

Letters to the Readers from Straight Parents Inc.

We are deeply concerned for the lives of all children. We have paid for this message to let you know that Straight has a dream.

STRAIGHT HAS helped me, my husband and members of my family come closer together by requiring open, honest communication of feelings.

Pat McGee
Washington D.C.

GOD BLESS Straight's Staff as they

STRAIGHT RESTORED me to my sanity. I have learned how to deal with depression, loneliness, anger at what my druggie son has done to me and my family and resentment for having had to deal with a druggie for nine years and having spent approximately \$100,000 on other programs.

Tom E.
Nokomis, FL

STRAIGHT HAS given me relief in the brief time that my two children have been here. I know they are in good hands, among people who care, who would be happy to help me. I am growing by practicing the principles of the program so I'm confident my children are growing. Thank God for Straight! For Hope! For Love!

Marjorie P.
Washington D.C.

WE ARE the proud parents of a "straight" son, 27 (27 months), son, for twenty-seven (27) months. We are a happy family once again, after going through several long years of verbal abuse, threats, manipulation, theft, deception, and manipulation, from a young man using drugs and alcohol. Make no mistake, this happens wasn't easy to come by. It took a

Washington D.C.

STRAIGHT, INC. has been and is applying with a confidence and dependability in affording opportunities for young people to turn their lives around and change their attitudes to constructive and meaningful lives.

Our son was completely convinced by drugs with no respect for himself or others. The important principles applied to him during his fourteen months of rehabilitation have enabled him to command a positive mental attitude that has led to mental growth and physical skills in many forms of endeavor.

At the appropriate time, he attended St. Petersburg Junior College and upon completing his program at Straight, Inc. returned to Atlanta and entered Oglethorpe University where he is currently in his senior year working toward a degree in Business Administration.

R.A.E. B.
Smyrna, GA

MY HUSBAND and I investigated several programs for our son before settling on Straight. It was the only one that made sense.

Lily M.
Washington D.C.

NOT ONLY did the program miraculously save our daughter's life, it gave her a future with meaning and purpose. The love shown by the Executive and Peer Staff towards the kids and parents is without measure. Equally matchless is the love demonstrated by parents towards each other and the kids they foster during the program. The tough discipline required to conquer the drug abuse disease is sometimes tragically misunderstood and misrepresented as a lack of love.

Bob & Gail A.
St. Petersburg, FL

TODAY I am the happiest mother in the world and that is an understatement. We have been in Straight for just over a year; my sons have been home for many months and they are completely loving and caring human beings with faults like everyone else but with the knowledge of how to handle their faults and their strengths. Their self-respect has soared; so has mine; they respect my authority in the home but know they have the freedom to express their opinions. They are responsible, mature, honest and open in all their dealings with themselves and others.

Carole G.
Fairfax, VA

America.

THE LOVE, caring and sharing in this program cannot be found anywhere. We were in a program before Straight and none of them did anything for my son and me. I love Straight.

Kath B.
Washington D.C.

STRAIGHT NO DOUBT means a lot of different things to different people, depending on what brought them to the program. In our case, Straight (Atlanta) has (1) saved our 18 year old son's life; (2) given our 21 year old son a chance to put back together a life that was shattered by drugs; (3) helped my wife and me develop a closer, healthier relationship; and (4) given us hope that after more than 10 years we now have a chance to knit back together a family that has literally been torn asunder by drugs.

To me, Straight has meant a new life for our two sons as well as for my wife and me. It provides a rational, loving, comprehensive approach to a complex and difficult problem. And for us, at least, it is getting results where five other programs have failed.

Our oldest son died of an accidental drug overdose. Without Straight, we would have lost a second son. I hope every family with a drug problem has the same good fortune we have had of becoming a Straight family.

Kenneth C. W.
Marietta, GA

FOURTEEN MONTHS ago we took an abusive, combative, suicidal, former cheerleader and cheer member to Straight, Inc. She was beset on self-destruction, using pot, alcohol and pills. Today, we have a straight, beautiful, caring daughter. She now loves herself for the first time in years. The changes she has made and we have made as a family, with the help of the program, will lead us all to a happier, productive life. All anyone has to do is visit an open meeting to feel the warmth and caring of Straight, Inc.

Mr. & Mrs. D.
Tempe, FL

STRAIGHT HAS provided my family a safe port in the worst emotional storm my family has ever been in.

Gene W.
Washington D.C.

WE PRACTICED "tough love" and sometimes it is difficult, because we love our kids so much, to discipline between what kids want and what is best for them. My kids now appreciate and understand discipline as care. My children need rules and routine by which to live.

Judy H.
Brentwood, TN

IF YOU are like I was, denying that a problem exists, ashamed to seek help, attempting to justify your actions, I recommend you check into the Straight Program. It is not an easy program, because you as a Mom or Dad have to participate with your child. You have to give of your heart as well as your labor. And the reward is "he was lost, and is found."

Ed S.
Huntsville, AL

TWO YEARS ago next month was truly a new beginning for our family. After months of desperation and frustration over problems with our then seven-year-old son, we found the Straight program.

We did not experience an overnight miracle, but knowing the severity of our situation, we did not expect one. However, after fifteen months of sharing, learning and meaningful support, our prayers were answered.

Today our son is a whole person, with goals, ambition and a sense of direction that would rival anyone. To say that we are proud of what he has achieved would be an understatement. Having this child back that we thought was lost to us and seeing him care again is a feeling of joy I will never be adequately described.

Sandra and Vernon H.
Maitland, FL

STRAIGHT HAS taught me more about drugs as a family disease than 2 psychiatrists and a psychiatric hospital. It has helped my entire family for a reasonable fee. My child is in a loving home, not an institution.

Sally F.
Washington D.C.

STRAIGHT HAS given peace and hope in my family. Straight has done what \$10,000 and 3 doctors for 10 months were unable to do for my daughter's drug problem and eating disorder problems. It has helped my entire family change into a loving, caring and sane family.

Shannon H.
Fairfax, VA

MY SON'S life is worth all that "Straight" can do for him and us as a

STRAIGHT HAS been a wonderful experience for me and my family. I would back it 100% and hope to be a supporting member of Straight for the rest of my life because I feel it gave back to me the most valuable thing a wife and mother has — her family.

Joan E.
Mason, GA

AS A clinical social worker and psychotherapist I continued to look for the most effective adolescent drug treatment program I know of.

Pat R.
Fairfax, VA

THE REASON we became involved in Straight almost 3 years ago was to get our son off drugs. Straight, in our opinion, saved his life. He completed the program 15 months ago, and has not returned to his old druggie lifestyle. He is currently enrolled in a city in a university out of the area, and is doing well. The program besides the entire family is not just the child who used drugs. Through sharing and counseling, our family learned how to better cope with our problems. The principles we learned at Straight apply to daily living.

Straight is very special to our family. We experienced warmth and friendships that have been meaningful. A feeling of love and care that is reassuring and supportive, and a commitment to each other.

Frank and Carolyn D.
Marietta, GA

I HAVE two children, one 19 and one 16. Much to my dismay I discovered that my kids were involved with alcohol, marijuana and other drugs. My family was in a shambles. As a result, we were very personal life. We were completely breaking up and going in different directions with our lives. We were all hurting. Straight has literally saved my family. Not only as a family unit, but I am convinced that it has saved the lives of my children. My family was dead; now my family is very much alive, well and happy.

Accordingly, Straight, Inc. and the principles for which it stands and through which we now live is one of the greatest treasures that I have. Through the use of tough-love, I have developed a straightforward approach to life, and have unloaded so much of the unnecessary burdens which I picked up as a member of society. This institution has simply called to my attention the many images, the little acts of dishonesty which we as members of society play on each other, and the false value system which we pick up from a very materialistic society.

James C.

CURRENT STATISTICS

The following is a sampling of children who entered and successfully completed the St. Petersburg Program:

'80 thru '81	153 Children Entered Program	106 Successfully Completed	78% remained Drug Free
'81 thru '82	122 Children Entered Program	89 Successfully Completed	96% remained Drug Free
79% of all St. Petersburg graduates surveyed one year later remained drug free.			
2,068 Children received treatment at the St. Petersburg Program between 1976 and 1982.			

E.M. C.
Brentwood, FL

National Support Continues to Grow:

"We are in danger of losing an entire generation of young people to drug abuse." — Nancy Reagan, First Lady of the United States

"We brought in (to Straight, Inc.) a walking chemical," said her mother. "Now we have a walking miracle!" — Reprinted from April 1982, Reader's Digest

"Each day at Straight Inc. begins and ends with a song. The songs are like bookends, instruments that keep material between them upright." — Reprinted from The Evening Independent, St. Petersburg, Florida

"At the bottom there's nothing terribly complicated going on at Straight. There's nothing that is hard to understand. And that's the irony, because few who read of Straight and how it works will believe its success. Few will accept that children can help children; that parents can help parents; and that the love of all these people feel for each other can work miracles." — Reprinted from The Atlanta Weekly

"The single best thing about Straight is that it works. I've seen hundreds of children who were well along paths of self-destruction return to lives in which they felt good about themselves and were working to achieve their God-given potential — Dr. Ian MacDonald, President, Florida Pediatrics Society and Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

"Let me be the first to say that Straight, Inc., is not only the best adolescent drug abuse treatment program in this area... it is the best in the country." — Robert L. DuPont, M.D., Founding Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse

Volunteer parents welcome any questions you may have concerning your child. Call (813) 577-0036
This ad paid for entirely by donations from Straight parents.

If lines are busy, please keep trying