addiction and reduce substance use that may lead to tragic and costly consequences, these strategies are not widely employed. To date, there is no cure for this disease, but scientific and social advances offer hope that a cure may be found.

CASAColumbia CONDUCTS

research and utilizes the scientific findings of others to inform Americans of the economic and social costs of substance use and addiction, and their impact on each of our lives. Through careful analysis, CASAColumbia determines what works in prevention and treatment, and then provides recommendations and encourages responsibility for action by every individual and institution throughout society. By doing so, CASAColumbia aims to reduce the stigma attached to this disease by replacing shame with hope, and giving people the tools they need to prevent, treat and eliminate addiction.
CASAColumbia™ AIMS

to prevent and eliminate addiction throughout America and beyond.

CASAColumbia IS

a science-based, multidisciplinary organization focused on transforming society’s understanding of and response to the disease of addiction.

Founded in 1992 by Former U.S. Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare Joseph A. Califano, Jr., CASAColumbia assembles the professional skills needed to research, prevent, treat and eliminate this disease in all sectors of society.

CASAColumbia IS DEDICATED TO CHANGING THE WAY AMERICANS THINK ABOUT ADDICTION

Whether it’s helping communities protect their children, impacting public policy, or designing and testing effective approaches for people who need treatment, CASAColumbia gives people the tools they need to prevent and treat this disease.

CASAColumbia SERVES:

THE HEALTHCARE COMMUNITY

CASAColumbia’s scientists and researchers partner with the National Institutes of Health, universities, government officials and healthcare providers to test and conduct studies to determine what addiction prevention and treatment strategies work best for individuals, and how to successfully integrate those strategies into our various systems of public health and medical care to stabilize budgets, save taxpayers money and improve lives.

POLICY MAKERS

CASAColumbia has issued more than 75 policy reports that assess the impact of substance use on American systems and populations, examine the links between substance use and health and criminal justice and social problems, and craft recommendations to improve policy and practice around the issue of substance use and the disease of addiction. These reports inform the decisions of city, state and federal policy makers.

PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Preventing the disease of addiction starts early.

90% of Americans who meet the medical criteria for addiction started smoking, drinking or using other drugs before age 18.

Like other behavioral health problems, substance use is a function of many factors, including genetics, other health conditions, family dynamics and the environment in which a child or teen lives. CASAColumbia’s prevention initiatives and publications provide parents the tools and resources they need to help prevent and reduce teen substance use and the disease of addiction.

While much has been accomplished, there is still much to do. Together, we can make a difference.

Log on to CASAColumbia.org to learn how you can help.