



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

NEWS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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IS YOUR CHILD USING DRUGS?

***County Experts Available to Talk about Teen Drug Addiction
and Drug Use Warning Signs during Red Ribbon Week***

October 23-31, 2008 is Red Ribbon Week throughout the nation; a time when schools will sponsor activities to encourage students to remain drug-free.

What drugs are students abusing these days? What drugs are they addicted to?

Susan Bower, Director of the Alcohol and Drug Services division of the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency, will be available to provide answers to these and many other questions related to student drug use.

Bower and other Alcohol and Drug Services officials are also experts on the warning signs of drug use and can provide information to parents to help their children make healthy choices. They can also talk about the types of treatment programs the County funds throughout the region.

If you are interested in scheduling an interview with Bower or another Alcohol and Drug Services expert, please call José Álvarez at (619) 515-6635.

In 2007, more than 13,000 people were admitted into County-funded treatment centers. Of these, nearly 2,000 were under the age of 18.

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

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

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