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Please visit our updated website: www.anewpath.cc



Vol XI April 2003

President's Message

I'm really pleased that A New PATH is involved in so many activities and that our name is known around the county and in the state.

We've participated in Proposition 36 committees, attended conferences, seminars and summits. Yes, we've had our small team out on the Walk for Recovery! Recently we held a press conference to present to Bonnie Dumanis an award for her support of the Demand Treatment initiative...our partner in expanding long-term, quality treatment for non-violent drug offenders.

We've restructured the Board of A New PATH to make it more committee-based and we're continuing to apply for more grants so that we may carry out the advocacy programs already started.

Likewise, we are always ready to welcome new members on our committees. It seems that the theme this year (and always) is: "Just saying no to drugs is not enough!" We need your help and support to continue the good work that has been done already. It starts with your membership and then contacting our office to join one of our committees. Hope to see you at one of our general meetings!

Executive Director's Message

This April marks the four year anniversary of the beginning of A New PATH. It is amazing to look back and see where our vision of therapeutic justice has taken us.

As parents of young adults who struggled with the disease of addiction, we felt that we had first-hand knowledge of both the disease and the useless and damaging effects to the individual of punitive measures and incarceration.

Because our children were no longer adolescents, we felt that people were ignoring what we had to say...that society had actually begun to blame us. Prevention is a popular concept, but when a person has been struggling with their addiction into adulthood, society tends to turn away in fear and disgust.

There are so many misconceptions about substance abuse that we wanted to reclaim our voice, and in so doing, we knew that we could significantly reduce the stigma of this devastating disease. And, so, we began to create a PATH that we hoped would lead to saving lives, healing families and building healthier communities.

We started holding monthly educational meetings, sent out quarterly newsletters, and began to build collaborations with other organizations, concerned citizens, community leaders, healthcare professionals, criminal justice, clergy, people in recovery, and legislators.

Highlights of our journey have been: achieving our non-profit status; participating in the passage of Proposition 36, which mandates treatment instead of incarceration for non-violent drug offenders; and our recent Join Together/ Demand Treatment partnership to expand quality treatment in our community and end discrimination against people who seek treatment, sobriety and recovery.

Members
can purchase

PATH Pins \$10
PATH T-shirts \$10
Resource Guides \$10
PATH License Plate Holders \$5

through our office:
619-670-1184 or email:
anewpath@cox.net

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A New PATH meets the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the cafeteria of API Hospital: 7050 Parkway Drive, La Mesa, 91942. Phone: 619-465-4411. We invite you all to attend our educational speaker meetings.

***Please note that we will not be having a meeting on Tues. May 6, 2003 as we are encouraging you to attend a meeting with Citizens Against Violent Crime on Thursday May 15 at 7pm at Foothills Christian Center, 365 W. Bradley, El Cajon, CA 92020.**

Mayor Mark Lewis of El Cajon, El Cajon City Councilmember Bob McClellan, Jim Benson, Vice Chair, Citizens Against Violent Crime, and Gretchen Burns Bergman, Executive Director of A New PATH will all be speaking at this evening of education, tradition, thought and action.

For more information: logon to www.Amend3strikes.com.

Upcoming PATH Speaker Meeting at API Hospital

We invite you to an informative and stimulating meeting on Tuesday, June 3, 2003 with speaker, District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis, "Building Effective Collaborations between Parents, Advocates, Healthcare Providers and the Criminal Justice System to Increase Substance Abuse Treatment"

A New PATH 2003 Committees

Please help us to move forward with our goals by joining one of our committees:

Legislative & Prison Reform: Chairs, David Beck-Brown & Caroline Stewart

PR & Publicity: Chair, Leah Fine & Chana Orozco

Membership: Chairs, Dianna Flint & Sylvia Liwerant

Fundraising: Chair, Tami Ball

Education & Recovery: Chair, Kim Healy

Demand Treatment!: Chair, Gretchen Burns Bergman

It Takes a Community...Chairs, Connie Conard & Cynthia Birnbaum

Contact the office at 619-670-1184 or email anewpath@cox.net to join a committee.

Did you know . . .

- > Traffic crashes involving alcohol kill more than 16,000 people per year?
- > Approximately 14 million Americans meet the diagnostic criteria for alcohol abuse or alcoholism?
- > 500,000 students between the ages of 18 and 24 are unintentionally injured while under the influence of alcohol?

"Is my drinking risky? Are my drinking patterns harmful, risky or within safe limits? What is moderate drinking?"
Find out @ www.alcoholscreening.org

Alternative News Sources

www.anewpath.cc
www.jointogether.org
www.narconews.com
www.drcnet.org
www.reconsider.org
www.drugpolicy.org

A New PATH newsletter is published quarterly by the Parents for Addiction Treatment and Healing non-profit organization.

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San Diego County Recognized for Supporting Substance Abuse Treatment

District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis accepts Demand Treatment Award

Parents and Healthcare Professionals Creating Effective Collaborations with Criminal Justice to Save Lives, Heal Families and Build Healthier Communities

On Wednesday, March 19, 2003, A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing) announced the launching of a strategic plan to expand quality substance abuse treatment in San Diego County, as a partner of Join Together's National Initiative to end discrimination against people who seek treatment, sobriety and recovery. The event was held at Crash Golden Hills House.

San Diego has been chosen out of 50 applicants from around the United States to become a Demand Treatment partner. A New PATH, as part of this initiative, is creating strong collaborations with various segments of our community, including healthcare professionals and the criminal justice system, in order to reduce the stigma of the disease of addiction as well as advocate for more quality treatment and rehabilitation services throughout our community.

Gretchen Burns Bergman, Co-Founder and Executive Director of A New PATH stated that, "This is a wonderful opportunity to expand our efforts towards reducing the stigma of the disease of addiction and increasing treatment and rehabilitation availability in our county. Through this partnership we can make a significant difference in saving lives, healing families and building healthier communities".

A New PATH is a non-profit organization of parents of individuals suffering from the disease of addiction, concerned citizens and community leaders working together to advocate for better understanding of and more treatment opportunities for the disease of addiction.

Join Together is a project of Boston University School of Public Health. "Too many people fail to get the treatment they need because they don't think it will work, or fear they will be fired or forced out of their homes," said David Rosenbloom, director of Join Together. PATH joins 14 other communities, including Boise, Chicago, Denver, Des Moines, Houston, Indianapolis, Knoxville, Manchester, Mobile, Nashville, Pittsburgh, San Antonio, San Francisco, Trenton and Tucson.

District Attorney Bonnie Dumanis was presented with a Demand Treatment! Award because she is a leader in the vital collaboration now ongoing between San Diego's criminal justice system and healthcare providers in regards to substance abuse treatment. She has proven her dedication with years of service in the San Diego Court system. She was a presiding Judge of Drug Court and was active in the implementation of Proposition 36. A New PATH believes that collaboration between criminal justice and the healthcare system is imperative in providing quality and long-lasting treatment for individuals and their families who suffer from the disease of addiction.

The major areas we intend to focus on are:

Substance abuse is a chronic illness that can be treated as readily as diabetes and hypertension. Approximately 60,000 people have sought residential treatment for drug addiction in San Diego County in the past 24 months, yet 45,000 of these were unable to receive treatment. For each person admitted, local residential treatment providers estimate that an additional three people sought a treatment bed and were unable to get it. The Little Hoover Commission's recent report states that California should expand and improve access to drug treatment programs. They are working!

San Diego County has the second highest narcotic overdose death rate in the State. Yet, effective treatment modalities such as methadone continue to be stigmatized. Although methadone maintenance has been widely endorsed by government and medical organizations, it has not been understood or accepted by the public.

Buprenorphine, a new treatment for heroin addiction, has just been approved by the FDA. It can be prescribed by a doctor in an office setting, further endorsing the fact that addiction is a legitimate medical illness. The ravages of heroin and other narcotic addiction on society, families, and individuals are dramatic. We will work towards increasing access to quality treatment and expansion of services.

Fifty-four percent of American adolescents admit to having tried an illicit drug by the time they finish high school. Our children are experimenting with drugs. San Diego County has a zero tolerance policy in place for use or possession of illegal drugs. A study from Britain's Home Office concluded that zero-tolerance policies hide student's drug use. It encourages children to conceal rather than deal with their drug use. Early intervention and referral to treatment programs is a better policy. There are currently approximately 96 county residential treatment slots for adolescents in San Diego County, which is grossly insufficient in order to handle the number of San Diego youth that have serious substance abuse problems. Our goal is to significantly increase availability of these services.

Budget “Realig))nment” Threatens the Success of Proposition 36

By Gretchen Burns Bergman
(As seen in the San Diego Psychiatric Newsletter)

In Governor Davis’ plan to balance the state budget, virtually every program including education would be reduced. This is a crisis, not only of budgetary matters, but also of social integrity and morality.

According to an article in the Union Tribune on January 19, 2003 by David Nott, “Despite a \$34.8 billion deficit, the Department of Corrections is actually slated to get a 1 percent increase in funding”. Could this possibly have anything to do with Gray Davis’ campaign contributions by the prison guards union?

Programs that are proven to reduce crime and create healthier conditions for California residents, while decreasing costs in the long run are slashed, but the almighty prison industry continues to grow. (California’s prison budget has almost doubled since the early 1990s, and this year the United States will lock up approximately 1.2 million nonviolent offenders.)

There are possible positive solutions that go untried. For example, some lawmakers believe that an early-release program from prison could save the state \$132 million in its first year. In a brief from the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, they contrast \$79.3 million in savings by removing state prison as an option for minor felony offenses with cuts worth \$75 million to the University of California higher education system.

Have we ceased to believe that a better-educated population is more likely to commit fewer crimes and generate improved healthcare opportunities for our citizens, thereby saving money while investing in the future?

More than 30,000 drug offenders have been diverted from prison into treatment since 2000 because of Proposition 36, and California’s Legislative Analyst’s Office estimates that the initiative will save state taxpayers \$1.5 billion over the next 5 years. Despite this, the Governor is proposing a “realignment” of Proposition 36, which requires first and second non-violent drug offenders to receive substance abuse treatment instead of incarceration.

The proposal would transfer the funding structure from the state trust fund to each individual county. According to Kathryn Jett, director of the California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, “The thrust of the realignment is to find a more stable funding source that is locally controlled.”

A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing) and other proponents of Proposition 36 are adamantly opposed to this “realignment” plan. We believe that it is against the will of the voters, and that it will threaten the success of the initiative. According to Bill Zimmerman, executive director of the Campaign for New Drug Policies, “Under the realignment, there is no \$120-million guarantee of treatment funding. Instead, counties become responsible for treatment. Counties have no specific monies to pay for treatment. The support for treatment will be destroyed by realigning the program down to counties.”

Supporters of Proposition 36 have vowed to sue if the proposal is not withdrawn. The authors of the initiative clearly placed state government at the center of its implementation to ensure adequate funding, oversight and auditing. The very real danger is that without state oversight, it would simply dissolve into another un-funded program with which overburdened counties would have to deal.

It amazes me that although the public cried out for a new approach to the failed strategies of the “drug war”, and the new plan was mandated by 61% of the voters, a Governor (whose campaign was so generously contributed to by the Correctional Peace Officers Association) could, by the stroke of a pen, alter the course of history.

I believe that Proposition 36 deserves a fair test. I urge citizens to speak out once again to defend the original plan of its implementation, because over time it will save Californians money and lives and, by example, spread this success to the rest of the nation.

Take Action Against the Higher Education Act (HEA) Drug Provision

Students and activists are involved in lobbying, media outreach, and grass roots activism efforts aimed at repealing the 1998 Higher Education Act drug provision – a misguided law that delays or denies access to higher education funds to any person convicted of any drug related crime.

Representative Barney Frank (D-MA) has introduced H.R. 685, a bill with 40 co-sponsors that would repeal the provisions that prohibit students with drug convictions from receiving financial aid.

In 1998 Congress passed amendments to the Higher Education Act that delays or denies federal financial aid to anyone ever convicted of any drug offense. According to the Drug Policy Alliance, “Increasing access to education is an effective way to help students overcome their addiction and lead productive lives”.

Students for Sensible Drug Policy is a leader in the fight to repeal the 1998 Amendments to the Higher Education Act. Since beginning this fight, more than 100 student governments have called for the repeal of the HEA drug provision. Moreover, SSDP chapters have helped create four scholarship and loan programs to replace aid lost by students with drug convictions.

A New PATH supports HR 685 to repeal the drug provision. We believe that people in recovery need access to higher education. We urge you to help students get the education they deserve!

From the Inside

with David Beck-Brown

ARTS IN CORRECTIONS

An argument for funding California's Arts in Corrections program

A convicted felon is arrested and incarcerated into a California state prison. Even though his conviction may be justified, he will be serving his prison sentence with fear, hatred and boredom. While imprisoned, he will learn unforgettable lessons, beginning with racism.

The first lessons in prison are simple, everyone in prison is either a "Mexican", "white", "Black" or an "other", (we may now add "Asian" to this list).

All Latinos are called "Mexican", even if they were born in Columbia, Chili, Cuba or elsewhere. (No exceptions in prison, they are "Mexican".)

The English (once exclusively known as Anglos) are grouped with Russians, Scots, Poles and so forth, and are known as "white" (spelled only with lower case letters). All "whites" are also exclusively known as Anglos.

The third racial group is called "Black" (black is always capitalized when referring to African-Americans).

Asians (whether or not they come from China, Taiwan, Japan, or Korea) are making inroads into our prison population. Until recently, Asians were called "other" (spelled in lower case letters).

Following this introductory lesson in racism, prisoners may experience the dangers of associating too closely with other inmates outside their designated racial group, as defined above. Associating with inmates outside your group may cause great bodily harm, if not death.

The second most commonly learned lesson in prison involves protecting oneself from physical assault. This may require cultivating friendships within one's racial group for the sole purpose of garnering the group's protection. This association may become a "clique" or a "gang".

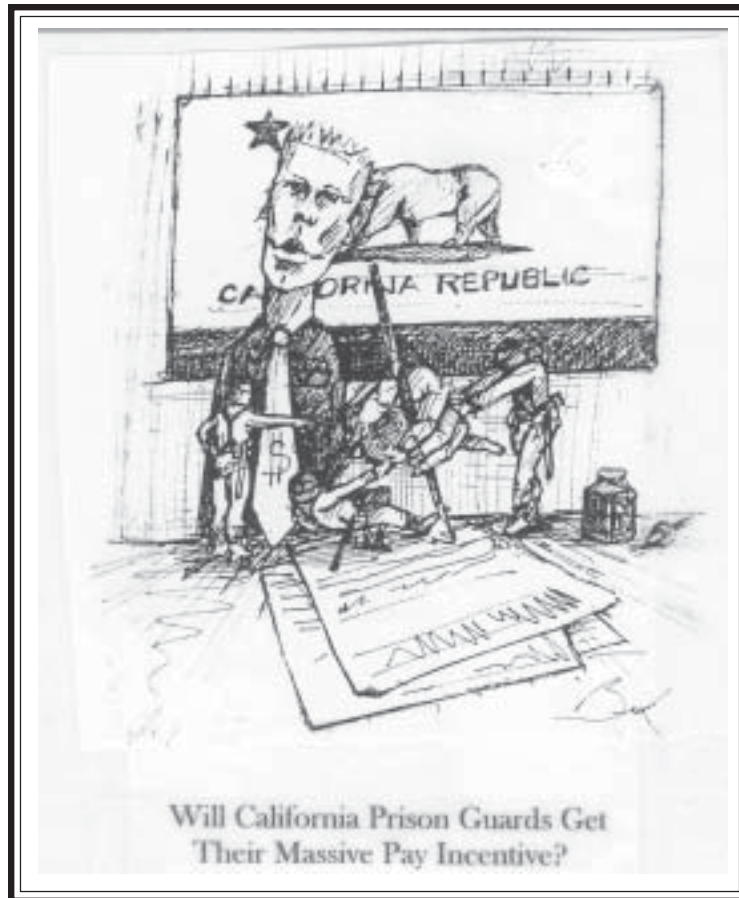
Becoming a member of such a group will not come cheaply because the group will demand restitution (demonstrations of allegiance) in the form of favors. These favors are to be carried out without question.

The group's protection and friendship will extend to assisting the new inmate in developing his tool-making skills. He will learn unique techniques for fabricating and concealing makeshift prison knives, or "shanks". The group may also provide exercises in manipulating the judicial system, methods of committing successful crimes, and how to successfully laundry money. Most inmates learn subtle ways of psychologically isolating themselves from feeling emotional pain.

Ultimately, inmates will learn the law of "Cause and Effect" and that words have repercussions. Insulting another inmate with a casual remark, or even a look, could result in being "stuck" with a makeshift shank. Prison justice is always more se-

vere than the crime.

Inmates will learn the infamous prison mantra "I know nothing." After serving several years in this environment, prisoners are released into the community. How will they conduct themselves as your new neighbor? Will they be different? What other lessons will they have learned in prison?



Study Supports Treatment Over Prison

Join Together Online Headlines

New research concludes that drug crimes can be greatly reduced if nonviolent drug offenders are sent to treatment rather than prison, the Associated Press reported March 11, 2003. The study, conducted by Columbia University's Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse, evaluated the Drug Treatment Alternative to Prison (DTAP) program that was implemented in 1990 in Brooklyn.

Researchers compared 280 program participants with 130 drug offenders who were sent to prison. They found that those in the Brooklyn program were 67 percent less likely to return to prison. In addition, graduates of the program were nearly four times more likely to have a job after they left the program than before they entered it.

"It makes a phenomenal difference," said Joseph Califano, chairman of Columbia University's Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse. "We do not have to throw away the key for a large number of people we thought had no chance."

The DTAP program includes treatment, counseling, and job training in a strict environment designed to encourage self-discipline. Participants remain in the program from 15 to 24 months.

Funding California's Arts in Corrections

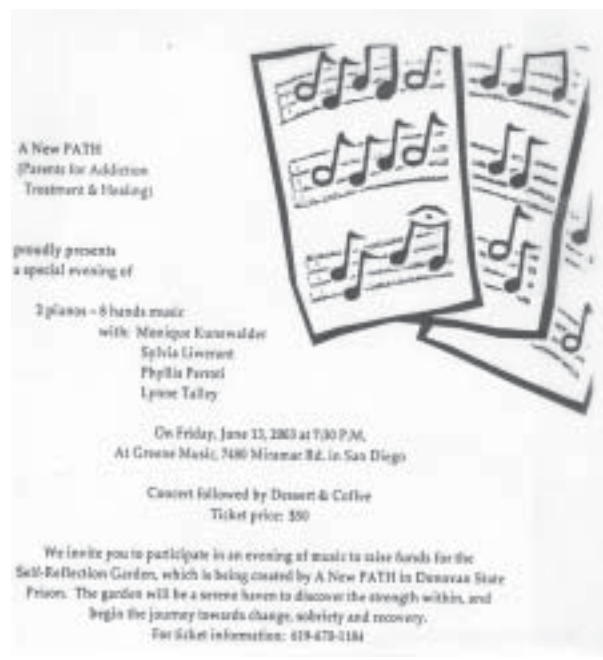
Continued from page 5

Arts in Corrections occupies the time and attention of the inmates participating in the program. The program is documented at reducing the inmate participant's violent behavior, destruction of state property and violent acts while incarcerated in prison.

Inmates participating in the Arts in Corrections program self-monitor their own behavior. They do so because they want to retain the privilege of working in the program. Many of the Arts in Corrections inmate participants have become literary authors, successful sculptors, and so forth, from employing skills learned in the program. Upon release from prison, inmates participating in Arts in Corrections stay out of prison in greater proportions than inmates who do not participate in the program.

Because it rehabilitates prison inmates, Arts in Corrections could be called a Behavior-Modification Program or a Riot-Prevention Program. Call it what you may, the bottom line is that Arts in Corrections saves taxpayer dollars by lowering inmate recidivism. It offers a positive alternative to the criminal lessons available to them while incarcerated in our penal system.

A New PATH



Executive Director's Message

Continued from page 1

Proposition 36 begins to address our first goal, community-based treatment instead of incarceration for non-violent drug offenders. In San Diego County alone, 3,631 individuals have been referred to treatment. Now, we need to look at early release into treatment facilities for non-violent offenders who were incarcerated before the law took effect. We also need to work on expanding treatment services by conveying the message that residential treatment centers add value to their communities.

PATH's second goal is for substance abuse treatment behind bars for offenders who don't qualify for community-based treatment because of the serious nature of their crime. It has always been a principle of this country that convicts receive treatment for their various medical conditions, as needed.

However, substance abuse treatment has been discriminated against behind bars, just as it has in society at large. We believe that treatment should be the answer no matter what door the addict goes through.

I am happy to announce that we have begun the process of creating a "Self-Reflection" garden in Donovan State Prison. There is much drug use behind bars, and very little treatment opportunities. Our idea is to create a safe and serene place where an individual can begin to look inwards and contemplate a life change. Hope is a necessary ingredient in having the power to choose a new and sober PATH.

Again, it is just a beginning, but look how far we have come with our organization. Through education, advocacy, effective collaborations and your help, the light will continue to take away the darkness.

Demand Treatment Institute – San Francisco 4/03

By Dr. David Bergman

The Demand Treatment team arrived in San Francisco on April 2 for the second conference with the purpose of reviewing our strategic plans and progress thereof, sharing with the other 13 partners from across the country, and learning of new and further developments related to substance abuse and its treatment. This institute's San Diego team consisted of: Gretchen Burns Bergman, Dr. Dan Valentine, Dr. Dennis Kelso, Dianna Flint, and myself.

The usually informative lectures and workshops covered such topics as: screening and brief intervention techniques and services, developments in the areas of managed care and insurance coverage for substance abuse treatment, accessing legislators and political leaders in the interest of increasing demand for and provision of treatment services, as well as techniques in marketing approaches.

Of particular interest and practical significance were the meetings our team had with our colleagues, the other Demand Treatment teams in our state (Sacramento and San Francisco). We identified a number of current legislative bills representing areas of common interest. We also agreed to further communicate and collaborate on such shared areas of importance, such as the NIMBY issue and its related need for residential treatment placement, Proposition 36 related matters, and creative alternatives and treatment options for the addictions (heroin in particular).

Another extremely meaningful and impressive activity was our visit to San Francisco City Hall and our participation in a reception for SF Supervisor Gavin Newsom. Currently a favored pre-candidate for Mayor of San Francisco, Supervisor Newsom articulated a bold pro-active acknowledgement of the terrible public health problem manifested by substance abuse and addiction in the City by the Bay, and embraced an aggressive, comprehensive program to deal with the overall problem.

San Francisco currently has a "Treatment on Demand" policy and is recognized as being an extremely progressive city when it comes to dealing with its severe problems of substance abuse and addiction. It was nothing less than inspiring to hear this young, articulate and charismatic up-and-coming political leader championing our cause.

Once again, the institute proved to be helpful and stimulating. It added to our knowledge and motivated us to further hone our strategy and methods. Even though it was difficult to be working when this magnificent city bid us out to experience its many treasures, the lessons learned will no doubt serve our project and San Diego County well.

The Power of Recovery

by Whitney Taylor

As the Director of Proposition 36 Implementation for the Drug Policy Alliance (www.prop36.org) I spend a great deal of time working with the legislature and state and county governments.

My days are filled with regulatory work; legal battles and helping individuals navigate the often-confusing criminal justice and public health systems. I rarely get the opportunity to experience the amazing effect that treatment and recovery through Proposition 36 has on people's lives.

On May 5, I was fortunate enough to be invited to speak at the Community Connections Graduation in San Diego. A large number of the graduates had been through the Proposition 36 program and in fact I was told that this was to be the largest Proposition 36 graduation to date.

I had prepared some notes in order to talk about the statewide program and how tens of thousands of individuals in California were going through the process that these graduates had just completed. I wanted to congratulate these individuals for all of the hard work they had accomplished in their treatment, and remind them that they still had a support system in the struggles they faced in the future during their recovery.

As I sat on the stage, watching people come up and receive their diplomas with their loved-ones cheering them on – I became overwhelmed. I was overcome with what these graduates had accomplished in the last several months. My heart was warmed by their courage and resolve. It made me realize that no matter how hard I worked on public policy and legislation – the battle that these individuals had taken on through the Proposition 36 program was the real reason to fight for more just and humane drug policies.

When I got up to give the keynote address I broke out sobbing. Only in the world of recovery would my public and sudden expression of emotion be welcomed with open arms. Cheers came from the audience and I was encouraged to let it all out and only begin when I was able to speak through my tears.

I was finally able to share my admiration and awe of this group of graduates for the struggles they had conquered. And would again face, during the rest of their recovery. But in the end I could only thank them for letting me be involved in such an amazing moment in their lives.

San Francisco, a Leader in Harm Reduction Strategies

In 1996, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors endorsed the goal of providing appropriate treatment in a timely manner to any indigent community member who requests it. Community Substance Abuse Services of the San Francisco Department of Public Health developed the **Treatment on Demand** program, which started in 1997.

According to the San Francisco Practice Improvement Collaborative Newsletter, total new treatment admissions, first-time admissions, and admissions to treatment for a primary heroin problem all increased between 1995 and 1999. Programs that provided a range of treatment services (outpatient, day inpatient, residential, and methadone maintenance) increased from 28 percent to 39 percent, indicating a shift from front-end treatment (drop-in, methadone detox) to more comprehensive care.

San Francisco has the highest heroin overdose death rate in the State, requiring innovative approaches to addressing this urgent problem. Because of the difficulty of finding sites for residential treatment, they have started using a mobile methadone van. The injection of heroin and other illicit drugs is associated with the transmission of blood-borne diseases, so the city has a clean needle exchange program.

Injection drug users are also at risk for the development of serious soft tissue infections. Although infrequently life threatening, cellulites and abscesses commonly require treatment, so they have established ISIS, a specialized clinic to provide accessible and cost-effective medical care to patients with soft tissue infections. In the clinic's first year of operation, there were 3365 patient visits and 2255 surgical procedures.

In 2002, San Francisco voters passed Proposition N, or **Care Not Cash**, created by Supervisor Gavin Newsom. It will replace the current all cash benefits provided to almost 3,000 homeless people with guaranteed services that will help transition them to stable housing and employment. If services aren't available, the city won't reduce aid. Proposition N will go into effect on July 2003.

We all share the devastation of the disease of addiction. San Diego, along with other cities in the State could learn from San Francisco's experience.

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anewpath@cox.net

Commission Report on Substance Abuse and Treatment in California

The Little Hoover Commission released its report recently urging state leaders to develop a strategy to reduce the cost and misery of drug and alcohol addiction and expand the quality and quantity of treatment.

The success of California's Proposition 36, which mandates individuals to treatment instead of incarceration was noted and used to encourage the further development of treatment services.

The National Institute for Drug Abuse estimates the annual economic impact of substance abuse to be \$373 billion. This figure includes the costs of health care, social services, and criminal justice systems, as well as the losses due to crime and diminished productivity, and spending on prevention, treatment and law enforcement.

California's share of the national tab is estimated to be more than \$32 billion. The Commission states that treatment programs can save taxpayer dollars by breaking the cycle of addiction and incarceration.

The study states that treatment works and recovery is possible. It says that, given the consequences, and the potential for recovery, the ultimate goal should be for **treatment on demand**. It concluded that California needs to take the next step in progressive drug policy by focusing all drug- and alcohol-related efforts on harm reduction in order to minimize the human and fiscal costs of addiction.



It takes a community

A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing) and the Mental Health Association (MHA) are proud to announce our fourth annual gala event!

SAVE THIS DATE!

Saturday evening, September 6, 2003
at the Wyndham Emerald Plaza Hotel
400 West Broadway, San Diego

To reserve a table or become a sponsor, please contact
**PATH (619) 670-1184 or
MHA (619) 543-0412**

Buprenorphine

New research shows that a daily dose of buprenorphine and intensive psychosocial treatment are safe and highly effective in treating individuals with heroin addiction, the Doctor's Guide Review reported February 2003.

On October 8, 2002 the Schedule III narcotic medications Subutex (buprenorphine hydrochloride) and Suboxone tablets (buprenorphine hydrochloride and naloxone hydrochloride) received FDA approval for the treatment of opioid dependence. It is estimated that there are approximately one million individuals in the US who are addicted to heroin.

Physicians qualified to treat opioid addiction with Suboxone are listed on Buprenorphine Physician Locator maintained by The Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration. In San Diego County, these physicians are currently qualified to prescribe Subutex and Suboxone:

John E. Milner M.D., 18091 Bee Canjon Rd., Dulzura, CA 91917

Heywood Zeidman M.D., 4700 Spring Street #220, La Mesa, CA 91941

Stuart Douglas Klein M.D., 15721 Pomerado Rd., Poway, CA 92064

Dr. Alan A. Abrams, 3551 Front St., San Diego, CA 92103

Robert D. MacFarland M.D., F.A.S.A.M., 3719 Fourth Ave., San Diego, CA 92103

Dr. William C Mathews, UCSD Medical Center, 8681 200 W. Arbor Dr., SD, CA 92103

Allan H. Rabin M.D., 4540 Kearny Villa Rd., #117, San Diego, CA 92123

Frank Jan Stass M.D., 5694 Mission Center Rd., Ste. 180, San Diego, CA 92108

Adolescent Statistics

- **San Diego Schools have a zero tolerance policy for drug and alcohol.**
(District Policy and Procedure Manual)
- **Zero-Tolerance Policies Hide Students' Drug Use. "It encourages children to conceal rather than deal with their drug use, and can lead to exclusion of those caught".**
(Study from Britain's Home Office)
- **In the 2000/01 school year, approximately 2,750 students dropped out of public high schools**
(San Diego Report Card 2002)
- **In 2001, 27.4% of students surveyed reported alcohol use, and 12.6% reported marijuana use.**
(San Diego Report Card)
- **Leading Physicians call Adolescent Substance Abuse a Major National Public Health Problem.**
(Physician Leadership on Drug Policy)
- **Underage drinkers account for nearly 20% of the alcohol consumed in the United States each year.**
(Columbia University National Center on Addiction & Substance Abuse)
- **Almost 27% of 8th graders admit to having used an illicit drug in their lifetime. This number rises to 54% by grade 12.**
(National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- **More than a million teens in the United States need drug treatment, but fewer than 10% are in programs.**
(Marthea Falco, President of Drug Strategies)
- **First-time heroin use among 12-17 year olds increased fourfold from the 1980s to mid 1990s.**
(National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- **There are currently approximately 96 Licensed County Supported Beds (inpatient services) for Adolescents in San Diego County, yet Thousands have Serious Substance Abuse Problems.**

A New PATH
2527 Doubletree Road
Spring Valley, CA 91978

Mission Statement

PATH is a voluntary organization of concerned parents of individuals suffering from the disease of addiction. Our PURPOSE is to partner with health care professionals, the justice system, recovering addicts and concerned members of society to seek better understanding of the illness and "therapeutic justice" for substance-related criminal activities.

Our GOAL is to reduce recidivism, save lives, heal families and move toward a healthier society.

Our Proposals for Alternative Sentencing

1) Long-term mandatory rehabilitation in a structured alcohol and drug-free recovery environment for non-violent offenders.

2) If the nature of the crime does not allow for this alternative, sentencing should include immediate placement in a rehabilitation and recovery program within the prison system.

3) Upon release from prison or recovery homes, substance abusers should be mandated to a transitional program in a sober-living environment to prepare them to re-enter society.

History

PATH grew out of a series of pre-Substance Abuse Summit meetings with parents, Superior Court Judges and officers of the criminal justice system in the Spring of 1999. Founding members are Gretchen Burns Bergman, Sylvia Liwerant and Tom O'Donnell.

**PATH
would like to thank:**

- ⇒ **The California Endowment**
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- ⇒ **Las Patronas**
- ⇒ **Join Together/ Demand Treatment**

For their generous support!

Attention PATH Members...

For immediate and up-to-date information, please send us your e-mail address and we can inform you electronically! Our email address at PATH is anewpath@cox.net

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