The Jason Weinfurter Memorial Scholarship 2024-2025 Academic year <u>Submission Form</u>

In loving memory of Jason Weinfurter, whose life was tragically cut short by fentanyl poisoning, we are proud to announce the establishment of the Jason Weinfurter Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship seeks to honor his memory by supporting students who are dedicated to raising awareness about the opioid crisis and making a positive impact in their communities.

1st place: \$600 **2nd place:** \$470 **3rd place:** \$250

Submission Deadline: Friday, June 27, 2025

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must demonstrate a commitment to education about the dangers of opioids and a proactive approach to addressing the crisis. This can be achieved through various means, including but not limited to:

- 1. **Research and Advocacy**: Students may conduct research on the opioid crisis, its causes, and potential solutions. They can advocate for policy changes at local, state, or national levels to improve access to treatment and support for those affected by addiction.
- 2. **Community Engagement**: Students are encouraged to engage with their communities by organizing events, fundraisers, or awareness campaigns to raise funds for local resources such as addiction treatment centers, support groups, or prevention programs.
- 3. **Creative Projects**: Students may express their ideas and insights through various mediums such as art, music, film, literature, or multimedia presentations. For example, they could create artwork that visually depicts the impact of addiction on individuals and families and honors the memories of those lost.
- 4. **Educational Initiatives**: Students may develop educational materials or workshops to educate their peers and community members about the dangers of opioids, signs of addiction, and resources available for recovery and support.
- 5. Action Plans: Applicants are encouraged to develop actionable plans for bringing attention to the opioid crisis and implementing positive change. This could include organizing community forums, collaborating with local organizations, or initiating grassroots movements to combat stigma and promote empathy and understanding.
- 6. **Documentary Film**: Produce a documentary film that explores the personal stories of individuals affected by opioid addiction, highlighting their struggles, triumphs, and the impact on their families and communities. The film could be used as an educational tool to raise awareness and promote empathy.
- 7. **Personal Story Podcast**: Create a podcast series featuring interviews with recovering addicts who share their personal stories of addiction, recovery, and resilience. These

interviews can provide insight into the challenges and successes of overcoming addiction and inspire hope in others.

- 8. **Documentary Photography Project**: Collaborate with recovering addicts to create a documentary photography project that captures their daily lives, struggles, and triumphs in recovery. The photographs could be exhibited in public spaces to raise awareness and challenge stereotypes about addiction and recovery.
- 9. **Community Outreach Events**: Organize community outreach events in collaboration with local recovery centers or sober living houses, such as panel discussions, workshops, or art therapy sessions. These events could provide opportunities for recovering addicts to share their experiences and connect with the broader community.
- 10. **Research Study on Recovery Strategies**: Conduct a research study in partnership with recovering addicts to explore effective strategies for addiction recovery, such as peer support networks, holistic therapies, or harm reduction approaches. The findings could inform evidence-based interventions and policies.
- 11. **Recovery-focused Art Workshop**: Facilitate an art workshop for recovering addicts to express themselves creatively and explore themes of healing, transformation, and recovery. The artwork created could be showcased in a community art exhibition to promote awareness and destigmatize addiction.
- 12. **Public Speaking Series**: Arrange a public speaking series featuring recovering addicts who share their stories of addiction, recovery, and advocacy. These speaking engagements could be hosted at schools, community centers, or public forums to educate and inspire audiences about the realities of addiction and the possibilities of recovery.
- 13. **Community Service Projects**: Collaborate with recovering addicts to organize community service projects, such as neighborhood clean-ups, food drives, or volunteer work at local shelters or recovery centers. These projects provide opportunities for recovering addicts to give back to their communities and rebuild their sense of purpose and self-worth.

The selection process for the Jason Weinfurter Memorial Scholarship will prioritize the potential for real-world impact. Applicants will be evaluated based on their demonstrated commitment to raising awareness and fostering positive change in the fight against opioid addiction, their creativity and innovation, and their community engagement and collaboration.

Through the Jason Weinfurter Memorial Scholarship, we hope to honor his memory by empowering future generations to become advocates and agents of change in the ongoing battle against opioids. Together, we can work towards a brighter, healthier future for all.