

For Immediate Release Contact: Ginger Katz
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COURAGE TO SPEAK FOUNDATION REPRESENTS PARENTS OF LOST CHILDREN FROM DRUG ABUSE AT ANTI-DRUG EXHIBIT IN 1 TIME SQUARE

Norwalk-based organization will join White House drug czar Walters, Sen. Schumer, former Mayor Giuliani, and other anti-drug officials at ribbon-cutting ceremony for three-story DEA exhibit dedicated to educating Americans on the dangers and effects of drug use.

(Norwalk, Connecticut) -- The Courage to Speak Foundation, founded in 1997 by Ginger Katz after the death of her son Ian, 20, will join U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, America's drug czar John Walters, and National Institute on Drug Abuse Director Nora Volkow in representing parents nationwide who have lost a child to drug use. Courage to Speak will speak at a press conference at 10 am on Tuesday, September 14, 2004, at One Times Square Building before a ribbon-cutting ceremony inaugurating a three-story exhibit DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) aimed at spreading awareness about the dangers of drugs.

"This exhibit serves as a badge of courage for the families who have lost children to the scourge of drug use," explained Katz. "Courage to Speak is proud to represent those families as we stand side by side with our elected officials to unveil this important, informative monument to the victims of drugs."

At the press conference, Katz will discuss the tragedy of losing her son and the impact on her family. A ribbon-cutting ceremony will follow to officially unveil the exhibit. Each of the exhibit's three floors includes a different anti-drug theme. The first floor discusses the nexus between drugs and terrorism; the second floor, dubbed "lost talent," touches on the impact of drugs on the family, and includes pictures and stories of children who have died from drug abuse; the third floor holds an educational theater.

The exhibit will be open to the public over the course of the next six months. It will be open for tours, and schools will also be able to use the exhibit for educational workshops.

The Courage to Speak Foundation, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering open communication about preventing alcohol and other drug use among young people. The organization employs educational approaches to raise awareness among youth, parent groups, schools, corporations, civic organizations, churches and national conferences.