



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TENS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS RALLYING IN 90 COMMUNITIES ACROSS
THE U.S. September 24, 2011**

Celebrating recovery from addiction; calling for end to discriminatory policies and support for people in or seeking addiction recovery

(Washington, DC, September 23, 2011) – Over 100,000 Americans will speak out, march, run and walk as part of **Rally for Recovery!** on Saturday, September 24th in communities across the country as part of the 22ND anniversary of National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month. From Denver, CO to Hartford, CT to Philadelphia, PA members of the addiction recovery community, their families, friends and allies will be rallying to put a face and a voice on recovery from addiction and calling for improved local, state and federal policies so that others can get the help they need to recover. Over 20 million Americans are in long-term recovery from addiction, benefiting themselves, their families and communities.

Philadelphia's Recovery Walks! will serve as this year's national "hub" for activities happening nationwide. The greater Philadelphia walk has attracted national, state, and local dignitaries. Celebrity Emcee will be veteran broadcaster Laurie Dhue, a person in long-term recovery herself. Sandra Huffman, who left Florida on foot to travel over 1,300 miles foot to appear at the Philadelphia event, will be on hand, as will the singing group RockStar SuperStar. Speakers will include Candy Finnigan and Jeff Van Vonderen from A&E's Emmy Award-winning series "Intervention."

In a special ceremony, a "Recovery Idol" will be crowned with two finalists from the area each performing one song on-stage and the winner announced later based on judging by Grammy Award winning singer, Billy Paul; Clear Channel's Loraine Ballard Morrell; and Fox News Anchor, Shannette Wilson. More than eleven thousand people from Philadelphia, the surrounding region and neighboring states will rally and walk together in Recovery Walks! sponsored by PRO-ACT (Pennsylvania Recovery Organization – Achieving Community Together).

Other dignitaries include Gil Kerlikowske, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; Pamela Hyde, Administrator, federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); Westley Clark, M.D., Director of the federal Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, SAMHSA; and Arthur Evans, Ph.D., Director of Philadelphia's Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services.

Faces & Voices of Recovery is the national organization coordinating **Rally for Recovery!** events which are taking place during September, National Recovery Month. This is the fifth annual **Rally for Recovery!** and the number of participants has grown from 30,000 in 2007 to a projected 100,000 in 2011. The Philadelphia Rally will be streamed online at www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org starting at 9:00 am, Saturday, September 24, 2011.

EVENT DETAILS

WHEN: Saturday, September 24, 2011

WHERE: Penn's Landing, Philadelphia, PA. Registration starts at 7:00 am; Walk through historic Philadelphia begins 9:00 a.m.; stage program including selection of Recovery Idol begins 10:30 a.m. More information at www.recoverywalks.org

Events in communities around the country (see listing below)

WHAT: Nationwide walks, rallies, picnics and other events at 90 locations across the country under the umbrella, **Rally for Recovery!** to support long-term recovery from addiction to alcohol and other drugs

PRESS CONTACT: To arrange pre- or post-event interviews with spokespeople across the nation, please contact: Pat Taylor at 301.404.8477 or ptaylor@facesandvoicesofrecovery.org. To arrange pre- or post-event interviews with spokespeople about Philadelphia's Recovery Walks!, please contact: Bonnie Catone at 518-441-9847 or bcatone@tresearch.org.

Nationwide, **Rally for Recovery!** participants will be encouraged to participate in our nation's civic life through voter registration and education; contacting their members of Congress about the benefits of recovery in saving health care dollars and lives; sharing why recovery is important to them; and celebrate their growing visibility. They will be joined by a vast array of elected officials, celebrities, public officials, law enforcement officers and other allies.

ABOUT FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY

Faces & Voices of Recovery is the national organization of individuals and organizations joining together with a united voice to advocate for public action to deliver the power, possibility and proof of recovery from addiction. www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org

ABOUT RECOVERY MONTH

National Recovery Month is an annual observance that takes place each year during the month of September and is carried out by National Planning Partners in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Substance Abuse Treatment.

www.recoverymonth.gov President Barack Obama has issued a Recovery Month proclamation available at www.whitehouse.gov/ondcp.

SELECTED RALLY FOR RECOVERY! EVENTS ACROSS THE NATION

For more information on events visit

- facesandvoicesofrecovery.org
- recoverymonth.gov

Alabama

Spirit of Recovery Celebration

Alaska

Recovery Month Celebration

Arizona

Art of Recovery Expo, Phoenix
Red Road to Wellbriety Celebration

Arkansas

Hot Springs Recovery Walk and Rally

California

Recovery Happens
Strut for Sobriety!

Colorado

Rally for Recovery

Connecticut

Recovery Walks! 2011

Washington, DC

DC Recovery Community Alliance Recovery Fair

Florida

Fall Family Festival

Georgia

GARR Recovery Fair
Metro Atlanta Recovery Celebration Rally & Picnic

Hawaii

Recovery Walk & Dry Run
"Substance Abuse-Family Challenges" a Legislative Summit

Indiana

Recovery Cookout and Ride

Kentucky

Rally for Recovery!

Maine

THE SECRET'S OUT: People Do Recover! Annual Summit on Addiction
Recovery

Maryland

National Recovery Month Kick off Festival
Recovery Walk & Rally

Massachusetts

Recovery Day Celebration

Michigan

Celebrate Recovery Walk & Rally XI

Minnesota

Walk for Recovery
Montana
National Recovery Month
Nebraska
Recovery Rally
Nevada
The Southern Nevada Rally for Recovery
New Hampshire
Celebration of Recovery New Hampshire
New York
NYS Recovery Rally
Ohio
Ohio Rally for Recovery
Hope Has a Home Celebration
Oklahoma
Together We Can Learn, Heal, Recover
Oregon
Hands Across the Bridge
Pennsylvania
Recovery Walks!
Rhode Island
Rally 4 Recovery
South Carolina
Rally for Recovery! - 2011 - Recovery Benefits Everyone
Texas
Big Texas Recovery Rally
Utah
Utah Recovery Day
Vermont
Green Mountain Rally for Recovery
Virginia
Recovery Fest and BBQ Cook Off
Washington
Hands Across the Bridge
Wyoming
Join the Voices of Recovery