DAYTOP MARKS 40TH YEAR

As we take pride in our first issue of Daytop California’s newsletter, OUR COMMON GROUND, we celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the nation’s oldest and largest Drug Free Therapeutic Community – DAYTOP VILLAGE INC.

Daytop was founded in 1963 by Monsignor William B. O’Brien in New York City, realizing that with most street crimes’ the common denominator was drug and alcohol abuse and addiction.

Daytop Village is based on the therapeutic community concept founded on a mutual self-help model to enable individuals to overcome their substance abuse in a structured family environment with positive peer interaction. Daytop has helped thousands, young and old, achieve long-term successful outcomes.

Reflecting on one of our unwritten philosophies, “You Can’t Keep It Unless You Give It Away”, Daytop has grown to over 30 treatment centers throughout the nation and has a presence in over 60 countries which have established their drug and alcohol treatment programs based on the therapeutic community.

Daytop continues to be recognized as a leader in substance abuse treatment.

In maintaining the basic tools of the therapeutic community, that has over time proven to be successful, community and public support has grown through the years. The profile of Daytop support, to name a few, has ranged from family and friends of individuals in treatment, to prominent political leaders, well known artists and professionals.

In its humanistic endeavors, as Monsignor O’Brien’s book, ‘YOU CAN’T DO IT ALONE’ points out, being surrounded by a feeling of warmth and inspiration is what Daytop is all about.

It is our HOPE that the readers of our newsletter join us in support of our mission to help young and old develop and set new and healthy goals to attain a responsible and productive life.

"Daytop was an experience that changed my life forever...it was difficult, painful but also one of the best times in my life."
- Daytop Graduate

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OUR MISSION

The mission of Daytop California is to treat the whole person while addressing the substance abuse problems of adults and adolescents. Special services are provided for treating substance abusing individuals with trauma and stress disorders. All programs are non-sectarian and all services are delivered with the highest quality.
DAYTOP CA TEENS WIN 2003 GOLD CUP

The combined team of Daytop California and Daytop New Jersey won the 2003 Mini Olympic Gold Cup at an event held in New York in June, a first in Daytop Mini Olympic history.

The overall point total shifted when CA-NJ stole the basketball championship by edging the favorites in the final game. Two individual gold medals earned in the track events helped seal the overall championship. The Gold Cup is proudly displayed at the Daytop CA adolescent facility.

The Mini Olympics is an annual event comprised of 15 competitive teams representing Daytop facilities across the country. Separate events are conducted for adults and adolescents.

Booths consisted of carnival games and prizes for young and old. There was also cotton candy, snow cones and music to complement the mild fall weather.

A popular attraction at the festival was the dunk tank which featured “daring” Daytop staff testing the throwing accuracy of clients and guests alike.

“Along this journey, I can’t point to a single event or time period at Daytop when my son finally “got it” but he clearly now “wants it”."

Daytop Parent

Daytop’s Family Association, led by Board Member Carolyn Hoskins, sponsored its first Clean & Sober Street Festival. The affair was held September 20, 2003 at the adult facility in East Palo Alto.

Pulgas Avenue, fronting the facility, was the scene of a colorful array of booths and displays manned by family association members and Daytop clients.

The displays showcased the clean & sober lifestyle and provided information on Daytop CA’s various services.

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Family Association Update

The summer has been a busy one...

-We held several carwashes which paid for some of the residents’ recreational activities during the summer. The highlight of these activities was a horseback riding event which the residents enjoyed tremendously.

-The Family Association (FA) donated $2,000 to the newly opened Daytop Preparatory School.

-Hosted a Staff Appreciation Dinner for the adult facility.

-Guest speakers from the San Mateo County HIV Program met with the parents during the adolescent August meeting. It was informative for everyone.

-Organized an Ice Cream Social for the Daytop adult community.

-On September 20, 2003, the FA sponsored Daytop’s first Clean & Sober Festival at the adult facility. The event was open to the public and was a resounding success.

-On September 22nd, parents were invited to the adolescent facility to have dinner with residents as part of “Parents Communicating with Children Night”.

-Throughout the summer, monthly educational topics included Co-Dependency, Moral Development and Communication Skills. Slated for September: Enabling/Over Indulgent Parenting Pitfalls.

Daytop CA teens win 2003 Gold Cup

Christian, left, displays the Basketball Championship trophy while Nick proudly hoists the 2003 Gold Cup.

Facility Director Wilfred Sinceno at the SF Stingrayz booth.
CLIENT HIGHLIGHTS

Brendan C.

“I will do it for however long it takes and it will make all the difference.”, Brendan asserts.

Brendan has been with the Daytop adolescent program for 10 months and proud of his 11 months of sobriety.

It wasn’t too long ago that he sat in juvenile hall and sent to Daytop by his P.O.

“This is the hardest thing I’ve ever done.”, is how he describes the challenges he has faced while in treatment. “Every waking minute is a test on your honesty, resiliency and commitment.”, he adds.

Brendan’s “Treatment Tribunal” won runner-up honors in the newsletter naming contest conducted in both Daytop facilities.

Chris P.

Chris’ “Our Common Ground...” earned top honors in the contest and was adopted as the newsletter’s title. He has been a resident of the adult facility over 5 months.

Besides his daunting figure and wearing size 16 shoes, Chris has a sense of humor and possesses a big heart. “My 18 inch shoes can put out a forest fire rather quickly. I know I’m a big person but I am soft-spoken and have compassion for other people.”, he tells the interviewer.

He describes the Daytop treatment environment as “a place where we are all working together and sharing the pain, helping each other help ourselves”.

Like Brendan, Chris has found treatment challenging. But he plans on sticking it out and getting what he can for himself.

GRANT AWARDED TO DAYTOP CA

Daytop California was one of 13 alcohol and drug treatment providers selected by the Charles and Helen Schwab Foundation to receive grant funds in the amount of $100,000 over two years as part of their groundbreaking BEST Initiative.

The overall goal of the initiative is to improve organizational capacity. The grant funds will be used to identify and assess organizational systems that need to be improved and/or developed so that organizations could provide better services.

Daytop California has chosen to focus its grant funds on fiscal systems improvement, board and fund development.

“...from loss, hatred and sorrow to love, respect and values. Nothing in my life has had a stronger impact.” - Daytop Graduate

NEW DAYTOP CA BOARD ASSEMBLED

Joe Hennen, Vice President of Daytop Village Inc convened Daytop CA's new local Board in June 2003.

The Board provides leadership and governance of Daytop CA in pursuing its mission and strategic plan.

The plan provides for the expansion of Daytop’s adolescent services. The formation of a Board Development Committee will ensure the expansion and diversification of Daytop CA’s fund base.

The members of the Board are:

- Joe Hennen
- Ron Galatolo
- Carolyn Hoskins

-P. Kevin Hoy
-Raymond Rosenthal
-Leo Tealdi
-Joe Vidosh

Board meetings are held every 2 months.

DAYTOP PREPARATORY SCHOOL OPENS

The Daytop Preparatory School (DPS), a Nonpublic School, opened its doors for instruction on September 3rd, 2003.

DPS will focus on providing special and mainstream educational services in line with the required California Academic Content Standards.

The school is led by Principal and lead teacher Alison Shenon, and teacher Lia Tealdi.

Alison was the 1st teacher for the Daytop School in 1988 when it was operated by the San Mateo County Office of Education. She brings over 18 years of experience teaching educationally needy adolescents.

Lia Tealdi is a graduate of the Daytop California Adolescent Program and a graduate of U.C. Berkeley. She is also an accomplished artist.
A Message from the Executive Director:

The Daytop organization celebrates its 40th year of saving lives, a period marked by the birth of Daytop California in 1988.

Through somewhat uncertain political and economic times, Daytop California looks forward with mild optimism and moves to expand and deliver services of the utmost quality.

This “Family Repair Station” continues to flash its beacon across the landscape, touching those who seek and need its assistance.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Orville Roache, Executive Director

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PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT & IMPROVEMENT WORKSHOP HELD

James Curtin, Daytop NJ Administrator, visited Daytop CA and conducted a 2-day workshop on PMI. Training was held September 17-18, 2003. Attendees included the CA Leadership Team, clinical staff and administrative personnel.

The workshop underlines Daytop CA’s effort towards Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI).

The training was hands-on and stressed teamwork.

CA’s Strategic Plan calls for an ongoing staff training consistent with the pursuit of its mission and philosophy.

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STAFF MATTERS

STAFF ADDITIONS

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the new staff members that have joined the Daytop CA staff team over the past year:

- Eileen Smith – Program Assistant, Adult Facility
- Derrick Powell – Counselor, Adult Facility
- Susan Rand-Baker – Counselor, Adult Facility
- Estella Crumb – Counselor, Adult Facility
- Jennifer Bruha – Counselor, Adolescent Facility
- Fred Serena – Finance & Operations Manager, Daytop CA
- Denise Dugas – Asst. Clinical Director, Daytop CA
- Karen Hill – Counselor, Adolescent Facility
- Kellie Arechiga – Night Manager, Adolescent Facility
- Lisa Carter – Counselor, Adolescent Facility (On-Call)
- Terry Kinoshita – Intake Counselor, Adult Facility
- Lana Lagunera – Counselor, Adolescent Facility
- Molly Hero – Counselor, Adolescent Facility
- Philomena Edward – Cook, Adolescent Facility
- Kenny Rhodes – House Driver, Adult Facility

STAFF TRANSITIONS

We would like to acknowledge and congratulate staff members who have transitioned into new roles in Daytop CA during the past year:

- Elizabeth Fifield – Executive Assistant
- Luis Enage – Development Manager

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For a Drug Free California

“I remember the streets, walking all night long, alone, the sadness, and the drugs…after being in Daytop, my goals changed …I have been clean and sober for five and a half years now…” - Daytop Graduate

Orville Roache, Executive Director

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