



Phoenix House Texas

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Building Resilience Among Texas Teens

Phoenix House Texas Advances Innovative Substance Use Prevention

Texas is facing a growing crisis that is impacting teenagers, families, and communities statewide: rising substance use and mental health disorders among youth. The consequences are profound — and prevention has never been more urgent.

“At Phoenix House Texas, we’re addressing this crisis through proactive, evidence-based education,” said President & CEO Drew Dutton. “Our mission is to tackle substance use at its roots.”

With more than a decade of experience in prevention, intervention, and adolescent-focused treatment, Dutton is recognized for integrating Positive Psychology into mental health and addiction care. Under his leadership, the organization has rejected outdated, shame-based prevention models in favor of a strengths-based approach.

“Substance use has historically been framed as a moral failing, leading to fear-based and moralizing strategies,” Dutton said. “We take a different path. Rather than telling young people what not to do, we help them recognize their strengths, build resilience, and make informed, healthy decisions.”

That philosophy guides Phoenix House Texas’ comprehensive prevention efforts. The organization partners with schools to deliver evidence-based programs for students from Pre-K through 12th grade, strengthening protective factors and equipping youth with practical coping skills to navigate peer pressure and mental health challenges.

Prevention also extends beyond the classroom. Recognizing parents as a critical line of defense, Phoenix House Texas provides education programs that help families communicate effectively, identify warning signs, and establish healthy boundaries.

Through collaboration with community organizations, schools, healthcare providers, and law enforcement, the nonprofit is building a coordinated network of support to expand its reach and deepen its impact.

Since 1995, Phoenix House Texas has served hundreds of thousands of Texans, advancing a prevention-first model rooted in science and measurable outcomes. To learn more about its services and Positive Prevention programs for schools and communities, email admin@phoenixhousetx.org or call 844-748-3927.