

Myths About Drug Addiction

Drug addiction is a voluntary behavior. It starts as occasional drug use, as time progresses so does the compulsive drug use.

You have to want treatment for it to be effective. No user wants treatment but studies have shown those who enter "high pressure" treatment programs, have better results.

Treatment should be a one-shot deal. Addiction is a CHRONIC disorder & will require longer-term treatment as well as repeated treatments.

People can stop using drugs at anytime. Reality is long term drug use changes a person's brain function, making it harder for the person to quit, especially adolescents.

Treatment just does not work. Studies show that treatment reduces drug use by 40-60% and can decrease criminal activity and improve prospects for employment.

Nobody seeks voluntary treatment until they hit "rock bottom". Many things can motivate a person to seek & complete treatment, such as family, employers can be a powerful motivator.

There should be a standard of treatment program for everyone. Best programs develop individual treatment based on individual' problems.

You can't force someone into treatment. Treatment does not have to be voluntary. Ordered treatment by the court can be just as successful.

People can successfully finish treatment in a couple of weeks. The best predictor of success is length of treatment. Patients who remain at least 1 year are more likely to remain drug free.

People who continue to abuse drugs after treatment are hopeless. Drug addiction is a chronic disorder and relapse does not mean failure...just incomplete success.

Information from DrugFree.org



Casey's Story

Casey was an energetic young man who enjoyed life until it was "taken" by drugs. As a boy, he participated in sports such as soccer, baseball, basketball, and wrestling. He enjoyed collecting baseball cards, playing video games, playing the guitar, riding bikes, and skateboarding. All of that changed when he turned to drugs.

Casey's middle-class upbringing did not matter in the least when it came to the disease of addiction. Casey never intended to become addicted to drugs when he used the first time. What he did not realize was that his using would progress from abusing to dependence then to the disease of addiction.

Casey suffered from an ultimately fatal disease, he was expected to respond as a normal, healthy young adult and choose treatment for himself. Parental intervention was discouraged and denied. Now it is too late for Casey but because of him, there is hope for others who suffer from addiction.



The Matthew "Casey" Wethington Act for Substance Abuse Intervention

Healing
Option that
Provides
Empowerment for
Families
United for
Life

For more information visit:
www.caseyslaw.org

What is "Casey's" Law?

Casey's Law provides a means of intervening with someone who is unable to recognize his or her need for treatment due to their impairment. This law will allow parents, relatives, and/or friends to petition the court for treatment on behalf of the person who is substance abuse impaired.

Why Not Wait for Court Intervention?

Not all people who are substance abuse impaired are arrested or, in the event that they are, may not receive the necessary treatment.

What Does This Law Provide?

This law provides **HOPE** to family and friends of someone who is suffering from the disease of addiction.

Addiction is a Disease...So why isn't it Treated Like One?

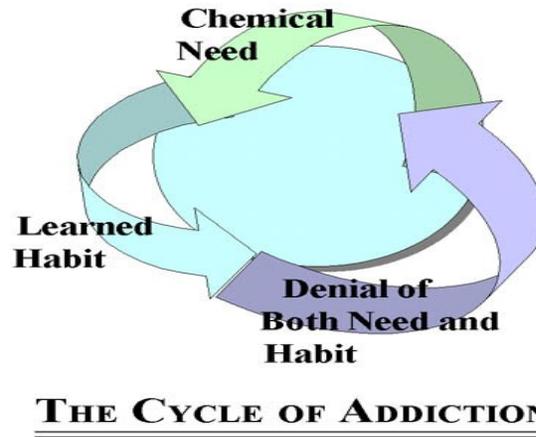
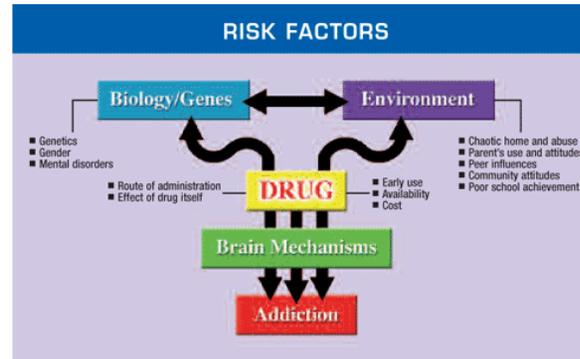
Drug addiction is seen as a character flaw when in fact addiction is a brain disease.

Just like cancer, drug addiction has an array of treatments tailored to address individual unique needs

Treatment does not mean recovery.
It is an ongoing process.

Addiction does not happen because you or your loved one did something wrong.
It is a brain disease.

It is your responsibility to help change the stigma attached with addiction and help break the cycle



The Steps For HELP...

File a petition with the circuit clerk by a spouse, relative, friend, or guardian of the substance abuse impaired person.

The petition is reviewed by the court and determines if there is probable cause to order treatment to the person named in the petition.

If probable cause is established, the court orders the respondent to be evaluated and a hearing is set within fourteen (14) days.

The respondent is notified of the date and purpose of the hearing.

The respondent is evaluated by two (2) qualified health professionals, at least one (1) of whom is a physician.

If the court finds the respondent should undergo treatment, the court shall order treatment from sixty (60) days or up to three hundred sixty (360) days, dependent upon the request in the petition and the result of the hearing.

Where Can I Find a Copy of the Law?

The law can be accessed in its entirety at www.lrc.state.ky.us. Click on the "Legislative Resources" link and choose KRS 222.430 to 222.437.

How Can I Obtain a Copy of the Petition?

A copy of the petition can be obtained at the circuit clerk's office by requesting Form # 700A, the Verified Petition for Involuntary Treatment of Alcohol/Drug Abuse.

For more information visit:

www.caseyslaw.org