The 2012 Annual ASAS Recovery Convention

Seeking to Educate, Advocate, and Inspire

Please join us February 18th, 2012 at the Texas Tech Center For the Study of Addiction and Recovery.

Association of Students About Service

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Even today, there is much misunderstanding about addiction. The idea that addiction is somehow a form of moral weakness or that the addict somehow chooses to suffer like he does, must be smashed. The cost of addiction on society is practically incalculable. It clogs the justice system, the welfare system, hospitals, jails and mental institutions. Nicotine, alcohol, and sex addiction carry huge costs of medical treatment for associated diseases including HIV, liver disease, and lung cancer. Hardly a family in America is unaffected.

For the individual, addiction means the loss of everything which is important or worthwhile in life. Relationships die, children are warped, jobs are lost, health fails, and the justice system intervenes unsuccessfully, over and over again. Thousands of lives are lost through overdose, associated diseases, vehicular accidents, crime, and domestic violence. So, when are we going to begin to understand the disease of addiction? We cannot begin to heal until we accept the truth about addiction in society, in the individual and family systems, and ultimately, in our own minds and hearts. Only then, we can begin to see the roots of addiction, the complicating factors and ultimately, the successful treatment of addiction in America today.

The misunderstandings of addiction has lead many addicts to suffer and die. We live in a world that refuses to see addiction for what it is: a disease, like any other, which requires medical study, psychological application and societal change. Advocacy is the route by which we begin to instill legitimacy to the disease; where we set a platform of equal footing with other diseases in research, politics, prevention, and education. Like cancer or diabetes, educating the public can lead to prevention and early detection of the risk factors. With the devastating human and emotional toll that addiction brings, can we afford to be silent anymore? We seek to advocate for those affected, to advocate for the science around addiction, and to speak most of all, to the addict who suffers silently today, who is dying at this moment. We seek to let the world know that people can recover.

To Educate

To Advocate

To Inspire

People do recover. Recovery works. Twelve-Step programs work. People regain their lives once again; this is the great fact for those who suffer. Being left to die in the face of an indifferent public, families which have given up, an unsympathetic legal and medical system, only to find a solution and a way out. Despite the human costs, many recover and take useful places one again in society, in their families, and most importantly, they find a place within themselves where they can be happy, joyous, and free. Utilizing and accessing the powers of good in this universe, in the hearts of others in recovery, and through mutual support, love, and tolerance, the addict finds his way back to the world.

Please join us for a day of lectures and appearances from the leading medical schools, advocacy groups, authors and representatives of various 12-Step and recovery groups. With greater understanding comes greater hope!