



HOW MUCH HAS YOUR CABLE BILL INCREASED?



APP.COM The Jersey Shore's Biggest and Best News Source

Weather | Jobs | Cars | Real Estate | Apartments | Shopping | Classifieds | PressPix | EZClassifieds

Story Search

Back Issues: Thu | Fri | Sat | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Today

Subscribe

E-mail

Order 7 Day Delivery
Get a Free Gift
Subscribe Now

E-mail article Print article Subscribe Get e-mail alerts

Campaign starts to raise funds for alcohol abuse treatment

Posted by the Asbury Park Press on 02/23/06

BY JONATHAN TAMARI
GANNETT STATE BUREAU

TRENTON — Kass Foster believes the right kind of help could have saved her son, but she said there wasn't enough room for him in New Jersey's drug treatment centers as he fought an addiction to heroin.

"Christian wanted to live, but Christian died while waiting in line," said Foster, who lives in National Park borough in Gloucester County.

Hoping to now expand substance abuse treatment, Foster and a group of mothers whose children have faced drug and alcohol addiction announced a statewide campaign Wednesday to raise money for treatment and increase an alcohol tax to provide lasting funding.

The group, Parent to Parent, plans to collect nickels in glass jugs while at the same time trying to build a grass-roots campaign for a 5-cent tax increase on every gallon of alcohol.

"This tiny coin is going to save lives. And maybe if (lawmakers) had taken the initiative awhile ago, my friend's sons would still be here," said Kathleen Dobbs, one of the group's founding members.

Drug and alcohol awareness groups have pushed for an alcohol-tax increase for years, but the plan has not advanced and they still have no lawmakers willing to back the idea.

Even if a bill was proposed, it would almost certainly face opposition from restaurant groups.

The 5-cent tax hike would raise \$10 million, Dobbs said, almost doubling the \$11 million the state currently spends on abuse education, treatment and prevention.

Without action by lawmakers, members of Parent to Parent plan to collect donations at stores and treatment centers statewide and have called on others to get involved through giving money or helping collect.

Every 3,800 nickels — or \$190 dollars — buys one day of inpatient drug treatment, according to the group.

Currently, beer is taxed at 12 cents per gallon, wine at 70 cents and liquor at \$4.40. Those taxes have not been changed since 1992, according to the National Council on

- STORY ARCHIVE
- FRONT PAGE
- NEWS
- NATION / WORLD
- SPORTS
- FISHING & BOATING
- OPINION
- BUSINESS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- JERSEY LIFE
- TRAVEL
- SHORE
- COMMUNITIES
- OBITUARIES
- TROUBLE SHOOTER
- MULTIMEDIA
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- STAFF BLOGS
- PUBLICATIONS

RSS NEWS

NJ Lottery

JOB OPENINGS

• Work for Us

SPECIAL EVENTS

• Smart Talk Lecture Series

CONTESTS

• Reader Rewards

EDUCATION

• Newspaper in Education Program

MERCHANDISE

• Newspaper Store

PROMOTIONS

• 5K Run/Walk
• Earn \$600/mo.
• Kids Stuff Club

Advertis

Diane T. REALTY

Bay Head
516 Main Avenue

We've Moved
New location - Same Great Service

Click Here To View Summer Rentals & Services

• Whatever Club

MARKETPLACE

- Local Coupons
- Fishing & Boating
- Restaurants
- Special Sections

READERS' CHOICE

- Best of 2005

ADVERTISING

- Product Rates

LISTINGS

- Valentine's Day
- Baby's First Holiday
- Pet Tributes
- Jersey Autos
- Submit Club/Bar Schedules
- Weddings
- Engagements
- Anniversaries
- Celebrations
- Dating
- Births
- In Remembrance and Thank You's
- Hot Properties

GANNETT NJ NEWSPAPERS

- Asbury Park Press
- Gannett State Bureau
- Courier News
- Courier-Post
- The Daily Journal
- Daily Record
- Home News Tribune
- Ocean County Observer
- Times Beacon Newspapers

- Other Gannett Newspapers



Advertisement

Find your Place

Select amenities

Pets

Storage

Health Facilities

Parking

Alcoholism and Drug Dependence-New Jersey.

On the Web:

www.justanickel.org

Jonathan Tamari: jtamari@gannett.com

E-mail article Print article Subscribe Get e-mail alerts

Partners: Jobs: CareerBuilder.com • Cars: Cars.com • Apartments: Apartments.com • Shopping: ShopLocal.com

Copyright © 2006 Asbury Park Press. All rights reserved.
Use of this site signifies your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#). (Updated June 7, 2005)
Site design by [Asbury Park Press](#) / [Contact us](#)