



ANTHONY A. WILLIAMS
MAYOR

Dear Resident:

It is with pride that I present the first Citywide Comprehensive Substance Abuse Strategy for the District of Columbia. The development of this Strategy will enable us to effectively address the critical problem of substance abuse in the Nation's Capital. The final plan contains our multi-agency strategy, complete with input gathered from residents representing all Wards of the District. This effort represents a culmination of a two-year process involving the dedicated members of the Task Force on Substance Abuse Prevention, Control and Treatment, and lays the foundation for a comprehensive strategy with an ambitious set of goals and objectives.

We have worked to re-think and re-tool our fight against the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. This strategy addresses three essential elements: prevention, treatment and law enforcement. Each area is as important as the other, promoting balance and a high level of coordination. Instituting a strategy that places each element on the same level, allows us to foster safe communities and promote substance-free living and a high level of commitment needed to eliminate drugs from our community.

Is this possible? Of course it is. We are partners in an historic struggle. We find our strength as a collective force of public officials, civil servants and advocates who strive to achieve safe, prosperous and productive communities. This plan is a testament to that commitment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony A. Williams".

Anthony A. Williams
Mayor