



Youth Substance Abuse Center for Prevention, Treatment, and Research

The Youth Substance Abuse Center for Prevention, Treatment, and Research brings together Johns Hopkins premier assets in clinical services, pioneering research, and education and training for clinicians in Baltimore, throughout the state and throughout the world. This brochure outlines Johns Hopkins expertise in the field, and ways you can support our work.

There is Reason for Hope.

Alcohol and drug use and abuse is preventable and treatable. Of the over *20 million* adults with substance abuse and addictions, greater than *90%* of them started using and abusing alcohol and drugs regularly before the age of 18. Substance abuse and addictive disorders represent preventable and treatable diseases with identifiable risk factors that can be addressed through childhood prevention and early substance use intervention programs that target youth early in their substance use or before they start using drugs and alcohol. Drug addiction can best be thought of as a “pediatric” disorder that impacts families. Efforts to address addiction need to take development and family into account. Substance abuse prevention, early intervention, and treatment, when administered by well-trained clinicians using evidence-based protocols, is effective. Early studies of adolescents and young adults in recovery from substance abuse and addictive disorders indicate that abstinence and treatment can often lead to recovery of function and normalization of brain activity. After treatment, many youth who previously had problems with drugs and alcohol have been able to get their life “back on track”, making healthy life choices and experiencing improved quality of life.

We are the experts. The Drug and Alcohol Abuse Program at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine tied for first place in the 2017 US News and World Report Graduate School Rankings and the Johns Hopkins Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry both rank within the top five medical programs and top eight Best Hospitals for Psychiatry and Children’s Hospitals in the nation according to the 2017 US News and World Report.

We are committed to integrated youth- and family-focused substance abuse research, prevention, treatment, and education. The Youth Substance Abuse Center for Prevention, Treatment, and Research represents integrated clinical and research programs, and joint educational initiatives, across Johns Hopkins Hospital and Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center’s substance abuse, child & adolescent mental health, and pediatrics/adolescent medicine divisions and departments with a primary focus on improving the lives of youth and families affected by substance abuse and addictions. We are guided by a firm commitment to merging high quality, evidence-based treatment and prevention, conducting definitive, cutting edge, evidence-based research, and disseminating our work locally, nationally and around the world. Our programs are staffed by a collaborative team of investigators, clinicians, and brain scientists led by Dr. Christopher Hammond, an expert in youth substance use disorders and their treatment who has published extensively on clinical best practices in this area as well as on the effects of teen drug use on brain development. We provide care for youth and families across a continuum of substance abuse engagement levels from a variety of different backgrounds with diverse needs. We have a substantial commitment to serving youth and families who suffer from addictions, and we do this throughout the Johns Hopkins Health System.

Opportunities for Support

We can and we must do more. Addiction wreaks havoc on youths' lives, as well as those of parents, families, and other loved ones. Many youth and families affected by addiction do not receive appropriate care that can alleviate suffering and support their recovery, functioning, health, and well-being. Given the rising rates of deaths and negative outcomes related to youth substance abuse, and the large numbers of youth and families who suffer untreated or with suboptimal care, we are not satisfied with our stature, our services, or our research. We want to reach more youth and families, to touch more lives, to conduct research that makes care even better, to groom our junior physicians and health care professionals to become highly qualified leaders in the field, and to be a focal point for education and training resource for individuals and for institutions around the country.

Charitable gifts support the education of the current and future providers of youth substance abuse treatment and research - a priority for the Center and the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. Gifts will aid in expansion of educational services and infrastructure to sustain our youth substance abuse educational initiatives focused on educating trainees and healthcare providers on clinical best practices and educating clinician educators and supervisors on how to model and supervise towards best practices using a "train the trainer" approach.

The Youth Substance Abuse Center at Johns Hopkins Medicine is well-positioned to be a worldleader in prevention, early intervention and youth substance abuse clinical and research training ; however, we urgently need philanthropic support. To learn more please contact Karen Hussey, Director of Development, Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at 410-955-8158 Khussey4@jhmi.edu.