

## **PLANK 3 - SUPPORTING CONSUMERS**

### **RESOLUTION 3.02:**

## **PROMOTE BEHAVIORIAL SCREENING AND INTERVENTION**

Behavioral health conditions, including depression, anxiety, problematic alcohol consumption, prescription and illicit drug misuse, obesity and smoking, are extremely common in the working-age population and are very costly for employers. Obesity and tobacco use are the leading preventable causes of death. Problematic alcohol and drug use are major contributors to accidents, lost work time, medical expenses and premature death.

There is growing evidence that regular screening for these common conditions in health care settings, paired with brief interventions, together lead to reductions in risky behaviors and corresponding reductions in medical expenses.

The Alliance supports public policies at the federal and state level that promote widespread adoption of brief screening and intervention through making data on screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) services publicly available, including SBIRT in publicly sponsored health benefit design and providing adequate reimbursement for SBIRT services.

#### Sources:

United States Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. SBIRT: Screening, brief intervention, and referral to treatment. Retrieved at [https://www.integration.samhsa.gov/SBIRT\\_Issue\\_Brief.pdf](https://www.integration.samhsa.gov/SBIRT_Issue_Brief.pdf)

National Council for Behavioral Health. 2015. The business case for effective substance use disorder treatment. Retrieved at [https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/14\\_Business-Case\\_Substance-Use.pdf](https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/14_Business-Case_Substance-Use.pdf)