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**Thousands of Americans in homes, recovery centers and
houses of worship hold house parties to watch and react to
HBO's Addiction**

Rep. Patrick Kennedy calls on families to speak out

Washington, DC, March 17, 2007 – A groundbreaking collaborative project aimed at expanding public understanding of addiction and recovery, spearheaded by three national organizations, Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA), Faces & Voices of Recovery and Join Together, organized hundreds of house parties across the country tonight aimed at fostering discussion of the impact of addiction in light of the HBO program, the benefits of long-term recovery, and what communities can do to advocate for change..

US Representative Patrick Kennedy (D-RI) talked to house party participants by phone before the show, "We need to put a face and voice on recovery – it's the only way we'll reduce the stigma associated with addiction and it's the only way we'll change public policies that are keeping people from getting treatment and recovery like I and so many others have." Kennedy and Representative Jim Ramstad (R-MN) are leading efforts in Congress to end insurance discrimination against people seeking help with their alcohol and drug problems.

"I have to tell you that I really like what HBO has done," Kennedy told advocates, "for the first time in American history, a mainstream media outlet has produced a multi-media series dedicated to the problem of addiction in our country. While they couldn't cover everything, they have captured the many facets of this disease and its impact on individuals, families and society at large. "

HBO developed the ADDICTION campaign in partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. ADDICTION provides guidance and solutions to one of the nation's most serious and persistent health problems, bringing together the leading researchers and institutions in the field. The campaign includes a 14-part documentary series, a four-disc DVD set, a companion book published by Rodale Press, four independent addiction-themed films and a robust website at www.hbo.com/addiction.

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The collaborative project by CADCA, Faces & Voices of Recovery, and Join Together helps communities build on HBO's ADDICTION Project. The project's interactive web site, www.AddictionAction.org, includes a host of organizing tools to support the project.

COMMUNITY ANTI-DRUG COALITIONS OF AMERICA (CADCA) (www.cadca.org) is the only national organization representing coalitions working to make America's communities safe, healthy and drug-free, representing over 5,000 community coalitions working to support prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery services.

FACES & VOICES OF RECOVERY (www.facesandvoicesofrecovery.org) is a national campaign committed to mobilizing and organizing the millions of Americans in long-term recovery from alcohol and other drug addiction, our families, friends and allies to change public perceptions of recovery, end discrimination and keep a focus on the fact that recovery works and is making life better for millions of Americans.

JOIN TOGETHER (www.jointogether.org) is the nation's leading provider of information, strategic assistance, and leadership development for community-based efforts to advance effective alcohol and drug policy, prevention, and treatment.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION (www.rwjf.org) focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation's largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change. For more than 35 years the Foundation has brought experience, commitment, and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.