



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS ADVISORY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 8, 2011

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## **PEOPLE IN RECOVERY SHARE STORIES OF ADDICTION**

*"Recovery: A Community Affair" Takes Place September 10*

**WHAT:** People in recovery from alcohol and drug addiction, along with their families, will share stories of how addiction impacts not only the individual but families and the community. The recovery event commemorates September as National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, and San Diego County is recognizing the power of the family and the community in supporting people through their recovery journey.

Participants will be joined by family and friends as they celebrate months and years of being clean and sober and encourage drug users to seek help. The three hour event will feature a talent showcase, art exhibition, and resource fair.

**WHO:** **Nick Macchione**, Director, County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)  
**Susan Bower**, Director, Alcohol and Drug Services, HHSA  
**Judge Peter L. Gallagher**, San Diego County Superior Court, Adult Drug Court  
**Parents and people in recovery**

**WHEN:** **Saturday, September 10, 2011 at Noon**

**WHERE:** **Balboa Park  
President's Way and Park Blvd.—Lawn Area**

**WHY:** During fiscal year 2010-2011, nearly 12,200 people were admitted into County-funded treatment centers. Approximately 10,300 were adults and about 1,900 were 18 years of age and under.

Meth was the primary drug of choice for 38 percent of adults entering treatment and marijuana was the primary drug of choice (79%) among adolescents.

Among people in County-funded treatment programs, 48 percent were white, 32 percent were Mexican/Latino, 11 percent were Black/African-American, 3 percent were Asian/Pacific Islander, 1 percent Native American and 5 percent other.

Typically, about one third of people who enter treatment complete their program, one third drop out, and one third make some progress toward recovery.

People with substance abuse problems can call the County's Access and Crisis Line at (800) 479-3339.

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