

**Adult Use Work group
Focus Group Summary- Fall 2010**

Top Three issues of providers/referrers:

1. **System is not cohesive** – it depends on who you know if you have the inside connections to get the right referrals. There are also gaps in the interconnectedness of public health systems, and limitations on funding. Comments included “Knowing and networking is the key to getting help for people – connecting to the right people within the system.....it is more PEOPLE than AGENCIES” and “A lot of segmentation within the systems – reiterated the networking aspect of the system and how it is WHO you know”.
2. There needs to be more **effective communication and better collaboration among providers**. There currently exists “a lot of bureaucratic red tape and priorities are different for different services”.
3. **Changing norms** in the community is a key piece. “Changing norms in the community is critical” and “Education and community awareness around norms” is needed.

Top Three issues of Consumers:

1. The main reason male consumers went to **treatment** was they were **court ordered** – jail or rehab. The main reason women went to treatment was because their children were removed from the home and they had to go to get them back.
2. **Judges and PO’s decide treatment** rather than counselors and trained professionals. You have to exaggerate your use to get help.
3. There needs to be **less time** between the initial referral and getting into treatment.