

Parents:

GET HELP FOR YOUR CHILD

If your child is suicidal, please CALL 911. If your child is in psychosis or mania, take him/her to the Emergency Room!

I just found out my child is using marijuana! Now what? What do I do? This is the question Johnny's Ambassadors receives most frequently. Johnny's Ambassadors provides education, awareness, and prevention resources. We are not a crisis center and don't provide intervention services.

If you need to get help for a child addicted to marijuana, having mental health challenges, or is in psychosis, we have locators and recommended centers below who understand Cannabis-Induced Psychosis. All of these centers have been used and recommended by another parent. *Being listed on this page does not imply an endorsement from Johnny's Ambassadors.* It is your responsibility to call the center and determine proper fit.

More thoughts from Aaron Weiner, a member of [Johnny's Ambassadors Scientific Advisory Board](#):

- **Find out why:** it's important to understand why your child was using marijuana to inform how to stop them from using it in the future. If you don't solve the "why" another way, they're likely to go back, if not now than once they leave home for college or work
- **Consider testing for other drugs,** as well as performing random drug tests in the future. It's important health information to know what else your child might be using, particularly nicotine, opioids, benzodiazepines, stimulant medication, and cocaine. Depending on your relationship and situation with your child, drug screens may also be helpful to regain trust, as well as give your child a valid excuse to decline use if around other teens who are using ("my parents drug test me")
- **Consider working with a therapist, or a treatment program.** Depending on how serious the substance use is, your child may benefit significantly from receiving counseling. Don't hesitate to work with therapists – both you and your child will likely grow positively as a result!

Here are some resources to help you:

Support group of other parents impacted by their child's marijuana use. We invite you to join our monthly Johnny's Ambassadors Parents of Children with Cannabis-Induced Psychosis (POCCIP) support group for parents who have children addicted to marijuana or in psychosis/mental illness. We meet monthly on Zoom with each other and a doctor or guest speaker for fellowship. First, [register for our online marijuana prevention community](#). State your child has psychosis, and you'll be placed in the Parents of Children with CIP discussion group. You can



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also join our private [Parents of Children with Cannabis-Induced Psychosis \(POCCIP\)](#) group on Facebook. Email Laura@JohnnysAmbassadors.org if you would like to receive a monthly meeting invitation.

Peer marijuana cessation group for young adults. If your adult child (age 20+) is interested in reducing or eliminating marijuana usage, we have a partnership with famed London cannabis researchers, Marti di Forti and Sir Robin Murray to allow Johnny's Ambassadors to join their peer group. Meetings for marijuana users ONLY (no parents) are held on Tuesdays at 9am mountain/11am eastern. Please email me at Laura@JohnnysAmbassadors.org for more information on this program.

Social media networks. Join our [regular Facebook group](#) if your child is addicted, our [Parents of Children with Cannabis-Induced Psychosis](#) (POCCIP) group if your child is in psychosis, and our [THC death group](#) if you lost your child due to THC outcomes.

Peer mentors for your child. If your child is using marijuana or is in psychosis, and he/she doesn't believe marijuana is the cause of their problems, our young adult mentors are willing to have a 1-on-1 conversation with your child. These conversations should NOT be considered treatment advice, simply support. Our peer mentors have all been through marijuana psychosis and have come out the other side. They now volunteer with Johnny's Ambassadors to talk to youth about how they were harmed and encourage them to stop using. If your child is an adult (18+), she or he must email me directly to request support. If your child is a minor, first have a conversation with your child to secure permission for a mentor to call. We can't call children out of the blue. Once you have secured permission, email Laura@JohnnysAmbassadors.org with your request. Send your child's name, cell phone number, age, and pertinent information on what's happening. I will refer you to a suitable mentor to arrange a conversation.

Join a Mar-Anon support group for those who are affected by another's marijuana use (this is the marijuana equivalent of Al-Anon, which helps friends and family of alcohol users). This is NOT a meeting for current marijuana users themselves. Go to Mar-Anon.com for more information or email bartjbright@gmail.com with questions. There are multiple virtual support meetings every week.

Support groups for marijuana users. There are also over 400 Marijuana Anonymous meetings every week for marijuana users who want to stay sober or are trying to reduce their use. [Go here to find a meeting.](#)

Locate Help for Your Child:

[Addiction Center](#) – search for rehab providers in your area

[Association of Intervention Specialists](#) – a network of interventionists located throughout the country and abroad. Members guide families on how to help their loved one.

[Love in Action Intervention Services](#) – immediate crisis support for psychosis and marijuana use

[Parent Helpline](#): 855-DRUGFREE (855-378-4373) Monday-Friday, 10:00AM to 6:00PM ET

[Second Wind Fund](#): expedited access to life-saving therapy for youth at risk for suicide

[National Rehab Hotline](#) – dedicated helpline to find local addiction or mental health resources for free.

[Parents Love Their Teens](#) is a nationwide intervention and placement program.

[Directory of providers and educational consultants](#) to help place and transport your teen.

[Find Treatment](#) anywhere in the U.S.

[National early psychosis treatment locator](#) for early serious mental illness treatment facilities (SAMHSA).

[ATLAS \(Addiction Treatment Locator, Assessment, and Standards\)](#) platform by Shatterproof

[The Juvenile Assessment Center](#) is an early intervention locator for Colorado.

[Colorado Crisis Services](#) provides 24/7 support and referrals for your loved one.

[Partnership to End Addiction](#) (includes bi-lingual Spanish-speaking assistance) provides resources to help change the family dynamic and how to support a child with addiction.

[Initiating Court-Ordered Treatment](#) – Inpatient, Outpatient and Emergency Hospitalization Standards by State

[Parents' Universal Resource Experts](#) – helping parents of difficult teens find a therapeutic boarding school

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Find Support for Your Child:

Find an Alternative Peer Group (APG) – support group for kids in recovery

Find a Recovery High School – transfer your child to attend school with others working to be sober.

5280 high school in Denver accepts students from all over the country to be in a public school where they are supported in their recovery.

Find a Marijuana Anonymous meeting – like AA but for marijuana addicts wanting to cut back or stop

FullCircle – For youth struggling with high-risk behavior problems. Centered around the Enthusiastic Sobriety Philosophy: the idea that young people will stop their self-destructive behavior only if they are offered an alternative that is both fun and fulfilling. Operates a staff facilitated support group for young people and their parents. Denver, Phoenix, Georgia, Kansas City. In Denver, Call Ben Stincer at 720-531-3716.

Sober AF Entertainment – Creating safe spaces in fun places. Voice of the community looking for sober fun, without being around marijuana.

Job Corps – 16 to 24-year-olds ready to work toward a successful future are welcome. Applicants must meet one or more of these conditions: receives public assistance, earns poverty-level income, is homeless, is a foster child, or qualifies for free or reduced-price lunch.

Cannabis-Induced Psychosis and Addiction Recovery Centers

INTERVENTION PARTNERS

Need help getting your adult child into treatment? Not sure what center is right for your child? We have trusted professional intervention partners, who will provide a free consultation to give you advice and share how they can help:

* Jordan DeHann, (407) 620-9003, email jordan@therecoveryguides.com, www.therecoveryguides.com

* Jay Avery, (949) 326-3497, jay@stonebridgerecovery.com, www.stonebridgerecovery.com

ACUTE CARE/FIRST EPISODE PSYCHOSIS

Alta Mira – (CA) Cannabis Induced Psychosis detox and treatment

Clearfork Academy – acute marijuana detox, 13-week ranch rehabilitation program

Foundry Steamboat Springs – (CO) Cannabis Induced Psychosis detox with co-occurring substance use and mental health disorder in the Colorado mountains for men only

Menninger Clinic Houston – (TX) First intensive (acute) stage psychosis

Mission for Michael – (CA) premier resource for intensive mental health treatment (early CIP incident)

Northpoint – (CO) – Acute marijuana detox, in-patient rehab, outpatient rehab continuum

Silver Hill Hospital – (CT) offering three levels of care: inpatient, transitional living, and intensive outpatient treatment.

Turning Point (Fairfax County VA) – for those who are considered at risk for psychosis, from ages 14 to 25, to manage symptoms of mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

Vanderbilt Early Psychosis Program – (TN) 16 to 30 years old with first-episode crisis

RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTERS/DUAL DIAGNOSIS/PARTIAL HOSPITALIZATION PROGRAM (PHP)

The STEP Program at Denver Health – (CO) substance abuse treatment up to age 21 (even with no insurance). Call Yesenia at 303-602-4848.

BrightQuest Treatment Centers – (CA and TN) – Residential Cannabis Induced Psychosis acute care (longer term)

Crownview Co-Occurring Institute (CA) – Primary Psychiatric Treatment and Dual Diagnosis

Jaywaker Lodge – (CO) – 3 month inpatient program, followed by a 3-month residential intensive outpatient program, followed by a sober living program for adult men needing to start a new life after recovery

Pace Recovery Center – (CA) Dual Diagnosis marijuana addiction treatment – continuing care after initial detox is complete

Peaks Recovery – (CO) 24-bed young men 18-30 only, dual diagnosis, 45-day program with step down to outpatient and sober living

Sundown Ranch – (TX) ages 12 to 18 years with dependency and co-occurring psychiatric disorder

Turnbridge – (CT) Mental health and substance use disorder treatment programs for young adults and adolescents (both genders).

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LONGER-TERM RECOVERY/INTENSIVE OUTPATIENT PROGRAM (IOP)

Addiction Recovery Management Services (MA) ages 14 to 26, dual diagnosis, outpatient.

Catalyst – long-term rehab for boys with therapeutic and experiential activities

Choice House – (CO) A 90-day marijuana abuse treatment, transition, and intensive outpatient program when more than 30 days is needed to build long-term sobriety

Cornerstone – (CO) a 12-step outpatient program for youth early in recovery

CU School of Medicine – (CO) Addiction Research and Treatment Services

Lakeside Academy – (MN) Lakeside Academy is a faith-based residential treatment center for boys aged 14-18 years, who are struggling with substance use, anger management, and other behavioral issues.

Maryland Addiction Recovery Center (MD) – structured aftercare following a detox, stabilization, or a 28-day inpatient rehab, or a step up in treatment intensity of a traditional outpatient treatment program.

Newport Academy – (CA, CT, MN, UT, VA, WA) – residential treatment centers for teens and young adults (both genders)

Pathfinder's Recovery – (AZ, CO) Addiction and Co-Occurring Disorder treatment center

PrairieCare – (MN) Intensive Outpatient Program, Elevate. 9 weeks in duration. Groups meet 4 days per week for 3 hours a day.

Second Nature – Wilderness therapy program

Skyland Trail – (GA) a residential program with an early psychosis program.

St. Christopher's Residential Center – (LA) achieving long-term recovery in males 18+

SOBER LIVING/BOARDING SCHOOLS

John Volken Academy – Long-term residential rehab for young adults

North Carolina Boys Academy – a Christian boarding school for teenage boys

Resolution Ranch – Boarding School for Troubled Teens

Solstice – residential program for girls ages 14-17

Spero Residential and Sober Living Center – for young men and women

Toolkits

Preventing Marijuana Use Among Youth

Treatment e-book – Partnership for Drug-Free kids

Marijuana Talk Kit

National Institute on Drug Abuse – Marijuana Facts for Parents

Marijuana Talk Kit from the Partnership for Drug-Free Kids

Find support for yourself

Are you a Parent of a Child with Cannabis-Induced Psychosis (POCCIP)? Join our private Johnny's Ambassadors Facebook support group.

MomPower helps moms with addicted children.

Advanced Adolescent Services provides teen transport services to treatment programs.

CRAFT classes help parents who are struggling with their child's substance misuse and looking for support and change.

NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others, and friends of people with mental health conditions.

Douglas County, CO Wrap-Around is a free program to solve family problems.

Helping Parents Heal provides community and resources to help you heal.

Reach Out For Change – free evidence-based classes for parents on how to improve communication and move your child toward treatment for substance use.

Finding a properly qualified therapist to assess your child

* Licensed and certified

* Master's level +

* LCSW, LPC, MAC

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- * CAC (Certified Addictions Counselor)
- * Check their collateral material and history
- * Make sure they do toxicology (urine) screens

Grieving resources

[Umbrella Ministries](#) helps mothers through the grief of losing a child.

[The Compassionate Friends](#) supports the entire family after a child dies.

[GriefShare](#) meetings really helped us grieve the loss after Johnny's death.

[List of recommended grief books](#) by Anne Moss Rogers.

[Life after Child Loss: The Mother's Survival Guide to Cope and Find Joy](#)

Did you lose your child due to marijuana-related causes? [Join our other grieving parents.](#)

[Samaritans](#) – Preventing Suicide – Samaritans works to prevent suicide and support those who have lost someone to suicide.

Reading

[The Dangerous Truth About Today's Marijuana: Johnny Stack's Life and Death Story](#) by Laura Stack

[Smokescreen: What the Marijuana Industry Doesn't Want You to Know](#) by Kevin Sabet

[Top Ten Teen Toking Tip-Offs](#)

[You Know Nothing About Weed](#)

[Teen Marijuana "FACT" or "CRAP" game](#)

[Download our Johnny's Ambassadors Parent's toolkit](#)

[Watch our on-demand videos](#) from our Johnny's Ambassadors Expert Webinar Series for Parents.

[Tell Your Children: The Truth About Marijuana, Mental Illness, and Violence](#) book by Alex Berenson

[Beyond Addiction: How Science and Kindness Help People Change](#) by Jeffrey Foote

[Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Program for Cannabis Use Cessation in First-Episode Psychosis Patients: A 1-Year Randomized Controlled Trial](#)

Tools

[Sobriety apps](#) from the Drug Enforcement Agency

[Different types of guardianships](#) you can get when your child is an adult (laws will vary by state – contact a lawyer if your child is mentally ill and unable to make good decisions)

[Johnny's Ambassadors online teen and adult marijuana training](#)

[Download Holiday Tribute Graphics](#)

Email Laura@JohnnysAmbassadors.org for further information or questions on getting help for your child.

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