THE PARTNERSHIP AT DRUGFREE.ORG'S FACEBOOK "MEET THE PARENTS HOUR" WITH ANDREW ZIMMERN ~COMMENT THREAD- THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2012~

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The Partnership at Drugfree.org

Welcome to "Meet the Parents Hour!" For the next hour we invite you to chat with Andrew Zimmern, Award-Winning TV Personality and Celebrity Chef. Welcome Andrew Let's begin... Andrew, please introduce yourself to our Facebook community... - with Andrew Zimmern.







The Partnership at Drugfree.org Welcome Andrew!

2 hours ago · Like



Scott Tran I was watching the homless episode while i was on day 3 of my cold turkey detox, when i saw that andrew had a drug problem in the past and it helped me through the rest of hell. been clean for 7 months now. Thanks Andrew, you helped save my life! 2 hours ago · Unlike · ₺ 9



Mike Cino Hi Andrew, my name is Mike and I've been clean for 33 days!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 4



Hilary Steinberg-Baris Welcome Andrew! How did you first come to use drugs or alcohol? And what was the first substance you tried? 2 hours ago · Like



Camille Williams Andrew, thank you for your great tv shows! When you were in recovery at the beginning did you go to AA or NA and if so do you still go to these meetings?

2 hours ago · Like



Jeff Morser Is this a live chat with audio or all in comments 2 hours ago · Like



Anthony Yacullo Andrew, I think you are beyond brave for doing this. How did you become and addict and at what point did you decide enough was enough and you got help? What method did you use for your recovery?

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern hey everyone, welcome...especially to the newcomers and to the family members

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 6



Sara Fawcett I'm probably jumping the gun here but, Hi Andrew! I love Bizarre Foods, you've inspired me to want a life of culinary inspired travel for myself. You've shown me a side of the world I wouldn't have wanted to see otherwise!

2 hours ago · Like

The Partnership at Drugfree.org Jeff Morser-no audio 2 hours ago · Like



Pamela J Bear Congrats Scott! Andrew is amazing.. had the pleasure of meeting him once.. Great tan lol And thank you Andrew for all u do!

2 hours ago · Like



Lynnette Brubaker Redington Was alcohol very present in your home? (Liquor cabinet?)

2 hours ago · Like



Charles Feazel did you have addiction on ether side of your family?

2 hours ago · Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt Hi Andrew. Watch you all the time. Just back from my Alanon meeting. How has your Higher Power helped you?

2 hours ago · Like



Rushford Hi Andrew! Rushford is a treatment center located in Connecticut, and we want to congratulate you on your recovery and thank you for being an inspiration to others facing the struggles of addiction.

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern lemme start with a bit of history

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 2



Michael Baum Glad to see the success that you now have Andrew X and the remarkable changes in your life. You're an inspiration to many.

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern i have been continuouly sober since 1-28-92 2 hours ago · Unlike · ø3 15



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Hi Andrew, can you please answer Hilary's question first?

2 hours ago · Like



Kristin Johnson You have inspired my 8 year old son to cook and bake! He stays up late during the summers just to watch your show! 2 hours ago · Like



Lynda Schneider-Fontenot Good afternoon Andrew, first off...absolutely love you and I have to commend you on all your success after overcoming such events that have transpired in your life!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Kay Marley-Dilworth I think it's fantastic to publicly share a recovery story. Brave, and sure to be inspiring.

2 hours ago · Unlike · ₼ 3



Melissa Pavel Traylor 1st of all congrats to 20 years sobriety! My son died 2 1/2 years ago to Oxy after 80 days of being clean. What where your drugs of choice and how often did you use?

2 hours ago · Like



James Fernandez Andrew, today is my birthday, and I just wanted to say thanks for all you do! My family loves watching your show!

2 hours ago · Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt I started an Alateen in my area las tear. not doing so well. any suggestions

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Steve Pasierb Andrew -- congratulations on 20 years!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Priscilla Sanchez Hi Andrew. I have been a fan of yours for a long time. I was wondering if you come from a drug infested home? When did u start and stop using? Have u relapsed? What keeps you sober? I love u and wish u the very best!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt last year ooops

2 hours ago · Like



Jerry Jandoli Desparate parent joining in on the chat; we have had every rehab door closed to us when we had health insurance; so very sad that in our country there is no help for our children and yount adults who want help; yes there are the free shelters advertising as rehabs but even those have waiting lists for months. Any insight would be most appreicated; we are already \$30,000 in the hole for a self pay out patient when we desparately needed inpatient.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Robby Ivy Congrats Andrew of 20 years of freedom! 2 hours ago · Like



Tari Marshall The Partnership is such a needed organization, and it is great that you are giving your time to help them reach more people with their important messages. Drug prevention programs are facing huge funding cuts, so what you and the Partnership are doing is even more critical than ever. Thank you for giving of your time.

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 1



Andrew Zimmern i am a recovering drug addict and alcoholic. i was a homeless bum for a year, squatting abandoned buildings in nyc for a year before my current sobriety. i have been in jail, psych wards, treatment, outpatient, halfway and a bazillion other places trying to get well. my story is like anyone elses. I am a dad a son a husband and an employer, and an employee,

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 13



Allen J Cavin WE need to let the Moderator & Mr Zimmern do the posting till we are asked to post... otherwise this will be a mess...;)

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 4



Scott Tran went to hawaii after my detox and tried puka dog, wasnt that impressed but it was interesting. just got back from another trip to hawaii about a week ago, to do some extreme sports, and had some awsome food. since my detox i am now a fitness guru and extreme sports thrill seeker.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Michael Baum That is awesome Andrew. What an inspiration. Congratulations!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 5



San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Hi Andrew, we are a nonprofit in San Antonio focusing on the prevention of substance abuse with youth and adults. Plus, SA has great food! 2 hours ago · Unlike · €3 3



Amy Nelson Both of parents were/are addicted. They started in their teens in southern california in the 70's and have been through so many rehabs and jail terms i am not sure they will ever stop. They have grandchildren now, I'm not sure how to explain to my three children whats wrong with my parents. They just think they are eccentric at this point.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Anthony Yacullo I'm sure the others in this chat will agree with me, but I wish more people knew of your story and the amazing role model you are for kids and those that struggle with addiction. I have never personally struggled with addiction but have so many friends that have.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Olvan Aguirre I have been clean for 4 years now 2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Pamela Elaine Johnson Thank you for doing this Andrew Zimmern - THERE IS NOTHING MORE POWERFUL than experience having been there and done that. :-)

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Mike Cino Congratulations on 20 years, now I understand why you don't drink alcohol on your show. You set an amazing example.

2 hours ago ' Like ' 🖒 1



Leigh Owens what finally prompted you to get sober Andrew? 2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Cathy St John-Kaufman my nephew died from a drug overdose over the weekend. how do you stop the cycle in a family. My brother died of one at 27?

2 hours ago · Like



Laura Ivy Burns Me and my daughters love to watch your show on Netflix. Their fathers side of the family has major drug and Alcohol problems, so I try and limit tv and internet based shows and websites that promote alcohol and drug use. I think you show shows you can have fun, and travel, and indulge in life without having alcohol as a main source of entertainment. I really think you are a positive role model on tv, and we really appreciate it at our house. Thank you.



Andrew Zimmern Holy moly....lotta questions...i woke up one mornign after trying to drinnk myself to death, it dint work, i was convinced i was a loser. nothing ever fit, or made sense. i had a fleeting feeling i should call someone. and that NEVER happened before, i hated phones, i called a friend and he came to get me out of the flophouse hotel i was in. i immediately regretted that!:) but three days later he got me into treatment and that was it.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 12



Dave Kelly andrew-- thank you for everything- miss you and would love to catch up some day!

2 hours ago · Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt unfortunatly i lost my 19 yr old daughter in 2010. to an overdose but been trying to help kids in alateen. now doing a scholarship in her name at her school for a stuggling kid who overcomes this

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Thanks Andrew....can we get to Camille's quesiton next "Andrew, thank you for your great tv shows! When you were in recovery at the beginning did you go to AA or NA and if so do you still go to these meetings?"

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 2



Lynda Schneider-Fontenot I do have a question. I am 38 and 3 months ago I lost my twin sister Lori to alcoholism and addiction, she was my world as well as the same to many others. It is a struggle to not have her anymore. As much as we could, many of us tried to get her help and was unsuccessful. Not on her part, there are not many places that offer help without having to pay large sums of money for it. So, my question is do you feel that the government and smaller entities could do more to offer affordable treatment?

2 hours ago · Like



Claire Yancey Kelly I am the parent of a culinary student and am wondering how the pressures of the kitchen factored into your addiction to alcohol?

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Tina Stright Do you think that your love of culture and food was a Catalyst in your recovery ... most people trade one addiction for another .

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 1



Sara Fawcett This has got to be overwheling to try and get your story out while answering the sea of questions.

2 hours ago • Like



Kristine Madsen Maple River Schools in Mapleton, MN joining the chat.

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Leigh Owens i know many family members and friends who are/were victims of this disease...congratulations on not being a casualty and becoming someone sooo many people admire, including myself!

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Andrew Zimmern in treatment i was seprated from my chemicals and booze and got a chance to see that sobriety was an option. i was told i needed a relationship to a power greater than myself and i was convinced that it wouldn't happen for me, but someone pointed out that there is a promise in the last step of a 12step program that says if you do the work, you will have that relationship. it changed my life

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 13



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt i wish that rehab would have ended this for my daught but she relapsed and lost her life..how did you deal with relapse

2 hours ago • Like • 🖒 2



Andrew Zimmern re kitchen pressures leading to drinking....i dont buy it. I was an alcoholic from thre get go, i would have been a drunk if i was a lawyer or a day laborer

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 4



Michelle Courtois Moreno Andrew, how old were you when your substance abuse began? I have a 14 year old son that has been in treatment at different places over the past 2 years now and nothing has seemed to work.

2 hours ago · Like



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Thaks Andrews....next is Lynnete's quesiton: "Was alcohol very present in your home? (Liquor cabinet?)"

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Fernando Parra Hi Andrew, I'm a fan of your show and I have even attempted to follow your steps in some parts of Asia.. I'm just curious how was the transition from being out of the drugs into your successfull travel shows? what inspired you to do it? Have you ever done a documentary about this?

2 hours ago · Like



Florida Center for Recovery Inc (FCR) Mazel Tov on 20 years you are an inspiration to everyone struggling with addiction. Keep up the great work!

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Pamela Elaine Johnson Question: Do you, Andrew, think that our public schools should begin addressing "prevention" programs for addiction - so we can help break the continued cycles?

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern relapse is an awful part of the equation. as is the idea that we have a disease that tells us we dont have a disease! relapse does not have to happen, but if it does we need to get back into our recovery and if that means detoxes or treatments so be it. this is a life or death illness

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 7



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Great insight Andrew...next can we answer Melissa's Q:" What where your drugs of choice and how often did you use?"

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Kristine Madsen Mr. Zimmerman, students would like to know what you did as an alternative to alcohol and drugs?

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Pamela J Bear I may not get an answer but I'm going to ask because this is the #1 thing that I cannot get over. How do u feel about people being granted "disability/ssi" for being addicts? I'm certain they put a different label on it but I have 2 friends right now that are rock bottom addicts who continue so easily to be that way because they got disability and don't have to work or even try to function. It makes me so angry! They get free healthcare and money to blow on their drugs/alcohol. It's like the government is paying them to kill themselves instead of help them get clean. Yet families with "private insurances" have to fight tooth and nail to get help.

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Andrew Zimmern re pubic shoool education, i am all for it. education is a vital component to all this, the earlier we can show our kids that there is 'another way' to handle lifes tougher challenges the farther aloong we will be. we also need to teach adults to stop fetishizing drug addiction.



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt if you would come to my scholarship outing ill feed you frogs or something

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching Hey Andrew and everyone else! I'm glad to be here and join in the convo!

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Tina Rashed Any advice for a parent with a son going to the #3 "Party School" in America? Great kid & great school, but the stories I hear horrify me!

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 2



ALL RISE HI Andrew. Thanks so much for participating in this. As a public figure, what was your process for deciding to talk openly about your addiction and recovery? Was it a decision you grappled with or was it something you always knew you wanted to do? 2 hours ago 'Unlike ' \$\frac{1}{2}\$ 2



Anne Levine Miller I have so much respect for you. I don't know if I could have pulled myself out of the addiction even with the help of friends... scary thought....

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Amy Nelson So you hit your bottom...what if some people dont have a rock bottom? My grandparents used to tell me my parents would have to hit eventually, but they would only get clean for a few months or long enough to hide it. My mom has my little sister still who is 13, we have all been in foster homes at some point, my sister the longest. Now I am just afraid my parents are too old and its taken too much of a toll on thier health and we will lose them much earlier. Do you have any lasting effects on your health? Or did recovering save you from that.

2 hours ago · Like



Anita Lucarelli Mclean Do people ever mention that you have turned your addiction from alcohol and drugs to my drug of choice also, FOOD

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Sarah Rayer It is very courageous to share your story of long term recovery. What has been the most rewarding thing about talking about your recovery with others?

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Scott Tran have you had to have any surgeries since your recovery, and if so how did you deal with the opiates after?

2 hours ago ' Like



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching Andrew, getting kids to look at their issue young is so close to my heart! I'd rather catch them before they start making all the major decisions in their lives. I love working with young people and seeing them turn their lives around! 2 hours ago · Like



Lynda Schneider-Fontenot one more question, a big debate between many of us, Do you feel that alcoholism and addiction can be considered a disease or a "choice".....or even maybe genetic? 2 hours ago 'Unlike ' £' 1



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt today my higher power brought an AA member who will start an AA meeting along with my alatee/alanon so a whole night of recovery

2 hours ago • Like



Andrew Zimmern when i sobered up i was told i needed an alternative to the world of drinking/drugging. i needed it to fill the time void, and the relationship void, Drugs/Alk were a higher power for me, a false one, but they were. i thought i could depend on them to solve my problems, and help me grow, i had faith in them in a twisted way. When i got dean, my mentors, sponsors, friends all told me that getting head-ass-overcoat into a 12 step program would help me. They were right. Today i still practice those principles and try to give back whereever i can



John M Kelly Greetings Andrew and welcome. I am interested in the tipping point that helped get recovery really started. I mean there comes a point where we know it is too much, but at what exact point cause the alcoholic/addict to say "its time" and what made this work. I know ther eisnt a golden cure all out there, but if we can try and identify that point perhaps we can can help our youth over the hurdles. I have been trying for over 3 years since my son passed at 18 years to this demon and cannot seem to determine what and when the time was he said enough was and what prompted it. I do know he had enough and the relapse that crushed him. Sorry for the ranting...

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Joey Spangler It is great that you turned your life around, anyone who thinks they are not able to do anything need to hear your story.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Cathy St John-Kaufman like I said my nephew died of a drug overdose last weekend. Have any of your family members had similar problems like yours?

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern my story is my most powerful personal recovery weapon. It reminds and informs me of where i have been and where i can go. and it helps show others that recovery is possible for anyone no matter how far they have fallen

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 19



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditti found alanon when my daught went to rehab...the best thing that ever happened to me

2 hours ago · Unlike · ₼ 3



Charles Feazel Andrew did you have addiction in your family history?

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Andrew Zimmern alcoholism is not a choice. addiction is not a choice. the disease starts long before the picking up. just the same, in my recovery i learned that putting the drugs and booze away was just the bginning. being a good dad, a good friend, a good husband is infinitely harder

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 18



Addiction Recovery Today Andrew, I'm a Big believer in being recovered. What are your thoughts on being , "recovered," and do you also believe that there is more than one way to "recover." Touchy subject for some, I know.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



LaDonna Coy "A disease that tells us we don't have a disease". That is at the core of addiction and is so misunderstood. TY for saying it so well Andrew.

2 hours ago · Unlike · ₼ 6



Michele Jannazzo Tomeo My condolences to all commenters who have lost a loved one due to this terrible disease!

2 hours ago · Unlike · ₺ 6



Chrissy Damare' It's amazing that both you and Bourdain overcame severe addiction and ended up in the food industry. Bourdain is very svelte, do you ever find yourself in the beginning binge eating?

2 hours ago · Like · ₺ 1



Lynda Schneider-Fontenot thank you.



Dean Dauphinais I just want to commend Andrew for being so open about his addiction and recovery. It's people like him who can help chip away at the stigma associated with addiction. It can happen to anyone. As the father of a 22-year-old recovering heroin addict, I can attest to that. And I stupidly thought something like this could NEVER happen to me. Wrong! Thank you, Andrew!!!! 2 hours ago · Unlike · 6 6



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt i have been in the schools reading my daughts journal. one girl went to recovery and is still clean today...your words are powerfull

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Terri Hubbard Hi Andrew, just wanted to say that I am a hugh fan and appriciate all that you do for the recovery community. I am a recovering addict, I lost my husband to this disease five years ago this week. I speak on the dangers of drugs, alcohol and addiction. I have a recovery group here on Fb, the members wanted to let you know that you have an amazing story and you give hope to all of us that has strugglied with this disease, what you have done with your life is truly amazing. God Bless you and all that you do:) Love and Respect, Terri and NA Recovery Group:) xoxo

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Amy Nelson Do you think "tough love" works? Or should you ever stop being there for addicted loved ones? I understand theres a fine line between being there and enabling.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Andrew Zimmern binge eating...no, but occasionally i would be lying if i told you i never ate my feelings! i have a horrible disease, its called MORE. and anythign that makes me feel good i will do over and over. i have learned many skills in coping and limiting this behavior thx to my sponsor and my 12 step program

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 10



Traci Agan Thank you so much for sharing your story with us. It's knard to see sometimes when you or a family member is an addict that there IS hope for recovery and success afterwards. You are an inspiration!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Susan Zilberman Andrew, I find your story so inspiring. My son Gregg passed away three years ago from a drug overdose. My family and I have established Gregg's Gift in his memory. One of our most important messages is "No more stigma"

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Suzie Quatro @ Amy, I'd like to hear Andrews take on "tough love" as well.

2 hours ago · Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt the 12 step program. Alanon. deff helped me deal with my daughts addiction and i know now i didnt cause it i couldnt control it nor could i cure it

2 hours ago · Like



Quinn Sutherland Has there been a dish or meal on the show you've refused to eat because of its alcoholic or fermented content? (or regretted eating?) Some of the things you've eaten are surely hallucinants.

2 hours ago • Like



Andrew Zimmern re 'tough love'. the best thing that ever happened to me was having it practiced in my life. I use it as a parent. you have to...but the message i send when i practice it is this: "i am always here for you, will always help you, but here is the minimum requirement for me to be in your life offering that help. love is always there, but not the hand holding..."



Allen J Cavin Mr Zimmern, do you think that AA would be better if it did not use religion as a crutch?

http://www.facebook.com/AndrewZimmern

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern no more stigma is right....its why i am public about my recovery.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 11



John M Kelly AA or NA?

2 hours ago · Like



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching Tough love is so important. Enabling doesn't help anyone!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Melissa Pavel Traylor Having had an addicted son, it's hard to say when to "let go" or keep on trying and possibly "enable" them.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Andrew Zimmern i dont drink alcohol or anything that affects me from neck up. in first year of show the producers and i wouls put water in glasses in a dinner table scene if others werre drinkgin but it sent wrong message. now we dont

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 11



Michelle Courtois Moreno Amen, Andrew....that's the message I am trying to send my son. I will always be there to support him and love him but I'm not going to be a doormat for him to walk all over any longer.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt detaching with love was the hardest for me to do with my daught..im her mom how do you detach 2 hours ago 'Like' 1



Chrissy Damare' Success stories should aways be shared as an inspiration to those suffering. Although your battle is a daily one, you are still an inspiration to many. Thank you for sharing so openly. 2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 4



Joe Andrade Andrew, your the best! I have an addiction..to you and your show. I've eaten almost everything that is "disgusting" out there. (I refuse to eat Durian IoI) ♥ your story and much love light and prayers to you my friend. Keep to the straight path, never you stray from it.

2 hours ago · Unlike · ₼ 3



Melissa Pavel Traylor Thank you so much for sharing! If more "public" people would share, more understanding would be out there for everyone! Knowledge is power!!!

2 hours ago · Like · ₺ 1



Andrew Zimmern BTW, i am active in a 12 step program, and thats as far as i will go on that question. there is a reason for anonymity at this level because i only speak for my own recovery, not for any group or as anyones representiative

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 10



Scott Tran I replaced my opiate addiction with a fitness and adrenaline addiction. www.youtube.com/thesgtextreme thanks andrew for the inspiration to get/stay clean. and the best of luck on all your ventures.

2 hours ago · Like



Melissa Pavel Traylor I'm so glad you didn't die that night you wanted to drink yourself to death!



LaDonna Coy I think you are pointing to another important aspect of prevention Andrew. "teaching kids that there's another way to handle life's tougher challenges" as opposed to teaching about the drugs themselves. Gets at the why beneath the use.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 2



Andrew Zimmern daily battle: its hard at first, but today its not. I dont worry about drinking today. i worry about being an asshole to

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 18



Amy Nelson Thank you, its very difficult for me sometimes. My mother thinks she is the master of disguising her addiction (meth) and i often have to call her out on it, its so obvious to everyone but her. Staying up for 6 days straight and dressing like the lead singer to poison isn't normal behavior lol. Did your parents know about your addictions? How did they treat you?

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching How much of a role has your relationship with your HP played in your recovery? What does that look like for you?

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



RecoveryMonth Spokesperson If you're looking for help for yourself or a loved one, you're not alone. To find resources and treatment centers near you, please visit SAMHSA's Substance Abuse Treatment Facility Locator. http://findtreatment.samhsa.gov/Expand Preview >

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 3 · Remove Preview



Pamela J Bear How is giving someone disability/ssi and calling them"bi-polar" for the sake of eligibility guidelines, yet is a full blown addict/alcoholic, not enabling??? It's sickening that I watch my friends slowly kill themselves so easily because they were granted disability.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 2



Andrew Zimmern by the way, as a parent, huge hug to all the parents on the chat. its toughst job ever

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 19



Melissa Pavel Traylor Absolutely! LIfe is tough for all of our kids these days! dealing with the actual stressors is what needs to be done. And tv, and media need to quit "glorifying" drug use!

2 hours ago · Like · ₼3



Gary Brant Great words of inspiration Andrew!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 2



Cathy St John-Kaufman not sure there is an asshole recovery? Should perhaps sign up for that one. Just tired of losing loved ones to addictions

2 hours ago · Like · ຝ 2



Andrew Zimmern re my parents, they did the best they could, my mom was a master enabler, and that behavior sometimes kept me alive and i am very grateful for that.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 5



Lynda Schneider-Fontenot Do you ever feel that people overstep boundaries when it comes to your recovery, when you have to say "ok now"?

2 hours ago · Like



Melissa Pavel Traylor Any ideas on what needs to be done as far as Rx drug abuse?



Andrew Zimmern my relationship to a power greater than myself is the foundation of my recovery and without i would be dead. i was always the most imprortant person on earth and that feeling almost killed me. Today i am not, and i am happy and successful in life. the math is easy

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 11



Andrew Zimmern Rx drug abuse is scary. its a cultural issue that needs a social change movement to overcome our depednence on magic bullet drugs. its a part of the overhaul of our medical system/ 2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 6



Andrew Zimmern i am very impressed wiht all the agencies and authorities chiming in, thx for joining. Anyone on the chat celebrating a 'first day'?

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 4



Andrew Terry What were your drug(s) of choice? 2 hours ago · Like



Melissa Pavel Traylor That is what my son died of, Oxycontin. I am on a mission to raise awareness of the deadly dangers of RX drug abuse

2 hours ago · Like



Mike Cino I am also interested in knowing what your drug(s) of choice were.

2 hours ago · Like



Amy Nelson My mother has been on state assistance for as long as i can remember, shes often sold foodstamps for drugs. Theres a debate going right now that wants to drug test all those people who recieve assistance, as a child of that underground culture i do not want them to do that, i wouldnt have gotten to eat at all, yes she did illegal things but at least put some food in the house. My unde gave a bum a dollar once and i asked him why would he do that? Hes just gonna blow it on booze, and he looked at me and said, hes gotta eat some time.

2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Andrew Zimmern i started with booze and weed in 9th grade. within 3 years i was a daily cocaine user, pill addict, and weekly hallucenogen user. By college i was into heroin and over the next 10 years it got worse.

2 hours ago • Like



Cathy 5t John-Kaufman have you ever heard of RU? it is a religous recovery program?

2 hours ago · Like



<u>Jeremy Wilks</u> andrew, my dad is getting out of jail soon and he is recovering from Rx abuse. He has been in several programs while he has been in there and is so exited about his new drug free life. Any suggestions on how i can help him from relapsing?

2 hours ago · Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt my daught withing a year of starting oxys lost everything and went to the cheaper heroin and then was gone

2 hours ago • Like



Melissa Pavel Traylor Wow! Andrew! That is amazing! So young! simply put, was there a "reason" you started out? or was it just peer pressure?

2 hours ago · Like



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching So thankful that you are hosting this chat... hoping others like you will be doing the same in the future! People need to see many more recovery role models rather than all the others that are throwing their lives away and get all the media attention repeatedly.

2 hours ago · Like · ₺ 2



Dave Kelly Do you think that interventions work?



Andrew Zimmern re Oxy...i look at other side of equation...if someone invented vodka and tried to get it FDA approved it would be calssified as unsaleable because of the danger and affects

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 4



Jerry Jandoli Glad to hear your mom was the master enabler; I can't help myself; my love for my son is unconditional; i do not condone but I am there for him 24/7 and yes, I have given up my life indirectly. Love for a child is too strong; I have been told I am harming him but guess what 3 of the 4 children in town whose parents did the tough love thing have passed away on the streets. I truly believe there is not right answer here; ... the weak mom:)

2 hours ago 'Unlike' 1/2

PARRIE

The Partnership at Drugfree.org So many great questions and answers Andrew. Thank you for your honesty. Can you please answer Leigh's Q: "What finally prompted you to get sober?"

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt amen to your oxy/vodka comment 2 hours ago · Like · 応 1



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching New drugs more powerful than Oxy are now in the works... it's the last thing that is needed! 2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Juan Crespo Andrew,have you ever struggled with other type of addiction such as eating to control anxiety?

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern interventions work, they can be a wake up call of the highest order and they can save a life by putting some space between the addict and the drug, at that point its the only time to reaxch that person and offer help since it cant be done while high, intervention saved my life and started my sobriety even though i drank on plane to treatment....

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 5



Joey Spangler I made a promise not to do drugs to my DARE officer in the fifth grade and that has kept me straight, I do not break my promises. I believe that education at an early age (not just telling them that it is bad) is key. I think that if children hear what their choices could lead to would prevent some of them from ever starting.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 3



Amy Nelson NOT weak Jerry, You havent given up, thats a strong choice.

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 1



Tina Rashed Mr. Zimmern, Just wanted to let you know that you when we met you on Saturday you really made my son feel special!
You are awesome and he looks up to you! Keep up the great work!
2 hours ago · Like · ₺ 2



Allen J Cavin So... Mr Zimmern, you feel that you are better for believing in this higher power helping you, caring for you and seeing you through this time in your life... Rather than coming to terms with the problems you had because of your attitude and self reliance?

I am glad you made it through this terrible time in your life. I am glad for anyone to be able to make a success of themselves. I am not so lucky in that area. glad you have been... and I hope you continue to be...

http://www.facebook.com/AndrewZimmern

2 hours ago · Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt we are a feel good society and i guess because life is hard and doesnt feel good many turn to somekind od drug

2 hours ago • Like



Treatment Talk In your opinion Andrew, what are 3 to 4 things parents can do while their kids are still young to help prevent them from substance abuse and addiction?



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching What do you think of Recovery Coaches? Do you see them as a positive for those new in recovery and helping to prevent relapse?

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern what finally got me sober: i went to treament, was detoxed and after about a week was miserable. ready to run, and then i started seeing that all the people around me-speakers, counselors, friends, etc all seemed to have what i wanted. and the sober ones all said they got it from 12 step programs, I swore that woudnt work for me. it was poiinted out that as a homeless person wiht no prospetc for work that i might want to try it since my own story indicated i had no clue about my own life. i put one foot in front of other and never stoppped

2 hours ago · Like · 応6



Chrissy Damare' I have had a loved one die in front of me from cancer. Thank God they had those "drugs" in the hospital. I feel there is a fine line regarding those "drugs" and street drugs. Although an addict will be an addict with whatever prompts their addiction.

2 hours ago · Like



Melissa Pavel Traylor Next Gen, it sickens me to hear about the stronger pain meds trying to get approval!! so called pure vicoden! that's BS

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Pamela J Bear What do u think about the "addictive" personality aspect of how people struggle with addiction? Do u give it much merit?

2 hours ago • Like



 $\label{thm:continuous} \textbf{Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt} \ \ \text{there is something greater than me out there and } \ \ i \ \ \text{choose to let it handle all the things } \ \ i \ \ \text{cant}$

2 hours ago · Like



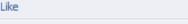
Andrew Zimmern now, having lost everything, home/family/women/money/jobs made it a little easier to choose last option left. no one need fall that far.

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 2



Kristine Madsen What, do you think about k-2, shaman, etc.?

2 hours ago · Like





San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Early effective prevention programing in schools are what we are all about here SA! We give the kids information but also tools & skills to resist the pressure around them in school and home.

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 3



Andrew Zimmern 3 things parents can do: TALK TALK TALK>.. kids need to hear parental experience from day one. We do it in our home, and i hope it works

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 12



Wendy Morrow-Beck Just doing the next right thing - sounds like. June 25th 1988. Thanks for sharing your life.:)

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching Me too Melissa! I think there are 2-3 more coming to market soon... at least trying to. It will only feed people's addictions. Around the country Pharmacies are being held up by addicts who need Oxy and Pharmacists are scared to go to work now. :(

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Traci Agan The courage that it requires to be so open and honest about something that most people sweep under the rug is a testament to your bravery Andrew. You may eat the nastiest stuff on the planet but I sincerely think that being here is what makes you ballsy. I've always been a fan, but now you also have my respect.



Kelli Bosarge Thank you Andrew for sharing your story! 2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt i think schools should teach 12 steps... 2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Andrew Zimmern recovery coaches dont make sense to me. i needed to get into a systemt than required me to do my own work and make mistakes and learn from them...and i needed a sponsor and sober buddies. not a coach

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 4



Amy Nelson Theres a certain brotherhood people form with other people on drugs, do you ever feel like you were part of that when you were on the streets? Have you spoken to any of those people again? Do you think keeping people away from the ones they were doing drugs with helps? Or do they just seek out new people. Im considering moving my mother with me but dont want those kind of people around my home.

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 1



Treatment Talk Thank you!

2 hours ago · Like



Kay Marley-Dilworth How do you gracefully handle saying no to offered drinks when in a different culture than the US?

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Andrew Zimmern BY the way....,my TV shows and career are all about marrying my recovery to work. my show is all about patience and tolerance and not practicing contempt prior to investigation. my recovery shapes every aspect of me

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 9



Cathy St John-Kaufman that is an RU motto, TALK, TALK, TALK, and if Gods against it, so am I....if you believe in God...it is a number one principal and those who do not LOVE the LORD will not help you serve the LORD....

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Cathy St John-Kaufman how long were you sober before you got the Bizarre Foods gig?

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern i needed to be separated from my drugs and my using life....after yeasr of sobriety i can handle stuff like that, but couldnt early on

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 3



Melissa Pavel Traylor Amy, I have found in my dealings with people, and my own family, if a drug addict wants it they will find it. You have to replace the good with the bad.

2 hours ago • Like



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Great answer Andrew! Can you please answer Kay's Q next: "How do you gracefully handle saying no to offered drinks when in a different culture than the US?" 2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern I say no to booze and tell them the truth in other countries, i am allergic and cant handle it. everyone undertsands, even tribal peoples, they have drunks too...

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 7



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching I strongly believe in a sponsor, sober friends, meetings, a therapist if needed, and a Recovery Coach in order to help prevent relapse as so many are given the tools in treatment but can't use them "in the real world. so they relapse. I got so tired of watching young people relapse and return to treatment repeatedly that I decided to do something about it and do things differently! People need more help putting the tools to use and working through things other than just their addiction (which is what a sponsor will focus on).



Kelli Bosarge I think surrounding ones self with sober buddies and a higher power is so important. Any advice on effectively removing toxic people from your life? What if they are relatives? Thanks again! 2 hours ago: Like



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt i found by filling my head with how to kelp others lessened my focus on addiction

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern BTW, huge thanks to www.drugfree.org for this opporunity. i was having a crappy day, and was all into my own head, and this was exactly what i needed, i am so grateful....
Expand Preview >

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 12 · Remove Preview



Scott Tran the darkness is all around us. it is in your communities, on your streets. you drive by it every day. most people dont see the darkness. Andrew has lived it, and those of us whom has lived it, see the world differently. we can all still see the darkness in the world when we drive down those same streets. most are unaware but there are bad things going on it the shadows of every street.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Michelle Courtois Moreno Congratulations to you Andrew. If only every addict's story ended in success...

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Thank you so much Andrew! We heart you! ▼ ▼ ▼

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 7



Margi Taber Is this talk going to be available other than FB so we can share it as a resource with others? We at We Are One work with parents and teens that might appreciate the info and find it useful ... We'd also like to post it on our site. Thanks Drugfree and Andrew for doing this!

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Heather Pitts I teach substance abuse prevention to middle school students (6-8th grade) at several schools in a rural community. What do you wish you would have been told... or wish you could have discussed when you were that age?

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 2



<u>Lynda Schneider-Fontenot</u> Today Is the first day since my sister × passed away 3 months ago that I actually felt like I wasn't alone in the world off addictions and battles. Thank you Andrew and everyone else for sharing. You are all inspirations. I pray that no one has to endure anymore hardships and losses and continue to stay strong, healthy and empowered! THANK YOU!

2 hours ago · Unlike · ₼ 5



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Can you please answer Kristine's question. She wanted to know what we can tell students....an alternative to drugs and alcohol?

2 hours ago · Like · ₺ 2



Kelli Bosarge We love you for sharing with us. Thanks for being here and making a difference!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Melissa Pavel Traylor Thank you Andrew!!! It has been a wonderful chat! Have an awesome day knowing you helped a lot of people today!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Tricia Kirkpatrick Benditt thank you andrew for being here..see you on t.v. breath in faith, breath out fear



Andrew Zimmern lots of questions about day to day management X of lifes problems: heres the BIG ANSWER...i cant help you but i know who can. I started going to a 12 step program right away, they suggested getting a sponsor, someone to talk to me, meet wiht me, help me understand how to walk through my life on a different basis than i had been, and yes, often telling me what to do...or suggesting it STRONGLY....he helped me with the steps of our program and its one of the greatest relationship i have... 2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 10



Treatment Talk Andrew, do you believe parents should house their addicted children, or do you think it is better to let them be homeless? I hear mixed opinions on this one. Housing without any extra money, or nothing at all? I know either way is a risk.

2 hours ago · Like



San Antonio Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse Thank you Andrew and The Partnership at Drugfree.org for hosting this chat! 2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Rushford Thank you so much for sharing your story Andrew! And thank you to everyone else who shared their stories today.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Kevin Daniels Andrew I have always loved you show and now that I know you are one of us I love you as well. JFT!

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern alternatives to Drugs/Alc....gotta talk to the kids and find out why they want to not be themselves. adress the real issue. the drugs and alch are just topical.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 14



Amy Nelson I am hoping that removing my mom and my little sister X from the town they are in which is crawling with gangs and drugs and surrounding her with her grandchildren and a drug free happy life will convince her theres no need to go that route anymore but im afraid her addiction is too deep seated. Shes older now and has many health issues and i think the meth makes her feel invincible albeit breifly.

2 hours ago · Like



Kelli Bosarge And it should be a life-long relationship, I would suggest. The day we claim we can make it on our own without anyone's help, is the day trouble comes knocking on our door. Humility and self-awareness is vital!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



RecoveryMonth Spokesperson Thanks to Andrew and others for sharing your stories! Recovery Month spreads the positive message that behavioral health is essential to overall health, that prevention works, treatment is effective and people can and do recover. We encourage you to share your story on the Voices for Recovery section of our website to help others see that recovery is possible. http://recoverymonth.gov/Voices-for-Recovery/Share-Your-Story.aspx

Expand Preview +

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 3 · Remove Preview



Amy Nelson My little sister is only 13. My mom is all she has since i am two states away. Shes hitting an age where shes going to see that her childhood was much different because of moms addiction.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



Andrew Zimmern Time to leave, but I hope to bump into many of you on this amazing joourney. my hope and prayer is that all who need help find a resource and that family members can find comfort for their own issues related to the alcoholic in their lives. Stay positive. life is beautiful



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Thanks Andrew...Can we answer Treatment Talk's question and that will be the last one.

2 hours ago · Like



Andrew Zimmern re housing...thats a professionals call. get help making that choicie

2 hours ago • Like • 🖒 2



Melissa Pavel Traylor I'm so sorry to hear that Amy. friend me. we can talk

2 hours ago · Like



The Partnership at Drugfree.org We are extremely grateful for your participation today! We'd like to extend a huge thank you to Andrew for sharing his personal story with us and for being so open with our Facebook community. We encourage you all to read Andrew's book, "The Bizarre Truth," where he writes candidly about his "culinary misadventures" from around the globe. You can buy Andrew's book here: http://tinyurl.com/7xzaqlq.



The Bizarre Truth: How I Walked Out the Door Mouth First . . . and Came Back Shaking My Head

www.amazon.com

Andrew Zimmern, the host of The Travel Channel's hit series Bizarre Foods, has a...

See More

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 9 · Remove Preview



Treatment Talk Thanks so much to Andrew and The Partnership for all your answers and for this informative chat!

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 1



The Partnership at Drugfree.org And please remember, if you are a parent who needs guidance on getting help/treatment for a child or loved who is struggling with substance abuse, please call our Parents Toll-Free Helpline (1-855-DRUGFREE), a free, direct service where parents can connect with a caring, parent specialist for guidance and support. The helpline is staffed Monday-Friday from 10:00 am - 6:00 pm EST.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 2



The Partnership at Drugfree.org If we've missed the opportunity to answer any additional questions, we will do our best to follow up with you. Please stay tuned for details on our next "Meet the Parents Hour" and make sure to spread the word to your family and friends, inviting them to log in and join the conversation next time!

2 hours ago · Like · ₼ 2



Kelli Bosarge Thank you Andrew!!! Keep up the great work! 2 hours ago · Unlike · 応 1



The Partnership at Drugfree.org For parents and families who have a child who is struggling with drugs and alcohol, please visit Time To Get Help at http://timetogethelp.drugfree.org/.



Home | Time to Get Help

timetogethelp.drugfree.org

Are you a parent or caregiver of a teen or young adult struggling with an alcohol or drug problem? Then this site is for you.

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 3 · Remove Preview



Next Gen Counseling and Coaching Thanks so much to Andrew and DrugFree.org!

2 hours ago · Like



Melissa Pavel Traylor thank you Partnership at Drugfree.org for hosting this amzaing chat!!!



Amy Nelson Thank you Andrew, have a wonderful day.

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



Lynda Schneider-Fontenot thank you Andrew, take care any many blessings to you and yours..... Eat on and can't wait to see you in action on your show:)

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 1



The Partnership at Drugfree.org Remember that two lucky MTPH participants, (randomly selected) who commented or posed questions during chat, will receive a free, signed copy of Andrew Zimmern's book "The Bizarre Truth," published by Broadway Books/Random House. Winners will be notified within the week via a Facebook message from The Partnership at Drugfree.org. (Eligible to US residents only.) To purchase a copy of Andrew Zimmern's first book, "The Bizarre Truth," please visit http://tinyurl.com/7xzaqlq.



The Bizarre Truth: How I Walked Out the Door Mouth First . . . and Came Back Shaking My Head

www.amazon.com

Andrew Zimmern, the host of The Travel Channel's hit series Bizarre Foods, has a...

See More

2 hours ago · Like · 🖒 2 · Remove Preview



Kat Surr Thank you so much to Andrew and to The Partnership at Drugfree.org for this chat! Very informative!!

2 hours ago · Unlike · 🖒 3



Camille Williams Glad to be a part of this conversation, as a parent of an addict, it is so important for the public to be aware that addiction is a disease and it can attack anybody, lets keep the conversation going, thank you Andrew!

about an hour ago · Unlike · 🖒 1