

Narconon Arrowhead Opens New Field Office



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Press Release Summary: To help deal with escalating street and prescription drug addiction Narconon Arrowhead, one of most successful drug rehab facilities in the world, announced the opening of a new field office in Texas...

Press Release Body: The Narconon Arrowhead Drug Rehab Facility Expands Its Public Outreach To Deal With Serious Problems Such As Prescription Drug Addiction...

Austin, Texas, October 2, 2007 -- America's war on street drugs routinely garners headlines but much less attention is given to our problem with prescription drug abuse, despite the fact that it is more widespread than abuse of all types of illicit drugs combined, excepting only marijuana. And despite their therapeutic purposes, controlled prescription drugs can be just as deadly as heroin, cocaine or other street drugs. To help deal with this escalating problem, **Narconon Arrowhead**, one of the largest and most successful drug rehab facilities in the world, announced the opening of a new field office, located in Austin, Texas.

"Americans are so accustomed to trusting the medical community that they don't have the same sense of danger about these drugs that they do with street drugs," stated **Ryan Thorpe, Director of Admissions at Narconon Arrowhead**, a residential drug and alcohol rehabilitation facility in Canadian, Oklahoma.

"There are media stories on prescription drugs and celebrities such as Lindsay Lohan and Britney Spears, but what people may not know about is how pervasive prescription drug addiction really is: It can be bad enough to account for 23 percent of all drug-related emergency room admissions and more than 20 percent of all single drug-related emergency room deaths. ER admissions from this cause have grown three to four times faster than admissions for heroin or cocaine use. Our answer to this crisis includes the opening of a new field office in Texas."

Abusing

OxyContin:

One of the most frequently abused drugs is **OxyContin**, an opioid (opium-like) painkiller. The strength of **OxyContin** made it a valuable painkiller for those people suffering from severe pain that no other painkiller would touch. The higher dosage was made safe for use by administering it in a time-release formulation. The downside: all abusers had to do was to crush or dissolve the tablet to thwart its time-release mechanism. The result of abuse was a high similar to heroin.

Also prone to abuse are stimulants such as **Ritalin**, often available from a young friend who would rather sell the pills than take them, anti-anxiety drugs **Valium** and **Xanax**, and steroids. In 2003, approximately six percent of the U.S. population admitted abusing controlled prescription drugs -- that's 15.1 million people. Growth of this type of abuse far outstrips the growth in use of marijuana, cocaine or heroin.

*"Painkillers such as hydrocodone which includes **Vicodin** and **Lortab**, and drugs in the benzodiazepine class such as **Valium** and **Xanax** are subject to widespread abuse," added Thorpe. "The area has seen a steady increase in their involvement in drug mortality cases in the last few years with a huge jump in 2002. One of the worst aspects of prescription drug abuse is that it predisposes young abusers to street drug use. Teens who abuse controlled prescription drugs are twice as likely to use alcohol, five times likelier to use marijuana, 12 times likelier to use heroin, 15 times likelier to use **Ecstasy** and 21 times likelier to use cocaine. By failing to conquer this epidemic, we are creating a future epidemic of street drug use."*

"All the drug enforcement efforts in the world will be wasted when these teens and young adults graduate from controlled prescription drugs to street drugs. The tidal wave of demand will ensure that heroin, cocaine and other drugs will make it to the streets no matter

*what barriers are placed in the way. **Effective rehabilitation** that eliminates drug cravings and restores a person's ability to enjoy a drug-free life is essential, along with drug education that keeps new teens and young adults from falling into the same trap."*

Effective Drug Rehab:
Thorpe explained that the **Narconon Arrowhead program** has been successful in helping adults both young and old create new drug-free lives for themselves for more than 40 years. *"Six out of ten of our graduates are drug-free two years after completion of our program, regardless of the type of drug that was being abused. This is the kind of success that will turn this dangerous situation around."*

The **Narconon program** was founded in 1966 by **William Benitez** in Arizona State Prison, and is based on the humanitarian works of **L. Ron Hubbard**. In more than 120 centers around the world, **Narconon** programs restore drug abusers and addicts to a clean and sober lifestyle.

For a free information pack including a copy of the 36-page booklet "**Healing Addicted Lives**" and a **DVD video presentation**, call **1-888-585-0888** or visit their web site and watch the video at www.EffectiveDrugRehab.com.

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