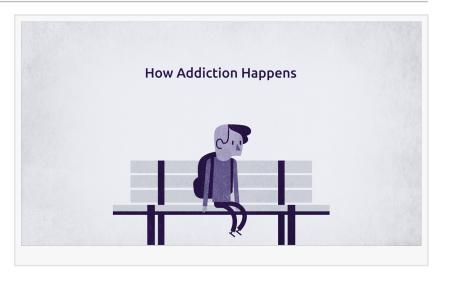


Family who lost son makes crystal clear, animated video on how addiction starts and how to prevent it

They produced a video to help teens and their families avoid the painful path of addiction altogether

NEW YORK, NEW YORK, UNITED STATES, November 20, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Gary and Chris lost their oldest son, Alex, to an accidental heroin & fentanyl overdose. Alex died on his 22nd birthday, in December, 2015.

After Alex's passing, Gary, Chris, and their other son, Charlie, gave presentations to teens and parents at



Alex's high school. Two questions were asked most often, "How can this happen?" and "How can it be prevented?"

While grieving families often focus on facilitating treatment for those who are addicted, Alex's family

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Your child may be skidding now towards addiction and neither they, nor you, even recognize it."

Alex's father, Gary

decided to focus on prevention. They want to help teens and their families avoid going down the path of addiction altogether.

Alex's family produced a video, called "How Addiction Happens". It was released in mid-October and already has tens of thousands of views on <u>Facebook</u>. The video has been shared by national organizations, medical professionals, schools, and many individuals touched by addiction.

In less than 7 minutes the video covers why teens get addicted, how it starts, and how to work to prevent it. The video includes specific messages for both parents and teens. "The key is recognizing a pattern of behavior very early and taking immediate action", according to Alex's father, Gary. "When you get in a car accident in the winter, the accident doesn't happen when you hit the pole. It happens 200 feet before, when you start skidding on the ice. Your child may be skidding now towards addiction and neither they, nor you, even recognize it."

You can watch the video "How Addiction Happens" on:

Facebook (facebook.com/howaddictionhappens)

YouTube

<u>Website</u>

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