

# The Gate House School

OPENING THE GATE TO A  
BRIGHTER FUTURE.

## THE GATE HOUSE SCHOOL MISSION

The Gate House School is dedicated to preparing high school students in recovery for their next step in life by offering a college preparatory education in an atmosphere of respect, acceptance, and intellectual engagement.



*“My son spent 110 days in a residential treatment facility for drug addiction. But getting sober was not our biggest challenge; recovery is. My son returned to his home high school and everyday he faces the people he got high with. School should be a safe place.”*

—Parent

*“It is hard to stay sober in a high school where kids are still using. I have to do it every day. There are often times where I feel the need to leave school because kids talk about their partying. I walk into the bathroom and see kids using drugs. A recovery high school would have made my transition into sober life easier.”*

—Potential student

## THE GATE HOUSE SCHOOL VISION

Adolescents who are lost in the world of addiction are missing opportunities for intellectual development. The Gate House School provides a life-saving and life-changing experience for adolescent students in recovery. It is a specialty high school that provides a challenging climate where students can solidify their independence from addiction. While a member of The Gate House School community, students are deeply engaged in their learning through a broad college preparatory curriculum within an environment supportive of their newfound sobriety. Strengthening the educational experience, students are provided with comprehensive support for academic, physical, emotional, social, and spiritual growth.

The Gate House School is named in honor of the Gate Lodge at Stan Hywet Hall in Akron, Ohio. It was there that Henrietta Seiberling introduced Bill Wilson to Dr. Bob Smith in May of 1935, opening the door to the founding of Alcoholics Anonymous.

## INTRODUCTION

Northeast Ohio has a long and storied history of substance abuse treatment, but it has not had a recovery high school for the 1,700 adolescents per year who receive this form of treatment. Nearly half of all students returning from rehabilitation to their previous school suffer relapse. Parents and recovering students want to find a safe environment for students to learn and grow. The Gate House School will provide:

- A full college-preparatory high school curriculum
- Professional family support
- Promotion of community reintegration
- Comprehensive care targeting emotional, social, intellectual, vocational, physical, legal and spiritual domains
- Recovery support and relapse protection
- Aftercare support

The Gate House School will significantly increase a student's chance for successful recovery through their high school years and beyond.



## THE NEED

Ohio's young people have a problem. It is estimated that in Ohio 57,000 individuals between the ages of 12 and 17 years have an alcohol addiction or alcohol abuse problem ([www.usnodrugs.com](http://www.usnodrugs.com)). According to the 2008 US Department of Health and Human Services report, there were a total of 17,000 substance use disorder treatment admissions in the metropolitan Cleveland area. Approximately 10% of those admissions were users under the age of 18.

Northeast Ohio needs an environment to support adolescents in the recovery process. There are no recovery high schools in Greater Cleveland. Our teens are in need of the safe environment that a recovery high school provides. Within the supportive setting of a recovery high school, each student will have the opportunity to focus on academics while also attending to the emotional and intellectual growth crucial to ongoing success.

## PROGRESS

The school will be located at the Metzenbaum Center in Chesterland, Ohio, providing existing classroom facilities and adjacent parkland. An emphasis on project-based learning will complement the Core Curriculum required by the State of Ohio. Accredited teachers, a principal, and administrative/fiscal support will be contracted through our sponsor, the Geauga County Educational Service Center. Family recovery and counseling services will be provided by trained and licensed professional staff. The school will open in the fall in of 2013.



## The Gate House School

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