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For immediate release

DHHR announces Round Three of Governor's Regional Substance Abuse Task Force Meetings

The regional substance abuse task forces will convene this week for the third round of meetings around the state. The full schedule is attached to this release.

The purpose of the regional task forces, as set forth in Executive Order 5-11, is to provide the Substance Abuse Advisory Council with recommendations for additional support for substance abuse services and programs. The task forces will also address possible realignments or additional funding strategies; advocate for legislative action; and recommend other initiatives to support the overarching goals set forth in the statewide substance abuse strategic action plan.

The regional task forces met in late September for their initial meeting and in October for the second time. Task force members, through structured facilitated meetings, have identified existing prevention, early intervention, treatment and recovery programs in each of their regions. They have also determined services that are missing or may be needed for their region.

The public is encouraged to attend the meetings along with health-care providers; law enforcement and military personnel; faith-based organizations; and other interested parties.

Go online to <http://terzettocreative.com/clients/taskforces/> to learn more about the Governor's Regional Substance Abuse Taskforces.