



# GENERATION FOUND



**'JUST SAY NO' WAS A SLOGAN. THIS IS A REVOLUTION.**

## **EVENT AND DISCUSSION TOOLKIT**

# Screening Set-Up Suggestions & Screening Day Strategy

In order to ensure your screening is a great all around event you'll want to touch base with Gathr (support@gathr.us) approximately two weeks prior to your screening to ask for the items that you might need.

Here are 3 things you'll want to address with them:

1. Ask them about the availability of tables to set up for check-in and to display literature before and after your screening.
2. If you would like to make pre and post film remarks or host a Q&A contact Gathr to request a microphone and chairs.
3. For post-film discussions, request that the theater allow for your guests to stay approximately 30 minutes after the film.

## Screening Day Strategy

Here's a checklist so you can be well-organized prior to the launch of your big event:

- Create an event Program featuring information like the names of sponsors, speakers if you're going to have them, information on community recovery resources, and how to keep get in touch after the event and a link to [YouthRecoveryRevolution.org](http://YouthRecoveryRevolution.org).
- Print copies of the sign-in sheet provided in this toolkit in order to gather names, emails, and zip codes. A sign-in sheet template is located in this toolkit. This will help us to continue to stay connected to individuals interested in igniting the youth recovery revolution in their hometown.
- Don't forget several extra pens!
- Assign volunteers to greet attendees, and ask them to coordinate sign-in sheets on screening night and be ambassadors for your event.
- Produce optional handouts for people as they enter that pertain to the film, such as resources about youth and recovery groups in your area, etc. You may also want to review our resource list for additional materials.
- Discuss day of ticketing logistics. For Gathr screenings you need to let your audience know that they must purchase their tickets (even up to the last minute) online, as the box office does not handle ticketing. You can even think about bringing a laptop or tablet to sell tickets to attendees who walk up last minute.
- Recruit volunteers to assist with greeting people, signing up people and coordinating

# Guide for Film Introduction

The film is pre-programmed to begin at exactly the start time of your event (i.e. 7:00 PM or 7:30 PM exactly). Unless other arrangements are made onsite with theater manager, we encourage you to welcome people and introduce your purpose for hosting the screening at least 5 minutes prior to the official start time – otherwise the lights will dim and the film will start without any introduction like a typically movie.

## **Here are some talking points for your opening remarks:**

1. Introduce yourself.
2. Welcome everyone and thank them for attending.
3. Provide context about the movie and why you chose to captain a screening.
4. Briefly recognize any local sponsors.
5. Encourage people to complete the sign-in sheet or drop a business card at the table so that we can stay in touch.
6. Invite people to join in conversation or Q&A after the movie.
7. Inform them about your community listening forum or follow-up meeting, if you have one set up.

# Sample greeting

Good evening, everyone, and welcome to the (add city or town) screening of GENERATION FOUND. My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am with (name of your organization if you belong to one). You're in for a treat tonight.

GENERATION FOUND is created by award-winning filmmakers Jeff Reilly and Greg Williams. Their first feature film together was THE ANONYMOUS PEOPLE, about the emerging social justice movement of more than 23 million Americans living in recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs beginning to tell their stories publicly. Their latest film is a powerful story about one community coming together to ignite a youth addiction recovery revolution in their hometown.

Devastated by an epidemic of addiction, Houston faced the reality of burying and locking up its young people at an alarming rate. And so in one of the largest cities in America, visionary counselors, law school dropouts, aspiring rock musicians, retired football players, oil industry executives, and church leaders came together to build the world's largest peer-driven youth and family recovery community.

Independently filmed over the course of two years, GENERATION FOUND takes an unprecedented and intimate look at how a system of treatment centers, sober high schools, alternative peer groups, and collegiate recovery programs can exist in concert to intervene early and provide a real and tested long-term alternative to the "War on Drugs." It is not only a deeply personal story, but one with real-world utility for communities struggling with addiction worldwide.

I chose to captain this screening because \_\_\_\_\_ (you're in recovery, your family was impacted by addiction, want to be a part of the change, etc.). I'd like to thank some friends of mine who helped us get the movie over the hump in terms of ticket sales. These are individuals / organizations that believe in the mission of GENERATION FOUND. (Briefly recognize your sponsors).

If you didn't add your name and contact information to the sign-in sheet as you came in, I encourage you to do that before you leave, or drop a business card at the table. We'd like to stay in touch as we ignite the youth recovery revolution in \_\_\_\_\_, and throughout the United States.

Finally, after the ending credits roll, we'll turn up the house lights and have a conversation about the movie and answer any questions you have. Be sure to stick around!

And now, let's watch GENERATION FOUND!

GENERATION  
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**#YouthRecoveryRevolution**  
**GenerationFoundFilm.com**

# After the Screening: Building the Movement

It's important to consider the next steps following the screening.

Ask yourself: How can I build off the momentum of this film in a way that will fuel dialogue around these important issues, and empower a youth recovery revolution both locally and nationally?

## Here are a few suggestions for you:

1. Organize a Community Listening Forum or follow-up meeting. It's a great idea to schedule this event before your screening, so that you can publicize it then. Have it a few weeks later to continue the dialogue and organizing. GENERATION FOUND energizes people to get involved. They want to know what can I do? How can I create change within my community? You put a lot of hard work into the screening, and if you have a concrete date in place for your next steps, you can build on the momentum created by the screening.
2. **Host another screening!** Maybe in a different town or part of town, or for a different audience. Given the size and scope of the addiction problem and young people, and the power of recovery, there are still millions more who need to see this film!
3. Provide your viewers with a list or connections to local recovery community organizations, or other addiction stakeholders specific to youth recovery. You can find links on <http://youthrecoveryrevolution.org> to search for how to build various youth recovery supports in your area!



# Youth Recovery Community Fact Sheet

## What are some key statistics regarding young people and addiction?

- For nine out of ten people, addiction begins in adolescence
- 45% of adolescents in America have used alcohol, and 35% have used illicit drugs
- 2.7% of adolescents ages 12-17 were dependent on alcohol in the last year
- 3.5% of adolescents age 12-17 were dependent on illicit drugs in the last year
- 6.6% of young adults age 18-25 were dependent on illicit drugs in the last year
- Only 10% of adolescents ages 12-17 with illicit drug dependence received treatment in the last year
- Only 11% of young adults ages 18-25 with illicit drug dependence received treatment in the last year
- A negative association exists between alcohol and other drug use and academic achievement after controlling for sex, race/ethnicity, and grade level.
- First-year post-treatment relapse rates for adolescents range from 60-70%. Over half of teens receiving inpatient treatment return to substance use within the first 3 months.
- For those students sustaining long-term recovery, programs and supports are critical to preventing relapse into addiction, as well as supporting student success in education.

## What are the statistics regarding young people and recovery?

- Recovery school students report a reduction in weekly use of alcohol, cannabis or other illicit drugs from 90 percent to 7 percent.
- Over 60% of students in collegiate recovery programs qualify for scholarships based on academic performance while staying sober through the recovery program. Collegiate recovery program students have higher GPAs (3.34) than the national average college GPA of 3.1.
- Over a three-year period in one Houston Alternative Peer Group, 100% of youth graduated from high school and 90% of these youth had college plans in place by the completion of their senior year.
- Students participating in collegiate recovery programs also tend to have relapse rates as low as 8%.

**What is an alternative peer group?** An Alternative Peer Group (APG) is a community-based, family-centered, professionally staffed, positive peer support program that offers prosocial activities, counseling, and case-management for people who struggle with substance use or self-destructive behaviors.

**What is a recovery high school?** Recovery high schools are secondary schools designed specifically for students in recovery from substance use disorder or dependency.

**What are the differences between APGs and recovery high schools?** APGs provide recovery services outside of school or work hours that include counseling, family support, case management, psychosocial education, community recovery support, and sober social functions for weekdays and weekends. Recovery high schools educate all available and eligible students who are in recovery from substance use disorders or co-occurring disorders such as anxiety, depression, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and award secondary school diplomas that meet state requirements.

**What are the differences between traditional high schools and recovery high schools?** Much like traditional high schools, recovery high schools often include administrative staff, teachers, and counselors that each play a critical role in supporting their students. Additionally, recovery schools support students in working a strong program of recovery from substance use disorders or co-occurring issues and offer support for families learning to how to live with, and provide support for, their teens entering into the recovery lifestyle. Recovery high schools may employ substance abuse counselors or mental health professionals that play a critical role in supporting recovering youth.

**What are the takeaway lessons from how Houston, Texas has handled the youth addiction crisis in their community and transformed it into a culture of youth and recovery?** Houston, Texas has a long history of supporting youth in recovery through Alternative Peer Groups beginning with Palmer Drug Abuse Program established in 1971. The power of youth recovery groups to make sobriety more fun than using grew within the community as APGs expanded and flourished. With five APGs offering satellite locations throughout the Houston and surrounding areas by 2002, the stage was set to help sustain two recovery high schools that opened their doors in 2003. Students who attend these two recovery high schools are required to maintain enrollment in a local APG. This requirement has proven to be the key to sustaining an integrated recovery system for Houston's recovering youth. Students' recovery, as well as their families', is supported during the day at school and reinforced in the evenings and weekends in their APGs.

**What support resources and groups are available for young people in or seeking recovery?** The graphic below illustrates the continuum of services available depending upon the needs of the youth.



**I want to get involved. How can we get an alternative peer group, recovery high school or college program into the community for our young people?** If your community has reached a point of critical need for youth recovery programs, we are here to help. Visit the film's call-to-action website: [YouthRecoveryRevolution.org](http://YouthRecoveryRevolution.org) for more information and to link to your specific area of interest.

#### **How can I buy the film? What's next for the distribution plan?**

- The film is currently screening in theaters and communities in order to convene an audience for a life-saving discussion. If you are able, please help our team deliver the film to your community and share with your friends and family – you can find out how at <https://gathr.us/films/generation-found>. In 2017 there will be individual retail release online, streaming, DVD, and Video-On-Demand – and if we make enough noise about it hopefully broadcast! Gathr will announce these opportunities as they become available.

#### **How can I show this film in my school, hospital, employer, jail, etc.?**

The film is currently slated for organizational or non-theatrical screening by obtaining public performance rights after December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016. You can find out the details on the Host a Community Screening link on the Generation Found Film website.

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