



A New PATH

Parents for Addiction Treatment and Healing

Real People Recover...

a project of A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing) to reduce the stigma of drug addiction and to celebrate recovery from substance abuse and addictive illness, and part of a national campaign

Addiction & Recovery: Communities Take Action

Addiction is a preventable, treatable medical condition from which people can and do recover, but most Americans don't understand this. A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing) and a broader coalition of San Diego county partners, including the Drug Policy Alliance and Solutions for Treatment Expansions Project are advocating for new attitudes and policies that will end stigma and discrimination in order to make it possible for more people to get the help they need to achieve long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs.

A New PATH joins 29 other communities in a national outreach campaign, in partnership with Faces & Voices of Recovery, the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions and Join Together, and supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to educate our communities about the reality of long-term recovery.

HBO has produced a documentary about addiction, which will air on March 15, 2007. In conjunction with the broadcast, A New PATH is organizing several events to help expand the audience for the HBO program and generate follow up activities that will expand its reach and impact. HBO's multi-platform media event, **The Addiction** project, is a groundbreaking 14-part series, with a centerpiece documentary offered free to cable subscribers during a four-day preview on HBO, March 15-18.

One in four Americans has a family member who is struggling with addiction. Currently, addiction affects 22.2 million Americans, yet only 9% are receiving the treatment they need.

Proposition 36 has allowed over 140,000 Californians to enter treatment and has saved the State \$1.3 billion in just 5 years. The Prop 36 Alumni Association was formed in 2006 by Oliver Hamilton to further the success of this landmark treatment-not-incarceration law. PATH is committed to supporting their advocacy efforts, and was instrumental in the forming of a profound partnership and learning experience.

A highlight of A New PATH's **Real People Recover** campaign is the art exhibit and reception, *We Pass on the Street*, held on February 24, 2007 at 5pm at the San Diego Art Institute in Balboa Park. Students of UCSD and San Diego City College interviewed individuals in recovery from the Proposition 36 Alumni Association, and transformed these oral histories into works of art. Professor Andrea Singer developed the cross-discipline collaborative project with her husband Professor Bill Stewart. The "found poems" (created by selecting quotes from the interviews) and the participant's artwork is a part of the exhibit, and excerpts from the poetry and interviews are also brought together into an artist's book. *We pass on the Street* depicts the sometimes disturbingly dark, but often subliminally beautiful poetry of inner-connectedness and distancing from one another that is a part of our human experience", said Gretchen Burns Bergman, Co-Founder of A New PATH.

A premiere 4-minute segment of the HBO documentary, **Addiction**, will be shown at the exhibit, and a press conference will be held at the San Diego Art Institute at 4:30pm, prior to the reception, with students and Prop 36 graduates available for interviews.

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