### AUGUST 31 — International Overdose Awareness Day



# **Women** and Compulsive Sexual **Behavior** Disorder

"Women are not immune from sex addiction, hypersexuality, and compulsive sexual behaviors. In fact, more women struggle with these issues than previously thought."

Reprinted with permission: The Meadows/Willow House Blog

### Are men or women more likely to be addicted to sex?

percentage of those struggling with life-disrupting sexual behaviors, women actually make up 40% of those dealing with these issues, according to NBCNews.com. In fact, a 2018 JAMA Network survey of more than 2,000 American adults revealed that 7% of women and 10% of men reported distress and difficulty controlling sexual feelings, urges, and behaviors.

Greater expression and frequency of sexual behaviors tend to be less socially acceptable for women than men, which may easily hinder women from seeking treatment for compulsive sexual behaviors. As a result, we have less research on Compulsive Sexual Behavior in women; the female population is underrepresented in studies pertaining to compulsive sexual disorders and related conditions. As more studies are conducted, treatment professionals hope to better understand and treat women addicted to sex.

Most would probably say men. While men do make up a larger Organization (WHO) began classifying compulsive sexual behavior as a mental health condition in its International Classification of Diseases list known as the ICD-11.

<sup>p</sup>hoto: IStock.com

### **ICD-11 Description**

It is characterized by a persistent pattern of failure to control intense, repetitive sexual impulses or urges, resulting in repetitive sexual behavior over an extended period (e.g., six months or more) that causes marked distress or impairment in personal, family, social, educational, occupational or other important areas of functioning.

### Diagnostic Requirements of one or more of the following 4 criteria:

Engaging in repetitive sexual activities has become a central focus of the person's life to the point of neglecting health and personal care or other interests, activities and responsibilities The person has made numerous unsuccessful efforts to control or significantly reduce repetitive sexual behavior The person continues to engage in repetitive sexual behavior despite adverse consequences (e.g., repeated relationship disruption, occupational consequences, negative impact on health) The person continues to engage in repetitive sexual behavior even when he/she derives little or no satisfaction from it.

The good news is that treatment approaches like psychodrama, Somatic Experiencing (SE), Internal Family Systems (IFS), Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR), and 12 step groups can help both women and men who are struggling with life-disrupting sexual behaviors. Additionally, treating any trauma, co-occurring addictions, and other mental health conditions may reduce symptoms and help individuals readjust to healthy patterns of sexual behavior.

### What Is Compulsive Sexual Behavior?

"Sex addiction" is not a condition you'll find in the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (the DSM-5). However, this term and others (like hypersexuality or compulsive sexual behaviors) may be used by treatment professionals to help identify when a person's sexual thoughts and habits become obsessive, intrusive, and an impairment to daily functioning. And in 2018, the World Health

Sex addiction is a label that may be applied to a set of compulsive sexual behaviors that feel difficult or impossible to control. Some people may be relieved to learn there is a classification for their obsessive tendencies; others may be horrified to have this kind of label applied to them.

### Women continued page 6





# Publisher's Note

By Barbara Nicholson-Brown Email: barb@togetheraz.com

# Recovery Emerges from Hope

Hitting bottom was the best thing that ever happened to me, though at the time it felt the complete opposite. Recovery or sobriety was not on my radar, hope seemed too far out of reach, so I settled for hopeless. It was easier to blame other people, places, jobs, family members and friends for my downward spiral. I never wanted to take responsibility for my life. In the throes of addiction; most of us have skewed victim thinking... and shame and fear keep many of us hiding in the darkness.

The African Proverb says, "It takes a Village to raise a child." Applying these words today, it takes all of us to raise awareness for recovery. Why? Because recovery does happen— because hope, treatment and caring people make it so!

Across the country and beyond there are thousands of people making a positive impact in the field of addiction treatment and behavioral health. In Arizona, we have many of the most recognizable treatment providers in the country — served by dedicated professionals who are saving lives every day. I'm honored to be walking along side those who work so tirelessly in this field, providing expertise, guidance and yes...hope, to help people turn their lives around.

My contribution in this arena of awareness is through this newspaper, where we share informative articles for anyone who may be struggling. From its humble beginnings in 1991 to today, this paper is here for you.

When we come together to find solutions, we are empowered, informed and armed with the tools needed for healthy families, communities and a future filled with hope.

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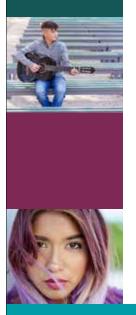
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## **A Little Christmas in July**

For the past few months staff members from Valley Hospital had been collecting donations for Sojourner Women's Center, and in July they brought a little bit of Christmas to the center. Through their incredible generosity over 2,000 personal hygiene items, diapers, strollers, and more were contributed to assist those whose lives have been impacted by domestic violence. "These items are much needed to help the women and children receiving care", said Sojourner Women's Center staff members. Valley Hospital will continue to make this an ongoing tradition for years to come.

If you would like to donate to Sojourner Center visit **www.sojourner-**center.org.





**[i]nspired Peer Program** is a peer-based program that aims to support teens and young adults navigating daily pressures, substance use disorder and mental health challenges. The program creates peer to peer engagement with the goal of providing drug and nicotine prevention resources, inspiring confidence, creating resilience, and improving overall safety and well-being. The program will foster leadership skills and provide parent coaching and support.

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# **Codependency and Abandonment**

By Ken Wells, MDiv, MA, LPC, CSAT, LSAC



manipulating with niceties, tolerating

the extreme of lying,

dent. Codependent behavior is always motivated by betraval behavior, the cascading emotions triggered traumatic experience both present and past. When Codependency and Abandonment continued page 7

wants to be loved someone offends you, it is common to hesitate or and accepted. Yet, judge your response based on past experience of bewhen people go to ing hurt by others. Putting up with the intolerable is endured because of the fear of losing something or someone you don't want to live without.

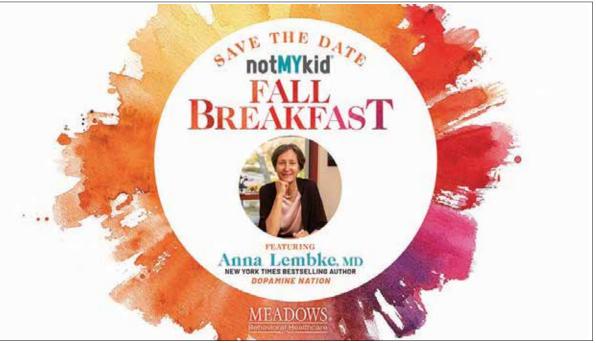
Both addicts and partners participate in the abuse, losing their trauma response of codependency. It varies in identity, or ignoring degrees of expression. While it is suspect to put painful experience everybody in any one category, typically both parties because they desper- fear abandonment. Extreme is defined in a myriad ately want to be ac- of behavioral responses. Ultimately, people act in cepted or loved — it certain ways to protect themselves from the hurt of is hurtful. This behavior is identified as codepen- abandonment. When you scare your partner with

One of the great fears that exists in relationship life is that of abandonment. It is scary to become emotionally naked to someone. Many people never achieve deep vulnerability to their partner or anyone else for that matter. There is an underlying fear that if you know what I know about me you will run away from me.

This fear is often disguised when people say I don't want to tell this truth because it will hurt the person I love. It can be true but underneath the stated qualm is the distress that if you expose the truth about yourself, you will be abandoned.

### The fear of abandonment is kindling for most codependent acts in relationships.

Codependency is a gnarly description in relationship life when people try to control another's behavior in ways that are extreme. Everyone





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### **Terros Health welcomes new Chief Medical Officer**

Terros Health has hired a chief in Portsmedical officer to guide the continued mouth, integration of physical and behavioral Dominica, health at the organization's 11 clinics West Inand recovery centers across the Valley. dies. She

Dr. Vanna Campion joined the completed organization with a strong background her family in family medicine and a penchant for medicine residency at providing patient-centered care.

"I am thrilled to be part of an the Univerthe whole person," she said.

Chandler Family Medicine, where she Executives, Obesity Medicine Asmanaged care for 1,800 patients per sociation and the Society of Teachers year, supervised medical providers and mentored nurse practitioner students. She introduced transition of care visits Family Practice and the American to facilitate safe patient discharges and reduce hospital readmissions, and helped create an East Valley Family Medicine Residency program. knowledge to Terros Health that will help improve the health and wellbeing of our patients and community," said Dr. Karen Tepper, the organization's president and CEO. Campion earned a bachelor's Heart Health Fair. degree from Morehead State University in Morehead, Ky., and a medical degree from Ross University School of Medicine, Allopathic Medicine



organization committed to caring for sity of Arkansas School of Medicine, along with a fellowship in obesity Campion comes to Terros Health medicine. She is a member of the from Dignity Health Medical Group's American College of Healthcare of Family Medicine, along with the American and Arizona academies of Medical Association. When she is not caring for patients, she contributes her time and talents to the community. She serves "Dr. Campion brings a wealth of on the executive board of directors for the Arizona Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired and has been at the forefront of COVID-19 vaccination efforts as a volunteer for the FIBCO Family Services' Women's Terros Health is an integrated healthcare company focused on the whole person, providing primary care and specializing in mental health and substance use treatment for more than 50 years. Visit terroshealth.org

### By Dina Evan, PhD

e are living in a time when relationships of every kind have made it very confusing and it's hard to know what real relationships look like. In politics real relationships have become those in which we must conform to someone else's needs or ideas about what is right for that person, but often not for ourselves. In personal relationships we call that co-dependency.

**Relationships:** 

Real

**Really?** 

In business, and in politics, real relationships are those that build equity and bank accounts for the heads of companies, corporate officers and now we are learning elected officers and those in congress as well. In personal relationships we call that disempowerment or co-dependency too.

In politics and business, many of the relationships we know about are are too often filed with secrecy and manipulation, lies and a lack of consciousness. So, how are we to know when a relationship, whether it's a love relationship, a business relationship or a friendship is real?

Let's look at it and life from the perspective of energy. The energy that is prominent in the world right now is what I call low level energy and we are on sensory over-load. It is exhausting, it makes us feel fearful, it is filled with secrecy and we feel afraid much of the time. Most of all, it makes us question our sanity and our own beliefs, not unlike the way we feel when a partner is cheating and lying about it or is withholding the truth about anything. We feel it in our gut. It's intrinsic and immediate and we know something is not right.

On the other hand, high level frequencies of energy make us feel safe, they empower us to be more of our real selves, they give us the freedom to explore our fears and feelings without judgement and the answers we get are truthful and also empowering. It's the same feeling you get in an instant ah-ha about an issue you have been struggling with, or a friend or family member who stops mid-sentence to tell you how much you are "valued and loved." Real authentic relationships don't leave us, or each other, wondering if we are loved. They don't result in us relying on someone else for or sense of identity or worth.

In this era of confusion, my favorite question to ask is, "What is this here to teach me?" In authentic, real high frequency or woke:-) relationships, we don't avoid the challenges or those questions because we know they bring the gifts of closeness and greater strength to our connections. They bring growth and aliveness and are gifts of self and relationship discovery...so we welcome and ask the questions and explore because we want the discoveries and don't fear them. We do that with tenderness and no blame. We do it with acceptance for difference, and with loving curiosity and acceptance about the deepest needs and beliefs of those we love. How can we be safe without those discoveries of truth and honesty?

#### We respect each other's boundaries

So one of the things we talk about when growing relationships is to ask, "What are your boundaries about, things like talking about personal things having to do with each other like arguments, health issues, or anything else that might be sensitive with our friends or extended family. Respect is another issue that bonds us and to create safety, we need boundaries to be ourselves fully. Relationships are the most precious gifts we can give to each other and when they are filled with high level frequencies and ethics of love and respect they touch our souls and change us forever. They are gifts of spirit and without them life eventually becomes meaningless. So for those of you not in relationships, I have a headline. You are in relationships with everyone in the store where you shop, in your 12 step meetings, in your classes at school, in your families in your friendships... in life itself. Spirit is always giving us the option to be who we came here to be and do what we came here to do. So fall in love with it and this life, regardless of the static and chaos. It's all about that one precious question... "What is this here to teach me."

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Dr. Evan is a marriage, family, child therapist and consciousness counselor. She has presented nationwide seminars and workshops, written several books and created meditation CDs for couples, individual and mental health professionals. Visit drdinaevan.com or call 602-571-8228.



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### Women from page 1

Shame, apathy, depression, and even anxiety are not uncommon among those who find themselves addicted to sex and sexual behaviors.

### **Common Co-occurring Issues include:**

- Anti-social and Narcissistic Personality
- ADHD
- Mood Disorders
- PTSD
- OCD
- Substance use

Disruptive sexual issues can be a symptom of other issues related to self-image,

intimacy, love, and control that come from someone's history and experiences.

According to the Mayo Clinic, the following are symptoms of sex addiction or compulsive sexual behavior:

- Recurrent, intense sexual fantasies and behaviors that are timeconsuming and feel out of control
- A compulsive desire to act on certain sexual urges, even if you feel guilt and remorse afterward
- An inability to control your symptoms in spite of negative consequences
- A habit of using sexual behavior to cope with or escape from other problems, such as loneliness, depression, or stress
- Difficulty establishing healthy or stable relationships

If you find that your sexual tendencies are disrupting your life, damaging your relationships, and causing severe distress, it's time to speak to a professional about treatment options so that you can regain

### a healthy balance in your life.

#### Compulsive Sexual Behavior in Women

Women are not immune from sex addiction, hypersexuality, and compulsive sexual behaviors. In fact, more women struggle with these issues than previously thought. Women seeking treatment for sex addiction may be best described by any number of labels depending on their specific presenting symptoms:

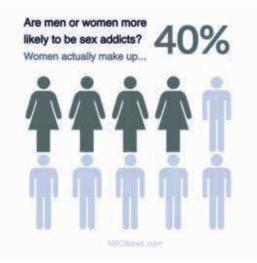
- Sex Addiction
- Sex & Love Addiction
- Love Addiction
- Relationship Addiction
- Porn Addiction
- Traumatic Bonding





with [child sexual abuse] histories reporting risky sexual behaviors or [compulsive sexual behaviors], including problematic pornography use."

While not all manifestations of compulsive sexual behavior are related to abuse, those who have experienced trauma may have more success curbing



their sexual coping behaviors after healing from their trauma. Treatment for other conditions like depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders can certainly aid a person's recovery from sex addiction.

### Help for Women with Compulsive Sexual Behavior

If you are struggling with compulsive sexual behaviors or intimacy disorders, you can find a safe haven for healing at Willow House at The Meadows. Willow House treats the whole person — mind, body, and spirit — using a comprehensive treatment approach that is research-backed and evidence-based. They have experience treating love, sex, and intimacy issues as well as mental health conditions and substance use disorders. Contact Meadows Behavioral Healthcare at **877-472-6760** to learn more about how they can help you find the path to healing. Visit **www.willowhouseforwomen.com** 



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Meadows Behavioral Healthcare is a network of specialized programs, including residential and outpatient treatment for **drug and alcohol addiction, trauma, eating disorders, sexual addiction, behavioral health conditions, and co-occurring disorders**, as well as a whole range of workshops and standalone Brain Centers offering state-of-the-art neurofeedback and other services. Our evidence-based approach is rooted in decades of clinical experience, with 45 years in the treatment field.

- Intimacy Disorder
- Insecure Attachment
- Complex / Developmental Trauma

Some instances of compulsive sexual behavior in women may be connected to childhood sexual abuse or trauma, as is frequently the case with men. A 2020 National Library of Medicine (NLM) review of studies on the relationship between child sexual abuse and compulsive sexual behaviors found that most studies supported a connection, both for women and men. One study on college women prompted the reviewers to suggest that "prevention efforts should be aimed toward students 6 While our continuum of individualized treatment programs and services has an outstanding reputation for drug and alcohol recovery, we are known worldwide as the leader in addressing unresolved emotional trauma and addiction-related underlying issues. We uncover the patient's core issues through a holistic, bottom-up approach through multiple brain-level interventions.

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#### Codependency and Abandonment from page 3

by betrayal is immense. Obsessional thoughts triggered by treasonous actions is common. So is trying to control what you cannot, to the extreme. The pain of deceit is so deep that compulsive codependency takes over to avoid further trauma. Many respond with codependent response at the onset of betrayal while for others historical codependent response from past trauma is magnified by present betrayal trauma.

Addicts avoid telling the truth from a fear of abandonment. Pressed with the crisis of telling the truth or losing a relationship, an addict is forced to do disclosure. Some tell the truth because they are serious about ending their destructive addictive behavior. Others piecemeal the truth, mistakenly thinking that if I just tell enough my partner will be satisfied and I won't have to face the fear of abandonment.

After disclosure, many addicts avoid sharing their emotional truth about how they experience their betrayed partner triggered by shame about their addictive behavior and from a fear of abandonment.

However, if there is not a process that moves a relationship to sharing emotional truth, codependency motivated to avoid abandonment will lead to the realization of what both fear the most—a relationship break up. Codependency is accelerated when a couple does not tell each other what they feel or think because of a fear that if the other knows it will crush them. When a couple concludes that it is their responsibility to protect the other from truth that is deemed hurtful, they create the reality of what they fear mostdesertion. In fear of abandonment, a couple can either tolerate unbelievable loneliness and emotional pain, or divorce. Either way it is possible to never address the fear of abandonment.

## For codependent behavior to stop, the fear of abandonment must be faced. Here are some considerations:

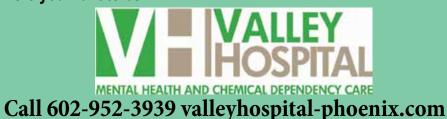
When you fear saying it straight, you must face the greatest fear you want to avoid. If the greatest fear is you will be embarrassed with your lack of knowledge, face that first. If your ultimate fear is that if I say to my partner what I really believe, h/she will leave me, you must face that first. If your greatest fear is your real truth is that you do not have the physical or emotional strength to achieve what is required, then you must face that first. Go to the place you fear the most and practice letting go of what you cannot control-then return to the here and now moment. You likely won't be facing your greatest fear in the present. But, inside you react as if you will. You must uncover your greatest fear as if it is present in the now moment of your life. When you do this, you will be able to address your present moment fear of abandonment. This requires engaging the letting go and surrendering process of Step 3 of 12-step recovery. Admit that you cannot control or prevent your partner from walking away. You will need help but facing this reality is first toward overcoming codependency around abandonment. It is also true about fear in other aspects of life.





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- Face the fear of failure and know that you will survive on the other side. When you do, you will be able to manage the anxiety of the present moment.
- When you are stuck and paralyzed with fear of abandonment in a relationship, you will need to address past unresolved traumas. Most people don't want to do this. I hear "I don't have any past traumas in my childhood or life." Sometimes people say, "I don't want to live in the past" or "I let that go a long time ago." Yet, the fact you are reacting to your partner on a level of intensity of 9 or 10 (on a scale of 1-10), this issue would normally be a 3 to 4, tells you that you need to stop and figure out where the over reaction is coming from and address it. Addressing it means going back to the point of pain and scrubbing the wound. It might be a present wound that must be addressed, or a childhood wound that has been left unaddressed. Essentially, you need to grieve the loss and the pain. You will feel worse before you feel better. When there is a medical intervention, it is common to feel worse before you feel better. Simply acknowledging, reading, or talking about the loss won't be enough. You will need to give back pain and feel the hurt of whatever occurred that paralyzes you with fear. PCS, The Meadows, Hoffman Institute, Onsite and a host of others specialize in this important grief work.
- **Be your own best friend.** The feeling of abandonment is a lonely, scary feeling. The reason many people don't stand for principle is that it feels so lonely to do so. In a moment of aspiration many say, "I don't care what anyone says or does, I will do what in my heart is right." But, when the

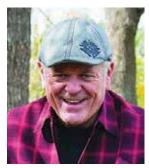
### RECOVERY for WOMEN ARIZONA WOMEN'S RECOVERY CENTER

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Treatment | Housing | Education 602-264-6214 arizonawomensrecoverycenter.org moment comes to stand for principle, it is lonely and scary. Yet, life has a way of bringing us all to that moment of recognition. In that moment when you need to stand for principle while facing abandonment, you must be your own best friend. Others can be supportive. But no one else can be there with you in that moment of truth. So, be gentle with yourself and bathe yourself in the predetermined affirmations that breathe life and inspiration into your moment of fear. You can do this. Pause and breathe deeply and know that when others abandon you, you will never abandon yourself again! Once you do this, then you can rely upon others to remind you of your personal commitment to yourself and hold you accountable with love and support.



For more insights about the importance of embracing every day experiences in recovery from Ken's book *"Dare to Be Average- Finding Brilliance in the Commonplace"* published by Daily House Publishing and currently on sale through Amazon.com.

For information on PCS, visit www.pcsintensive.com

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### **Principles of Mindfulness**

Applying the essential attitudes of mindfulness can help cultivate awareness of the present moment and help calm an anxious mind.

The essence of mindfulness is breath awareness. Your mindset and attitude also play a role in cultivating a successful mindfulness practice.

### • Non-judging

As you start a mindfulness practice, pay close attention to your thoughts.Try not to get caught up in ideas, opinions, likes, and dislikes. As you notice your mind wander, try not to judge yourself for not paying attention, acknowledge your mind has wandered, and return your attention to your breath.

### Patience

Understand and accept things will emerge in their own time. Be patient open to each moment. Give yourself permission to take the time you need for mindfulness and see what unfolds in the present time instead of rushing to get somewhere else or better.

### Beginners mind

Try to look at things with a clear and uncluttered mind. Too often, we let past experiences, beliefs, and expectations keep us from seeing things in the present moment. Consider opening yourself up to new possibilities, as if you're seeing things for the first time or through the eyes of a child.

### Trust

An integral part of mediation training is trusting yourself and feelings. While you may make mistakes along the way, look inward for guidance, and trust your intuition. Be receptive to what you learn from others, but it's a good idea to listen and trust yourself.

### Non-striving

It's likely that most of what you do in life, you do with a purpose or goal.



you may discover your mind may want to hold onto specific thoughts or experiences.

Try and let your thoughts or experiences be what they are. Try not to get caught up in judging each experience. Just let it be and let it go.

Here are three simple mindfulness practices to try from Thich Nhat Hanh's book, *"Happiness: Essential Mindfulness Practices."* 

### **Conscious breathing**

The foundation of all mindfulness practice is to bring attention to your breath. Mindful breathing or "conscious breathing" involves paying attention to your breath as you breathe in and out.

To begin:

- Pay attention to your breath as it moves in and out of your body.
- As you inhale, you can say to yourself "in," and as you exhale, you can say "out."
- Breathe here for as long as you want.



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But, mindfulness meditation involves "non-doing" and focusing on seeing and accepting things as they are. Embrace the moment, hold onto your awareness, and try not to react or transition into goal-setting mode.

• Acceptance

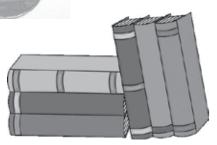
Acceptance involves allowing things to be as they are without trying to change them. When you accept your current situation without wishing it was different or trying to change it, you're able to be more aware of what you are experiencing at that moment.

• Letting go

In your meditation practice, you may notice that as you start to pay attention to your inner experiences, (SE corner of Shea & Scottsdale Road)

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## **Ready for Healing?**

By Alan Cohen

If you were in physical, emotional, relationship, or financial pain, and I asked, "Do you want to be healed?" you would most likely answer, "Yes." Yet there is more choice behind wellness and illness than we know.

I was coaching a fellow who had been diagnosed as ADHD. "I don't think I am totally ADHD," he told me. "I can focus and get things done if I want to."

"Then why don't you focus all the time?" I asked him. "I am afraid if I get my projects done and show them to

the world, I will be criticized. So it's easier to stay ADHD, not finish, and avoid the judgment I fear."

Another client complained she was a chronic procrastinator and never got around to cleaning her house. "Why is procrastinating more rewarding to you than cleaning?" I asked. "My father was a perfectionist and demanded I be the same," she told me. "I'm afraid if I do my task and it's not perfect, I will feel like a failure."

Both of these people found more reward in holding onto old patterns than in changing. While we may seem to be victims of people or conditions, we are more at choice than we know. We are always choosing what we believe will bring us the highest reward. In many cases, that reward is just an immediate reward, not the highest one.

A woman in my Coaching Room program reported she had gone through a painful divorce several years ago, and since then she had put on considerable weight. She had tried various diet and exercise regimes, but couldn't take the weight off. "Is there any advantage you perceive in keeping the weight on?" I asked.

She thought for a moment and answered, "I don't really want to get involved with a man again. Perhaps on some level I believe if I am heavy I will not be so attractive to men and I will not have to deal with a relationship."

I asked her, "Would you be willing to say no to men directly without needing your weight to speak it for you?"

We went on to a very productive discussion about how she could be more direct in her communication, set healthy boundaries, and love herself just as she was. When she was able to claim her true choice, she was no longer at the effect of her weight.

# It's tempting to say, "This is just how it is," without questioning how it could be better.

We might blame childhood programming for our current limitations. One student told the spiritual teacher Abraham, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks." Abraham brilliantly replied, "You have no idea what an old dog you are," meaning that our nature as spiritual beings runs far deeper than any childhood programming. Because we are souls more than personalities, when we drop into our soul identity, we gain the leverage to shift all kinds of conditions at the personality level. Many people experience healings science calls "spontaneous remissions." But there is nothing random or spontaneous about such healings at all. They are the result of choices we make at the soul level. My friend Colleen was diagnosed with cancer of the tongue. As a result, she joined a Christian healing group. The leader asked Colleen to stand in the center of the group and receive a prayer. At that moment Colleen experienced a lightning bolt strike her tongue at the site of the cancer, followed by a deep peace. When she went for pre-op x-rays, the doctor was astonished. "There is no sign of any cancer," the doc-

## Opioid Symposium FREE GILA COUNTY COMMUNITY EVENT

When: Saturday, August 13, 2022 9am – 12pm

Where: Payson Highschool Gym 301 S. Mc Lane, Rd. Payson, AZ 85541

The CBI Opioid Symposium is a three-hour event designed to inform the community about the ongoing opioid epidemic, and to normalize the conversation about solutions for this issue.

This family friendly event includes a panel discussion from community leaders, games, kid zone and resource booths focused on increasing awareness on a topic that impacts communities throughout Arizona.

Please contact info@cbridges.com for more information.

tor told her. That incident occurred thirty-three years ago. Since that time Colleen has remained perfectly healthy and has led an appreciative, blessed life. When we make a choice and partner with Higher Power, we open the door to miracles. The sincere intention to be healed is the first step. When you do your part, the universe will help with the details.

Alan Cohen, M.A., is the author of 28 popular inspirational books, including the best-selling *The Dragon Doesn't Live Here Anymore*, the award-winning *A Deep Breath of Life*, and the classic Are You as Happy as Your Dog? Visit alancohen.com.

# Being charged with a DUI is an exhausting and expensive process.

An initial step to earning your license back from the DMV is to complete an Alcohol or Drug Screening by a Licensed Substance Abuse Counselor.







At Arizona Women's Recovery Center, we offer affordable, convenient screenings for both women and men. Call 602-264-6214 to schedule your screening and get back on the road to recovery.

## What Can Be Done To Advance Health Equity?

**Drug overdoses are preventable.** The growing overdose crisis, particularly among people from racial and ethnic minority groups, requires tailored prevention and treatment efforts. These efforts should be designed to restore optimal health for all. Public health professionals, healthcare providers, policy makers, and communities can consider:

Improving access to treatment and recovery support services by offering telehealth and similar options to help people start and continue treatment and care over time. This is especially important for people from racial and ethnic



- minority groups, who encounter more barriers to accessing these vital services.Expanding insurance coverage can help.
- Offering structural support such as housing assistance, transportation assistance, and childcare to help reduce barriers to accessing and staying in treatment and recovery.
- Combining culturally appropriate traditional practices, spirituality, and religion, when appropriate, with proven substance use disorder treatment.
- Creating culturally tailored campaigns that help raise awareness and reduce stigma around treatment and recovery.
- Offering support groups and opportunities for community connection to help reduce stigma and mistrust.
- Reducing criminalization of substance use disorders.
- Linking people to treatment from a variety of settings (such as primary care, syringe services programs, and healthcare settings during incarceration) and through trusted messengers, which helps people to continue treatment over time.
- Improving access to programs that address past and prevent future trauma and other risk factors for substance use.

(Source: https://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/overdose-death-disparities/)

### Prescription & Over-The-Counter Drugs & Driving

### Some Medicines and Driving Don't Mix

We are an overprescribed America—the US represents under 5% of the world's population, but consumes about 80% of the world's prescription drugs.

In its 2013-14 National Roadside Study of Alcohol and Drug Use, the NHTSA found 10 percent of weekday, daytime drivers surveyed tested positive for prescription and/or over-the-counter drugs. These include sleep aids, anti-anxiety drugs and even allergy medicines. *But, not all prescription and over-the-counter drugs affect driving*.

### **Drivers Underestimate the Risks**

Over the past three decades, society has come to frown on drunk driving. An overwhelming majority of drivers (94%) consider driving after drinking alcohol a serious threat to their personal safety. But, only 78% of drivers feel the same way about driving after use of prescription drugs.

### **Curb Your Risk of Driving Impaired**

We need to become better advocates for ourselves during visits to the doctor, or when filling a prescription at the pharmacy. AAA research suggests only about half of doctors mention potential driving risks when prescribing medications to their patients. Become proactive by asking your doctor or pharmacist how the medications you take could affect your ability to drive.



### **The Calvary Difference:**

- We have been helping people on their road to recovery since 1964.
- We offer an optional faith-based, spiritually-led healing component.
- Our facility provides a full continuum of care including detox, residential and outpatient programs.

Find out how Calvary Healing Center can help you or your loved one. Call us at 602-279-1468 today.



#### 720 E. Montebello Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85014 calvarycenter.com

Physicians are on the medical staff of Calvary Healing Center, but, with limited exceptions, are independent practitioners who are not employees or agents of Calvary Healing Center. The facility shall not be liable for actions or treatments provided by physicians. Model representations of real patients are shown. Actual patients cannot be divulged due to HIPAA regulations. For language assistance, disability accommodations and the non-discrimination notice, visit our website 203427-4945 7/20



Putting the topic on the table is your best shot at getting answers to help keep you healthy and safe, and others around you.

(Source: https://exchange.aaa.com/safety/substance-impaired-driving/prescription-over-the-counter-drugs-driving/)



# Join our mailing list! Have Together AZ delivered to your inbox each month.

Email info@togetheraz.com or barb@togetheraz.com

Stewart Counseling Services HELPING YOU REACH YOUR POTENTIAL

### Brough Stewart, MC, LPC, NCC

15455 N. Greenway Hayden Loop Suite C-9 Scottsdale, AZ 85260 602-316-3197 brough@broughstewart.com www.broughstewart.com



### **Resources & Helplines**

**Alcoholics Anonymous** Al-Anon 602-249-1257 **Tucson Al-Anon Information** 520-323-2229 **Adult Children of Alcoholics** aca-arizona.org **Arizona Addiction** 602-737-1619 **AZ Women's Recovery Center** 602-264-6214 **Bipolar Wellness** 602-274-0068 Child Abuse Hotline - Support & Information 800-422-4453 **Cocaine Anonymous** 602-279-3838 Co-Anon 602-697-9550 CoDA 602-277-7991 COSA 480-385-8454 **Copper Springs** 480-418-4367 Crisis Help Line - For Any Kind of Crisis 800-233-4357 **Crisis Response Network** 602-222-9444 **Crisis Text Line Crystal Meth Anonymous** 602-235-0955 **Debtors Anonymous** (800) 421-2383 **Domestic Violence** 800-799-SAFE **Families Anonymous** 602-647-5800 **Gamblers Anonymous** 602-266-9784 **Grief Recovery** 800-334-7606 602-870-3665 **Heroin Anonymous** Marijuana Anonymous 800-766-6779 NDMDA Depression Hotline – Support Group 800-826-3632 Narcotics Anonymous/Phoenix 480-897-4636 Narcotics Anonymous/Casa Grande 520-426-0121 Narcotics Anonymous/Flagstaff 928-255-4655 Narcotics Anonymous/Prescott 928-458-7488 Narcotics Anonymous/Tucson 520-881-8381 **Nar-Anon Family Groups** (800) 477-6291 **National Youth Crisis Hotline** 800-448-4663 **Overeaters Anonymous** 602-234-1195 480-300-4712 PAL (Parents of Addicted Loved Ones) **Parents Anonymous** 602-248-0428 **Phoenix Metro SAA** 602-735-1681 **RAINN (Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network)** RAINN.ORG Rape Hotline (CASA) 602-241-9010 **Sexaholics Anonymous** 602-439-3000 Sexual Assault Hotline (24/7 English & Spanish) 800-223-5001 Sex/Love Addicts 602-337-7117 Sex/Love Addicts 520-792-6450 Sex Addicts Anonymous 602-735-1681 **S-ANON** 480-545-0520 Sober Living AZ 602-737-2458 Suicide Hotline 800-254-HELP **Suicide Prevention Lifeline** 800-273-8255 **Teen Challenge** 888-352-4940 **Teen Life Line** 800-248-8336

602-264-1341 Text HOME to 741741



#### **TOGETHERAZ** 602-684-1136 WE VALUE OUR PARTNERS

III IIII O O OIIII		
AZ Women's Recovery Center		
	602-264-6214	
Aurora Behavioral Health		
	877-870-7012	
Calvary Healing Center		
80	66-76-SOBER	
CBI, Inc.	480-831-7566	
<b>CBI</b> Access to Care	877-931-9142	
Cohn Media	866-578-4947	
Gallus Medical Detox 888-306-3122		
Gifts Anon	480-483-6006	
The Meadows	800-632-3697	
<b>Meadows</b> Ranch	866-390-5100	
MensTeen Challenge	520-792-1790	
Mercy Care	602-222-9444	
	/800-631-1314	
Psychological Counseling Services		
(PCS)	480-947-5739	
<b>Rio Retreat Center</b>	800-244-4949	
Scottsdale Recovery Center		
	888-663-7847	
Sierra Tucson	800-842-4487	
Sierra at Scottsdale	844-749-1567	
Valley Hospital	602-952-3939	
Teen Challenge AZ	602-708-9475	

### **RESOURCES**

ACT Counseling 602-569-4328 AZ Center for Change 602-253-8488 AZ. Dept. of Health 602-364-2086 AzRHA 602-421-8066 Chandler Valley Hope 480-899-3335 Compass Recovery 800-216-1840 **Copper Springs** 480-418-4367 Cornerstone Healing 480-653-8618 The Crossroads 602-279-2585 800-NEXTSTEP Problem Gaming Desert Drug Dog 602-908-2042 Fit FOUR Recovery 480-828-7867 Hunkapi Programs 480-393-0870 EMPACT 800-273-8255 **River Source** 480-827-0322

### ARIZONA CRISIS HOTLINES

480-210-5528
602-685-6000
onists/Coaches
480-705-5007
928-308-0831
602-571-8228
480-491-1554

#### **TUCSON**

IUCSUN		
ACA	aca-arizona.org	
AA	520-624-4183	
Al-Anon Infor Service	520-323-2229	
Amity Foundation	520-749-5980	
Anger Management	520-887-7079	
Behavioral Awareness (	Center	
	520 629 9126	
Center For Life Skills I	Development	
	520-229-6220	
Co-Anon Family Grou	ps	
	520-513-5028	
Cocaine Anonymous	520-326-2211	
Cottonwood Tucson	800-877-4520	
Crisis Intervention	520-323-9373	
The Mark Youth & Fa	mily Care	
Campus	520-326-6182	
Narcotics Anonymous	520-881-8381	
Nicotine Anonymous	520-299-7057	
Overeaters Anonymous	\$ 520-733-0880	
Recovery in Motion	520-975-2141	
Sex/Love Addicts Anonymous		
	520-792-6450	
Sex Addicts Anonymou	15	
	520-745-0775	
Sierra Tucson	800-842-4487	
Sonora Behavioral Hea	lth	
	520-829-1012	
Suicide Prevention	520-323-9372	
Turn Your Life Around 520-887-2643		
Workaholics Anonymo	ous520-403-3559	

### Need details on becoming a resource?







The providers listed are available to assist you. In an emergency dial 911.

Suicide crisis call 988

Suicide and Crisis Hotlines by County

Maricopa County served by Mercy Care:

### 1-800-631-1314 or 602-222-9444

- Cochise, Graham, Greenlee, La Paz, Pima, Pinal, Santa Cruz and Yuma Counties served by Arizona Complete Health— Complete Care Plan: 1-866-495-6735
- Apache, Coconino, Gila, Mohave, Navajo and Yavapai Counties served by Health Choice Arizona: 1-877-756-4090
- Gila River and Ak-Chin Indian Communities:
- 1-800-259-3449
- Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community: 1-855-331-6432



ARIZONA'S Premier Addiction Treatment Facility

# 888.663.7847 www.scottsdalerecovery.com

