



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

# NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## MOTHER AND DAUGHTER SHARE THEIR STORY OF DRUG ADDICTION AND RECOVERY

*Former Addicts Say "Thank You" and "I am Sorry" through Artwork*

**WHAT:** County health and elected officials are joined by people in recovery from alcohol and drug abuse to **unveil** the **"I am sorry...Thank you"** exhibit, showcasing the **artwork of treatment patients** from throughout the county. The exhibit was created to **commemorate National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month**.

**A mother and daughter** and others will share their **stories of addiction and recovery** and encourage drug users to seek help.

**WHO:** **Vice-Chairwoman Dianne Jacob**, District 2, County of San Diego Board of Supervisors  
**Nick Macchione**, Director, County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency  
**Sam Valdez**, Program Director, Nosotros, MAAC Project.  
**Mother and daughter, former meth users**  
**Other former drug users**

**WHEN:** 10 a.m.—Wednesday, September 10, 2008  
**WHERE:** County Administration Center—East Plaza  
1600 Pacific Highway

**WHY:** In 2007, more than 13,000 people were admitted into County-funded treatment centers. Among those admitted, meth (39%) was the drug of choice, followed by alcohol (23%), marijuana (20%), cocaine (8%), heroin (8%) and other drugs (2%).

It is estimated that more than 22 million Americans, 12 years of age and older, are dependent or abuse alcohol or illicit drugs.

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

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

**VISUALS:** Postcards, fliers, posters, letters and other artwork created by patients in treatment centers. Interviews with former drug users.

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