

Substance Use Disorder in Women: History, Use, and Treatment

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Helping women sustain sobriety helps communities thrive. Whenever we invest in women, the gains are much greater because of the primary role women play in families and with children.

- John Corlett, The Center for Community Solutions (Cleveland, Ohio)



History

1935

Alcoholics Anonymous was founded in Akron, Ohio. Bill W. and Dr. Bob take the front stage in history. After Henrietta Seiberling introduces them on Mother's Day 1935.

1939

On August 18, 1939, the first alcoholic patient was admitted to Akron St. Thomas Hospital by Sister Ignatia, making St. Thomas the first hospital in the world to treat alcoholism as a medical condition. Also, Marty M. became the first official woman to join Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and achieve long-term sobriety.

1941

The first all-women group started in Cleveland, Ohio. Even though more women joined A.A. in 1946, A.A. was mainly a group for men.

1970 and 1980's

Due to the "women's alcoholism movement," women-focused treatment centers started to emerge.

1990's

Research finally started to focus on SUD in women - Schmidt and Weiser (1995) discussed the "women's alcoholism movement" of 1970s and 1980s due to the drug-exposed infant increase.

2000's – TODAY

SAMHSA released the TIP 51 in 2009. Increased research focus on women's needs including Green, Saxena, Preeta, Messina, Sugerman, Meyer, Reilly Greenfield, and more.

AA Founding

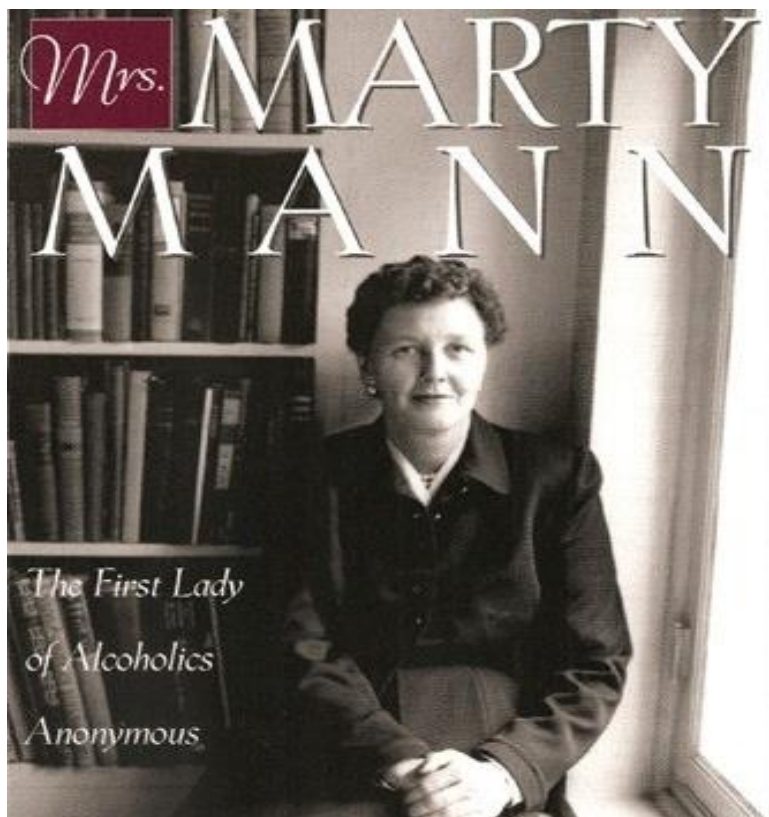
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Photo Credit to: <https://charlesreeza.tumblr.com/post/636085868860440576/the-carriage-house-at-stan-hywet-hall-and-gardens>

AA Founding



Marty Mann

Also, Marty M. became the first official woman to join Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) and achieve long-term sobriety.

Medical Treatment of Alcoholism

1939

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Sister Ignatia

The First All-Women Group

1941

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Women-Focused Treatment Centers

1970 and 1980's

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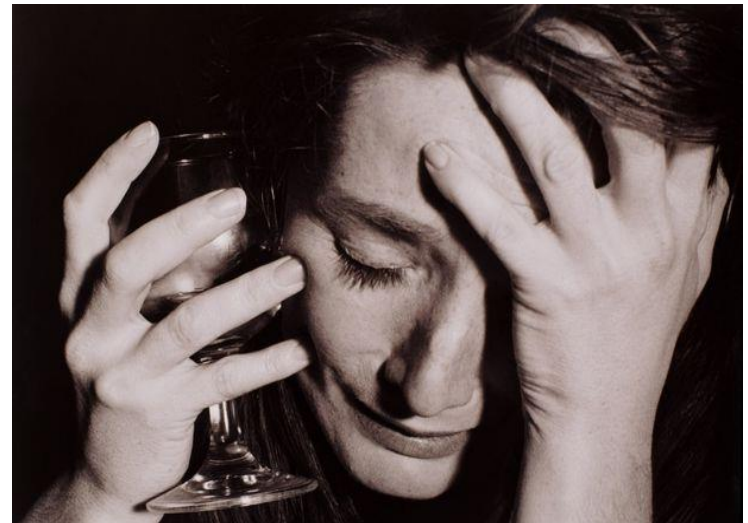
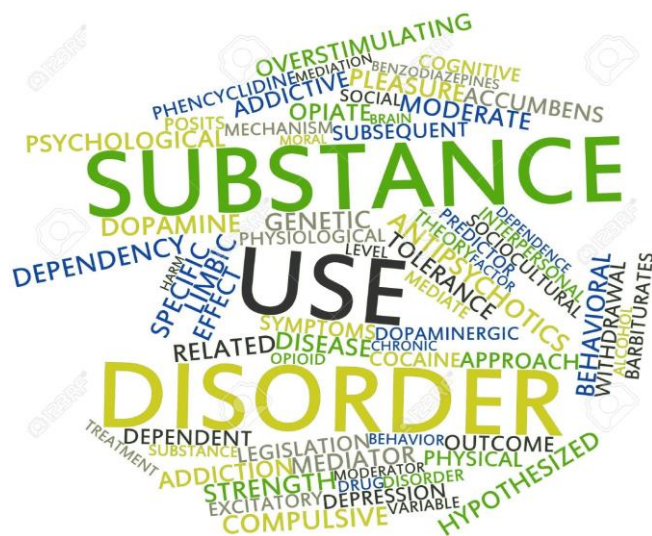


Photo credit to <https://www.clearbrookinc.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/05/woman-alcoholic.jpg>

Research on SUD in Women

1990's

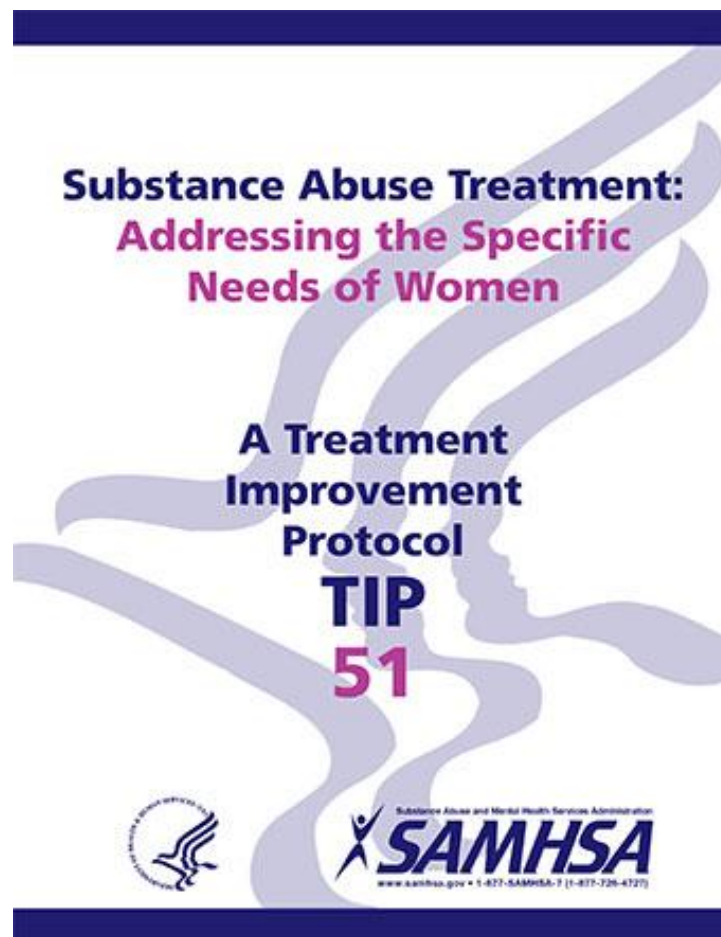
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TIP 51

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Thank you.

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