

NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON NARCOTICS

Narcotics Anonymous, Inc.

P. O. BOX 3
VILLAGE STATION
NEW YORK 14, N. Y.

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PROSPECTUS

The National Advisory Council on Narcotics, Narcotics Anonymous, Inc. (NACON) is a non-profit organization incorporated in 1951 under the laws of the State of New York. The Council, which consists of professional and civic-minded citizens, is occupied with the problems created by narcotic drugs, with special reference to medical and psychological research, social services, and public education.

The recent upsurge in addiction to narcotics has emphasized the lack of treatment facilities for addicts, the absence of a coordinated program for rehabilitation, and the lack of reliable sources of information. The National Advisory Council on Narcotics was formed to meet these needs, not only through its own activities but by making facilities available to agencies already active in the field. The Council's program aims at combatting addiction and preventing its spread through the application of scientific knowledge. This means enlargement of research facilities, opening new treatment centers, making psychological and medical assistance available to addicts, and a program of education and enlightenment. The Council sponsors a national system of therapy groups (Narcotics Anonymous) wherein former addicts may render each other mutual assistance and moral support.

The activities of NACON have been limited because of the lack of financial support and the Board of Directors has decided upon a national fund-raising drive to enlist support for its program. The United States Bureau of Internal Revenue has ruled that contributions to NACON are tax exempt.

FOR RELEASE

Evening Edition
Monday 26 May 1953

PSYCHOLOGIST HOLD OUT HOPE TO DRUG ADDICTS

New York, May 25. "The time is more than over-ripe for a new approach to the problem of drug addiction," Dr Arnold Bernstein, Clinical Psychologist, told a meeting held tonight at the McBurney Branch of the YMCA under the auspices of the National Advisory Council on Narcotics. He expressed the belief that addiction could be controlled if properly treated.

"The addict," he said, "first requires medical treatment. The medical withdrawal from the drug must be followed immediately by psychological treatment and vocational rehabilitation. The first six months after withdrawal are the critical ones. But medical treatment without the psychological follow-up has proven quite fruitless."

Likening the present attitude toward drug addicts to those held over a century ago towards the insane Dr Bernstein pointed out that, "One hundred years ago the insane were treated like criminals and bound in chains. Like the insane, the drug addict is a sick person needing medical and psychological care. Drug addiction is a medical problem not a law enforcement problem."

Present at the meeting was Danny Carlson, founder of Narcotics Anonymous Inc., who supported Dr. Bernstein's declaration that with sufficient funds and modern scientific know-how, the apparently hopeless state existing with regard to the problem of addiction could be reversed. Addiction would soon yield to treatment like the other diseases that medicine has brought under control.

The National Advisory Council on Narcotics is devoted to the scientific solution of the narcotic problem. It sponsors Narcotics Anonymous Inc., which consists of groups of former addicts trying to help each other to help themselves eradicate the drug habit. NACON seeks \$50,000 in funds this year to carry on its program of public education and social service to addicts.

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P. O. Box 3
Village Station
New York 14, N. Y.

Important Announcement

YOU are invited to attend the Fourth Open Report Meeting of **NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS**, to be held at the McBurney Branch of the YMCA, 215 West 23rd Street, New York City, on Monday, May 25th, 1953, at 8:00 P.M.

An educational film about drug addiction will be shown, clearly illustrating the ravages caused by addiction among our youth.

Recovered addicts, members of N.A., will speak, explaining how and why they became drug addicts and how, after many attempts to find recovery, N.A. helped them overcome their problem and restored them to a useful place in society.

ARNOLD BERNSTEIN, Ph.D., Clinical Psychologist and Vice-President of **NACON**, will be guest speaker.

DANNY CARLSEN, Founder of N.A. and Executive Director of **NACON**, will preside and give a comprehensive report of N.A.

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Dear Friend:

In recent months the public has suddenly become aware of the fact that drug addiction is not only prevalent among teen-agers but is steadily increasing. Through a concerted effort the press and radio have made this fact known. However, to date, local authorities have recognized the evil for what it is, and a unified effort is being made in conjunction with private agencies and organizations to formulate a constructive educational program which would lessen the possibility of the future generation becoming addicted.

The NATIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL ON NARCOTICS, Narcotics Anonymous, Inc., has formulated a program for the dissemination of information which would tend to prevent the induction of teen-agers into the drug habit. Few of these youngsters are aware of the ravages of drug addiction.

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." The work of N.A.C.O.N., Narcotics Anonymous, Inc., not only includes preventative measures, but corrective steps are taken so that many are weaned away from the drug habit. The aims, purposes, methods and needs of Narcotics Anonymous, Inc., are concisely outlined on the reverse side of this appeal.

The work of this organization can not be expanded to cope with the existing situation during this crucial period without the financial support of public spirited citizens and corporations. A donation to this non-profit membership organization is actually an investment in the future generation of America. Funds are urgently needed now! Will you act today and mail your check, payable to Narcotics Anonymous, Inc., Post Office Box 3, Village Station, New York City 14, N. Y. Your promptness will pay dividends in the near future, because it will help to lessen the possibility of many teen-agers becoming addicted.

Statistics show that drug addiction increases during the summer season. Therefore time is of the essence.

Narcotics Anonymous, Inc., chartered March 1951, is composed of a group of civic-minded citizens who are in accord with the work of N.A. It aims to supplement the activities of medical and social agencies, as well as lend support to the N. A. groups, realizing that the recovered addict is ideally suited to help another addict.

We trust that the work of N.A., Inc., merits your support in its effort to render a much-needed public service.

Sincerely,

DANIEL CARLSEN,
Executive Director.

May 1953

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