



Pathways

guiding people to a pathway of wellness

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Mission Statement

Renz Addiction

Counseling Center is a not-for-profit corporation dedicated to the prevention, intervention, and treatment of addictive behaviors and disorders and to factors often associated with addiction. The Center strives to provide the most effective preventative and clinical care in a safe and nurturing environment through a teamwork approach for anyone affected by addiction or addiction related issues.

Calendar of Events

February 11-17
Children of Alcoholics Week

March 5-11
National Problem Gambling Awareness Week

April
Alcohol Awareness Month

Liquor Industry's Deceptive Advertising Contributes to Teen Drinking

Renz Addiction Counseling Center is working with the Illinois Alcoholism and Drug Dependence Association to urge citizens and state legislators to act against alcopop producers who are worsening the problem of underage drinking and driving among teens in Illinois. Alcopops – such as Smirnoff Ice, Mike's Hard Lemonade, and Bacardi Silver – start with a malt liquor base, and then add hard liquor and sweet flavors to create a taste that appeals to teens. The alcohol industry advertises them under looser beer and wine rules and calls them “flavored malt beverages” or “low-alcohol refreshers” yet distilled hard liquor

accounts for up to 49% of the alcohol volume.

The Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth documented that in 2001 youth

Alcopops start with a malt liquor base, and then add hard liquor and sweet flavors to create a taste that appeals to teens.

were exposed to 60 percent more alcopop print advertising per capita than adults. This advertising is working, too—the American Medical Association in 2004 found that one-third of teenage girls (age 12-18 years old) and one-fifth of teenage boys have tried alcopops. According to

research by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, adolescents who begin drinking before age 15 are four times more likely to develop alcohol dependence than those who begin drinking at age 21.

These statistics are staggering and avoidable. Many of us remember fighting against “Joe Camel” promoting smoking to youngsters and we plan to wage and win the same war against alcopop producers. By urging state legislators to classify alcopops as distilled spirits, we move one step closer to banning the advertising of this hard alcohol to our youth and help our teens stay safe and alcohol free.

Renz Prevention Provides International Services

On November 30, HIV/AIDS Capacity Building Coordinator, Carlos Chavez and HIV/AIDS Prevention Specialist Monica Quevas accepted a \$3,500 check from the AIDS Foundation of Chicago to direct an international HIV prevention program. The check was presented at the

Global AIDS pre-event of the annual World of Chocolate, sponsored by the Aids Foundation of Chicago. The program establishes a partnership between Renz and COESIDA, a community based organization in Oaxaca, Mexico. The goal is to promote COESIDA's mission and distribute culturally relevant

HIV prevention education materials in both Oaxaca and in the state of Illinois through Renz Center and the Mexican consulate. Renz HIV/AIDS Prevention is pleased to receive this funding as it will allow us to work on a statewide and international basis, educating and preventing HIV.

2006-2007
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Renz Center is a non-profit 501 (c)3 organization funded in part by The Federal Government, The United Way, The Department of Human Services, Division of Alcohol & Substance Abuse, Hanover Township and St. Charles 708 boards and other local community organizations.

Renz Celebrates 45 Years of Service at Annual Gala

This year's annual gala, held at the Fox Valley Business Center at Elgin Community College, November 4th commemorated Renz Center's 45th year in service. Jim Renz, a founding member of the Renz Addiction Counseling Center in 1961 and the agency's first Executive Director, was also honored at the event. Ron Razowsky, Director Emeritus, provided a fitting tribute to the lifelong Elgin resident who recently left the Elgin area to live in Mt. Morris, Illinois. Mr. Renz has dedicated himself not only to the formation of Community Concern for Alcoholism, which was later named to honor him, but also to Kiwanis, an international service club. Also recognized was Dee Reinhardt who received the annual Julie McCormack Award for her extensive volunteer work and ongoing financial support of Renz Center's mission. Guests also heard the touching personal stories of two individu-

als affected by substance abuse who have benefited from Renz Center's services. The evening culminated with a performance by Get Away



Get Away With Murder, Inc. kept guests captivated until the maid confessed!

With Murder, Inc., who awarded certificates to all the "guest detectives" who solved the mystery. The evening provided an entertaining means of celebrating 45 years of service, recognizing outstanding dedication to the Center, and raising funds for future programs.



Renz Center staff surround Jim Renz (with boutonniere) as he was honored at the Gala.

Gracious Gala Sponsors

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Worksite One Resources

De Mujer a Mujer

This year, Renz Center along with Centro de Información is launching a new program to provide HIV Prevention services to Latinas of child bearing age and their partners. The program, entitled *De Mujer a Mujer*, is made possible by a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health, Office of Minority Services. The collaboration between Renz Prevention Services and Centro de Información aims to reduce behaviors that lead to HIV infection and increase HIV testing in northern Kane and western Cook counties. These will be the first services in the area which fill the gap in prevention and testing services for Spanish-speaking women and their partners.

Research has shown that HIV/AIDS has had a dramatic effect on women, with the percentage of women in the U.S. diagnosed with AIDS quadrupling from 7% in 1985 to 27% in 2003 (Office of HIV/Surveillance, 2004). The Latina community is especially vulnerable; in Illinois 56.5% of female Latinas contracted the virus

due solely to unprotected heterosexual contact (Illinois AIDS/HIV Surveillance Report, 2004). Two-thirds of the women in our target population are Hispanic immigrants who speak English as a second language or not at all. Renz Center aims to reach these Latina women who formerly had few options for Spanish-speaking HIV/AIDS prevention education and testing.

Specialized services addressing the unique needs of Latina clients will reduce barriers to early diagnosis of HIV infection, reduce HIV transmission, and increase the number of at-risk individuals who receive HIV prevention services. Comprehensive services to this specific population will also increase access to quality HIV medical care, and complement HIV prevention activities of other local service providers. For more information or presentations contact Carlos Chavez at 847-293-3450 or Mónica Quevas at 847-742-3545 x245.

R.O.P.E. and Renz

Renz Center is now working with the Resident Officer Program of Elgin (R.O.P.E.) to provide specialized programs for families at risk for alcohol and drug addiction. R.O.P.E., originated in May of 1991, was created to improve the quality of life for the residents of Elgin, neighborhood by neighborhood. Each R.O.P.E. officer listens to neighbors, working with them to creatively address their concerns. Renz Center is proud to join forces with these R.O.P.E. officers to provide drug and alcohol prevention education. This new alliance is another way Renz is helping make the community a safer and healthier place to live.

Every dollar spent on drug and alcohol abuse treatment saves the public \$7, largely through reduced crime and the need for medical care.

www.nida.nih.gov/nida_notes/NNVol10N2/CAstudy.html

Million Dollar Hole-In-One Event

JUNE 21-24

Qualifying - Thursday-Saturday, 9-6pm

Semi-finals and Finals - Sunday, 12-2pm

The Highlands of Elgin



All amateur golfers are invited to stop by our tent at The Highlands of Elgin driving range and try their skill at hitting within an 8 foot circle around the 135 yard target hole. Prizes are awarded daily to the person with the most qualifying shots. Top twenty finalists will have one shot at 165 yards to win \$1,000,000! Prizes are awarded to the top ten closest to the pin.

C O U P O N

3 FREE Balls



Renz Addiction Counseling Center

JUNE 21-24

Million Dollar Hole-In-One Event

The Highlands of Elgin (\$5 Value)



Renz Prevention staff are certified to provide TIPS training (in English or Spanish) to those business owners or employees who sell and/or serve alcoholic beverages. Call 847-697-1221.

National Awareness Dates

February 11-17 Children of Alcoholics Week

The rate of total health care costs for children of alcoholics is 32% greater than children from non-alcoholic families.

[nacoa.net/impfacts.htm Children of Alcoholics Foundation, "Children of Alcoholics in the Medical System: Hidden Problems and Hidden Cost," 1988.]

March 5-11 National Problem Gambling Awareness Week

The National Council on Problem Gambling, citing various studies, reports that one in five pathological gamblers attempts suicide, a rate higher than for any other addictive disorder. www.npgaw.org

[National Council on Problem Gambling, Inc., "The Need for a National Policy on Problem and Pathological Gambling in America," 1 November 1993, p. 7].

April is Alcohol Awareness Month

Alcohol is frequently a factor in the three leading causes of death (motor vehicle crashes, homicides, and suicides) for 15 to 24 year olds. www.ncadi.samhsa.gov

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. National Vital Statistics Reports, Volume 47, Number 19, June 30, 1999].



WE ARE THE FACES OF RECOVERY
Recovery is *everywhere*.

Spotlight on Laura Newman



Volunteer board members are vital to the success of any non-profit. Board members devote time every month to oversee the governance of the agency and plan for the future. Laura Newman is serving a second year as our board president. Laura served on our board from 1997-1999, then a family move to Ohio took her away from us. When she moved back in 2003, she was asked to rejoin the board and happily accepted. Laura has experience as an employment law attorney and is presently Human Resources/Administration Manager for Mitutoyo America Corporation in Aurora. She and her husband Steve and their two Rhodesian Ridgebacks live in the southern part of our service area in Batavia. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate volunteer leader.

Through a grant from the Ryan White Care Act Title II we are now able to provide specialized services that include substance abuse treatment for individuals living with the HIV virus.

HIV and Substance Abuse Treatment

Renz Center has a history of providing a variety of outpatient and intensive outpatient treatment services for thousands of individuals suffering from substance abuse and related issues. In 1998, the Center's Prevention Program added HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Services to at-risk clients and has enhanced services through federal and state grants to include outreach, support groups, testing and counseling.

More than two years ago, our clinical staff completed training to provide HIV counseling and testing for clients in our substance abuse and/or gambling treatment programs. To date, over 200 individuals have been tested, but the services don't stop there. Through a grant from the Ryan White Care Act Title II we are now able to provide specialized services that include substance abuse treatment for individuals living with the HIV virus while also providing psychiatric services if needed. Working cooperatively with our local STD/HIV/AIDS medical facility, Open Door Clinic, we provide reciprocating referrals to ensure a continuum of care for our clients. Clients now have free access to addiction treatment services in a supportive environment, sensitive to their special needs.

Prisoners who participate in therapeutic aftercare (community treatment and job training) are more likely to be drug and arrest free. Dr. James Inciardi found that 18 months after discharge, 71% of aftercare participants were arrest free and 76% were drug free— compared to 30% and 48% respectively for those who only received in-prison treatment.

www.nida.nih.gov/NIDA_notes/N NVol 10N4/prison.html

Renz Center's Commitment to Making our Communities Safer

Renz Center has been selected as one of the community based treatment programs in Illinois to provide outpatient and intensive outpatient substance abuse counseling services to individuals discharged from Sheridan Correctional Center. Sheridan's program, one of only a few in the country, provides a highly regarded "therapeutic community" for those with a history of drug abuse. Once discharged and referred to an agency subcontractor, like Renz Center, continued drug treatment programming coupled with an improved parole case management system is expected to sharply reduce recidivism rates. The Sheridan Project is another example of Renz Center's dedication to making our communities a safer place to live and work.

Sheridan's program, one of only a few in the country, provides a highly regarded "therapeutic community" for those with a history of drug abuse.



Employee Assistance Services, an employer sponsored service, is now providing 24-hour EAP services to Spanish speaking employees of member companies. For more information call Rob Castillo at 847-742-3545 x244.

Always Appreciated

Thank you to those who contributed to our client holiday party, provided presents for the children at the party, and/or sponsored our adolescent program. We are also grateful to those who responded to our year-end annual campaign request. Every donation is used to further our mission to prevent and/or treat individuals and families who are suffering from addiction.

Dick & Geri Peterson (in memory of Polly Schmidt Stevens)

Dorothy Felicetti
Elgin Womans Club
Elmer Miner

Ian Jones, M.D.
IHC Construction Companies, LLC
James Ceithaml

Jolie Esposito
Laura Newman
Little Home Church by the Wayside

Lube Express of South Elgin
Manning, Silverman & Company
Marion & Philip Asplund
Michelle Kovar
Rev. Allen Balanger

Rich & Doris Evers
Ruth Miller
Saint Mary's Church of Gilberts

Sherry Totzke
Shirley Sadjadi
Steven Page
Sue & Bill Moylan
Susan Angell-Case

Special thanks to Elgin Township and EFS Foundation for their support as we provide psychiatric services to individuals suffering from a mental health disorder and substance abuse.

Program Overviews

PREVENTION

PROGRAMS implement environmental strategies targeted at promoting healthy behaviors in the community. Comprehensive bilingual prevention services offered include alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention; delinquency prevention and conflict resolution.

- Youth Programs – Project Alert! Girl Power!
- HIV/Aids Program – Education/Prevention and Community Outreach.

CLINICAL PROGRAMS

consist of individual and group counseling, education groups and relapse prevention

counseling. Continuing care groups are available for those who wish to remain involved in the ongoing recovery process.

- Adolescent Services offers programming specifically for adolescents who may be experimenting with alcohol and/or other drugs and for those who have begun to use substances on a regular basis. Treatment services are also available for those who are abusing substances or are dependent. Treatment is tailored to fit the adolescent client's needs.
- Intensive Outpatient Adult Treatment Program

provides the necessary support, education and structure for abstinence while allowing clients to continue to function in their work and family settings.

- DUI (Driving Under the Influence) Program offers comprehensive services for those who have been charged with a DUI.
- Passage Program for Women provides a safe and supportive environment where women can begin recovery and support each other. Pregnant women have priority. Free childcare provided.
- Gambling Program includes individual, family

and group therapy while educating clients on the components of problem and compulsive gambling.

- Family Program provides education and support to those who are in a relationship with someone who abuses substances or has a gambling problem.

EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE SERVICES (EAS)

is a 24 hour company sponsored program designed to help employees and their dependents with personal and/or family problems.

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