

Clermont Recovery Center, Inc.
1088 Wasserman Way, Suite C
Batavia, Ohio 45103
Phone: 513.735.8100
Fax: 513.735.8103
www.recoveryctr.org

CLERMONT RECOVERY CENTER, INC.

News & Views

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5

JULY - SEPTEMBER, 2005

A Time to Celebrate!

Welcome! As we celebrate three decades of serving our community, CRC has adopted a new image to express our deep commitment to our mission. A significant part of this effort is a new logo. Not just a pretty typeface, this logo has been carefully designed to signify the foundation on which CRC stands.



The hands, different shapes and sizes, represent groups of people on two different levels. On one level they are the hands of those in our community. Serving the community is at the heart of CRC's mission. Our programs give people back their lives. They place valued members of the community back with their families, their jobs, and the roles they fill in society. On another level the hands demonstrate the collaborative nature of successful treatment, bringing together the appropriate family members and agencies (health, social services, judicial and law enforcement) in an individualized program which best meets the client's needs.

The convergence of the hands upon the orange background is also significant. Just as the hands come together at a common point, our dedicated professionals come together with their diverse talents to help those in need find the path to wellness. The vivid orange is a beacon of hope and encouragement.



The framework surrounding the hands represents the safe haven that is CRC. Those who come to us discover that we protect both their privacy and their well being, just the sort of place to establish new habits and understand better choices for a healthy lifestyle change. The line underlying our initials, CRC, as well as the earthy color denotes our grounded, systematic approach to treatment. Our treatments are based on evidence and professional best practices. We offer tools which help our clients—both adolescents and adults—avoid common pitfalls, find new support systems, interact more positively with their families and embark on paths of self-reliance and success.

We think it's important to take time to celebrate the successes of our clients and the support of the community. On behalf of the dedicated professionals at CRC, I'd like to extend an enthusiastic invitation to our 30th Anniversary Open House and Fall Festival Event. Please join us on Friday, October 28 at CRC from 3 P.M. - 6 P.M. and help us to usher in our next decade of service and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

Steve M. Goldsberry, LISW, CCDIII-E
President & CEO, Clermont Recovery Center



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Cover
A Time To Celebrate!

p. 2
The Real Drug Problem?

News in Brief

p. 3
DUI Court Aims to Break the Cycle

CRC Spotlight

CRC Receives High Marks

p. 4
Dates to Remember

Clermont Recovery Center, Inc.
is a not-for-profit drug and
alcohol prevention and treatment
agency funded in part by the
Clermont County Mental Health
and Recovery Board.

News in Brief: Ohio's DUI Laws Change

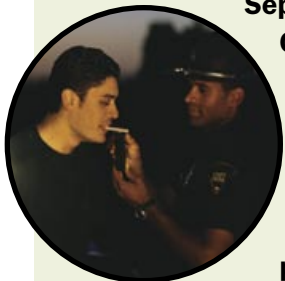
Drunk or otherwise impaired drivers are facing stiffer penalties for repeat offenses under Ohio's new DUI law.

House Bill 163 calls for the former OMVI (operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated) charge to be changed to OVI (operating a vehicle while impaired.) The bill also provides for an additional prison term or a term of imprisonment for certain repeat OVI offenders, an increased penalty for convictions if the offender refuses to take a chemical test after being arrested with a prior OVI conviction and a 20-year "look back" for prior OVI convictions.

Any offender who accumulates five or more OVI convictions within a 20-year period would face a fourth degree felony on the sixth and all subsequent offenses. The bill also provides an additional mandatory one to five years in prison to be served consecutive to any other sentence imposed for offenders convicted of OVI six or more times.

The new DUI law went into effect September 23, 2004.

Offenders who refuse to submit to a BAC test can be charged with a higher penalty level if they have a prior OVI within the 20-year period.



The Real Drug Problem?

Research has revealed reality. Prescription drug misuse is the leading "drug problem" in the United States.

In a comprehensive three-year study sponsored by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University, researchers analyzed the abuse of opioids (painkillers), central nervous system depressants, stimulants and steroids and how these drugs are diverted from their normal distribution channels. The published study, "Under the Counter: The Diversion and Abuse of Controlled Prescription Drugs in the U.S." documented an alarming increase in the number of people abusing controlled prescription drugs from 1992 to 2003. As Joseph A. Califano, Jr., Chairman and President of the center noted in his introductory to the report:

"Between 1992 and 2003, while the U.S. population increased 14%, the number of people abusing controlled prescription drugs jumped 94%— twice the increase in the number of people abusing marijuana, five times the number abusing cocaine and 60 times the increase in the number abusing cocaine and 60 times the increase in the number abusing heroin. Controlled prescription drugs like OxyContin, Ritalin and Valium are now the fourth most abused substances in America behind only marijuana, alcohol and tobacco."

Some of the key findings from the study:

- The number of people who admit abusing controlled prescription drugs jumped 94% (from 7.8 million to 15.1 million) from 1992 to 2003— seven times faster than the increase in the U.S. population.
- In 2003, 2.3 million teens between the ages of 12 and 17 (9.3%) admitted abusing prescription drugs in the past year; 83% of them admitted using opioids (painkillers).
- Younger teens are likelier to abuse only prescription drugs, while older teens are likelier to also abuse alcohol or illicit drugs, which may be evidence of progression to more dangerous use.
- Between 1992 and 2003 there was a 212% increase in the number of 12-17 year olds abusing controlled prescription drugs.
- New abuse of prescription opioids among teens is up 542% between 1992 and 2003, more than 4 times the increase among adults.
- 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 compared to teens who do not abuse such drugs.
- Most people who admit abusing prescription opioids, central nervous system depressants and stimulants (74.7%) are poly-substance abusers; they also admit excessive drinking or use of illicit drugs.

According to Steve Goldsberry, President, Clermont Recovery Center, the findings of this national study reflect CRC's local experience. "Over the last decade, prescription drugs has been the primary category of drugs requiring treatment at CRC. What is alarming at both the national and local levels is the explosive growth of diverted prescriptions by adolescents."

Goldsberry notes that prescription drugs are diverted all along the supply chain from manufacturer to consumer. "Adults may procure and abuse prescription drugs through fraudulent or altered prescriptions, 'doctor shopping,' and other methods of doctor manipulation. Young people pilfer prescription drugs from family members via the medicine cabinet."

continued on page 4



DUI Court Aims to Break the Cycle



The Clermont Recovery Center continues its mission to educate and counsel by working with second and third time DUI offenders through the county's DUI Court, the first of its kind in Ohio.

The DUI Court models itself after the highly successful drug court concept that has shown considerable promise in rehabilitating offenders with alcohol and drug addictions. This specialized docket is intended to supervise DUI offenders in the community, reduce repeat offenses and control the jail population.

This is a pilot program funded in part by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Ohio Department of Public Safety, the Governor's Highway Safety Office and is in cooperation with the Supreme Court of Ohio. Funding for the program is for three years, after which the program will be evaluated for its success in supervising DUI offenders in the community.

The county's DUI Court is a voluntary program that allows an offender to work toward reducing his or her jail sentence. Offenders

are required to report to a probation officer for increased contacts, similar to that of intensive supervision probation.

Offenders are subject to random alcohol monitoring and drug testing, mandatory treatment, and are subject to curfews with or without electronic monitoring.

As with drug courts, these offenders are required to frequently appear before the DUI court judge over a long period of time and receive incentives to reward positive behavior and/or use graduated sanctions to punish unwanted behaviors. Additionally, the program allows for court personnel to act as a liaison to provide pre-screening and alcohol assessments to offenders prior to acceptance. Case management is also offered to link offenders with needed services.

"Our goal with the DUI Court is to reduce recidivism, reduce number of days in jail and give offenders support up front, so they don't re-offend," said Jill Gomez, CRC vice president.

CRC Spotlight

Constance Kirk, Primary Therapist

Qualifications:

Licensed Professional Counselor
Chemical Dependency
Counselor Assistant
Masters of Arts in Counseling
from Cincinnati Christian
University



With CRC:

Full-time since September, 2003

Leads Speciality Groups:

- For domestic violence offenders
- Circle of Recovery Experience (CORE)
- Traditional Outpatient Program (TOPP)

On her clients:

"My heart goes out to [our clients]. I see the power of addiction and the damage it can do. I also see that we can't change unless we are aware that our behavior is not the way it should be. We get caught up in cycles that we are not aware of."

On her colleagues:

"My co-workers are open and caring with clients. We want to help clients meet their goals. There's a real team spirit here and that's what attracted me to this job."

What others say:

"Constance was the energy behind getting the domestic violence support group started. She saw there was a need and really got behind serving these clients. She has a good relationship with the clients and is always professional. She is a hard worker and is always interested in self-growth. She's done a remarkable job." — Jill Gomez, CRC vice president.

CRC Receives High Marks for Family Satisfaction

Responses from the 2004 Family Member Surveys have been compiled and CRC is encouraged by the results. With 160 surveys received:

- 95% of respondents reported that the client was given hope as a result of the services he or she received.
- 96% believed that the client was treated with dignity and respect.
- 96% felt that CRC focused on the recovery of the person served.
- 83% were satisfied with the level of family and client involvement in the treatment process.

Finally, when asked how they would rate the services provided by CRC to their family member overall, 47% of the respondents gave CRC an "excellent" rating, and 49% gave a rating of "good."

"These ratings are taken very seriously here at CRC," said Jennifer Woodrey-Becknell, CQI Manager/Privacy Officer. "Because we view our clients, especially adolescents, within their family context rather than as isolated individuals, we strive to serve the entire family. These results tell us we are doing well in meeting that mission."



Here are some of the comments from survey participants.

"[The program] made a completely different person out of our family member. I don't really think our family member would have made it without CRC."

"Staff was supportive during the hard times, not only for my child, but for myself."

"From our experience with our family member, I totally admire CRC. You people work wonders, change people's lives and even make them realize they are good people after all."

DATES TO REMEMBER

September

National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Month

www.recoverymonth.gov

5 — Labor Day

9 — International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day (FAS)

www.fasworld.com

October

Domestic Violence Month

6 — National Depression Screening Day

www.mentalhealthscreening.org

23–31 — National Red Ribbon Week

www.nfp.org

28 — CRC 30th Anniversary Open House & Fall Festival

Call CRC at 735.8100 for more info.

The Real Drug Problem? continued from page 2

However they are procured, prescription drugs exact a heavy toll on society when abused. Prescription drug abuse can lead to emotional, social and health problems, medical emergencies and even death. In 2002, controlled prescription drugs accounted for 23% of all drug-related emergency department mentions in the U.S.* Adolescent abuse presents its own set of problems. It can lead to addiction, other drug experimentation and can be a pre-cursor to multiple-substance abuse problems, including illicit drug use. This is how a new generation of drug abusers and addicts start.

Goldsberry cautions that in addition to its prevalence, treatment for prescription drug abuse also presents unique challenges. It is not unusual for prescription drug abusers to display their own special brand of denial: the notion that all prescription drug use, including abuse, is safe. In keeping with CRC's collaborative approach to treatment, a great deal of work is also required to determine where the drugs are coming from. "If they came from a doctor," explains Goldsberry, "there is a need to share information and arrive at a treatment plan that accommodates both medical issues, addiction and whatever is being treated by the physician."

While the results of the study by The National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse is alarming, it is no surprise to those at CRC who have been monitoring the rise of prescription drug abuse over the past decade. The good news is that help is available. "Our family-focused individualized services are in place to combat this growing problem among both adolescents and adults," assures Goldsberry.

* From "Under the Counter: The Diversion and Abuse of Controlled Prescription Drugs in the U.S." The full report can be found at <http://www.casacolumbia.org/supportcasa/item.asp?clD=12&PID=138>.

4

Mental Health Matters

Vote for hope in Clermont County.

Imagine a community without the resources to help those with mental illnesses or problems with alcohol or drug abuse. You can protect against that hopelessness by supporting the Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board's Levy on November 8, 2005. Your vote in November will secure funding that will allow us to continue to provide mental health services, prevent alcohol and drug abuse, and provide education and assistance. A healthy community is a hopeful community.

CRC Urges Your Support Of Levy



Bringing Hope. Guiding To Wellness.

1088 Wasserman Way, Suite C
Batavia, Ohio 45103
www.recoveryctr.org