



Alcohol and other drug addictions and mental illnesses are brain diseases. • Alcohol and other drug addictions and mental illnesses can affect anyone.
Alcohol and other drug addictions and mental illnesses are treatable. • Individuals with brain diseases should not be discriminated against.

Fact Sheet:

- Approximately, 54 million Americans suffer from mental illnesses and 26 million from addictions with a significant number living with co-occurring mental illnesses and addictions. (Source: United States Department of Health and Human Services)
- The American Medical Association and the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Addiction concur-addiction is a chemical change in the brain. (Source: The Journal of the American Medical Association)
- More than 2 million Ohioans-nearly one in five- experience some mental illness or emotional disturbance each year. (Source: Ohio Department of Mental Health)
- Addiction and mental health disorders account for more than one-fifth of all lost days of productive life, far more than cardiovascular disease which ranks second. (Source: Harvard School of Public Health)
- For every dollar spent on prevention in Ohio, there is an economic savings of \$7 by reducing lost productivity, crime, child abuse/neglect and homelessness. (Source: Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services Cost Effectiveness Study)
- In 2005, an estimated 228,000 individuals needed, but did not receive treatment in Ohio for illicit drugs. In that same year, an estimated 652,000 individuals needed, but did not receive treatment in Ohio for alcohol abuse. (Source: Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration, Office of Applied Studies, National Survey on Drug Use and Health)
- In any given year, there are estimated to be over 10 million persons in the U.S. with at least one co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorder. (Source: Mental Health America)
- 22.2 million individuals in the United States have faced a substance use disorder in the past year. (Source: National Alcohol & Drug Addiction Recovery Month)
- Drug treatment is proven to cut drug use in half, reduce crime by 80 percent, and reduce arrests by 64 percent. The cost of drug treatment is 15 times less than the cost of locking a person up for a drug-related crime. (Source: Join Together)
- Alcohol and other drug abuse cost Americans upwards of half a trillion dollars a year considering their combined medical, economic, criminal and social impact on communities. (Source: National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- Twenty-three million people in the U.S. needed treatment for drugs or alcohol in 2005. Of these, only 2.3 million (10 percent) received treatment. (Source: Partnership for a Drug Free America)

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