

January 19, 2022

Dear Stakeholder,

Over the last couple of months, the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) has been sharing information with you about a new treatment locator resource called [ATLAS®](#) (Addiction Treatment Locator, Assessment, and Standards Platform). Pennsylvania is now currently in the collection phase for all licensed treatment facilities to be included in ATLAS. As the deadline of **January 28, 2022** quickly approaches for completion of the Treatment Data Survey (TDS), I'd like to take the time to highlight why this valuable resource is important to your agency and why it is even more important to the thousands of Pennsylvanians living with substance use disorder that we work so tirelessly to help.

- Individuals and/or their loved ones can take a 13-question survey to help them find a licensed treatment provider to assist with their specific needs.
- Those seeking treatment in ATLAS will be able to search by location, language spoken, insurance/payment options, age specific and special populations such as LGBTQ+ welcoming.
- This website is free to those seeking treatment and to licensed treatment providers whose information is included in ATLAS.
- A link to the tool will be included in various communications from our agency including but not limited to media campaigns and our [PA General Access \(justfive.org\)](#) website.
- DDAP's [Get Help Now | Care Provider \(pa.gov\)](#) will also utilize ATLAS as a resource to help individuals find the treatment they need.
- Since Shatterproof publicly launched ATLAS in July 2020, the site has seen over 6,079 unique visitors from Pennsylvania alone. This statistic is extremely important as the pertinent data about Pennsylvania's licensed treatment providers is not yet available to individuals visiting the website.

Additionally, since the conversation began about [implementing](#) ATLAS in Pennsylvania, our agency has worked with [Shatterproof](#) to hold stakeholder roundtable demonstrations and implemented a PA ATLAS Advisory Group. Some important facts and myths have been realized out of those discussions:

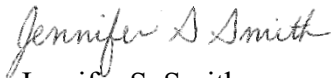
- ATLAS is **NOT** replacing an in-person assessment completed at a licensed treatment facility.
- DDAP is not mandating providers to be a part of ATLAS. However, participation is strongly encouraged.
- The use of ATLAS does not negate the need to have continued relationships between licensed treatment providers, Single County Authorities and Behavioral Health/Managed Care Organizations.

- Providers with multiple locations can take steps to streamline the time for completing the TDS and some providers have already taken advantage of this one-on-one technical assistance. If you need any assistance with completing the TDS, please email ATLAS@Shatterproof.org.

You can find more information on ATLAS, by visiting the ATLAS website. For all other questions, please contact Kim Coleman, DDAP's Chief of Staff at kcoleman@pa.gov or Angad Buttar, Shatterproof's Director of State Engagement at abuttar@shatterproof.org.

We truly value the work that you do at your agency. Adding ATLAS as another tool in our toolbox is just one more way that Pennsylvanians looking for the most appropriate drug and alcohol treatment and resources will be able to find the help they need and deserve.

Sincerely,



Jennifer S. Smith
Secretary