"Restoring Relationships After Long Term Drug Use" Twitter Chat with Canyon Crossing July 12, 2016

AH: Welcome to today's #AHchat! Our topic is "Restoring Relationships After Long Term Drug Use."

AH: We would like to start by welcoming our special guests, Justin Bachman and Sarah Daubert from Canyon Crossing Recovery.

AH: What is considered to be long term drug use?

Canyon Crossing: Long term drug abuse involves the repetitive use of a substance, like an illicit drug or prescription medication.

Canyon Crossing: Drug abuse leads to a chemical dependency to the drug.

Canyon Crossing: In seeking the initial high, the body can become dependent, and an addiction can take hold.

Canyon Crossing: According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, addiction occurs when a chemical dependency to a drug is combined with an overwhelming urge to use the substance.

AH: What are signs and symptoms of long term drug use?

Canyon Crossing: An addict may exhibit many different signs and symptoms

Canyon Crossing: This may include physical symptoms, like abrupt weight changes or chronic illness/infection

Canyon Crossing: Behavioral symptoms might include personality changes, depression, increased aggression or irritability.

Canyon Crossing: An addict may also have sudden changes in their social network

Canyon Crossing: As well as changes in habits and/or priorities

Canyon Crossing: An addiction may lead to financial and relationship problems as well.

AH: How can long term drug use negatively impact relationships?

Canyon Crossing: In addiction, the drug user is typically driven by a continued need of these drugs

Canyon Crossing: Finding a way to get the drugs and engage in drug use will often become the most compelling factor in the addict's life.

Canyon Crossing: Relationships will often go to the backburner

Canyon Crossing: Relationships often begin to suffer and be destroyed as the addiction takes hold.

AH: What are ways in which relationships can be restored after long term drug abuse?

Canyon Crossing: An effective recovery program is often the first step towards restoring relationships

Canyon Crossing: When the effects of a drug addiction are eliminated, a person can take control of their life and begin restoring relationships.

Canyon Crossing: The addiction must first be addressed to help a person heal in all aspects of their life.

Canyon Crossing: This can begin with comprehensive treatment for a drug addiction.

AH: How can treatment help support recovery efforts from addiction?

Canyon Crossing: Comprehensive treatment can offer the structure needed for healing, accountability, and support for recovery.

Canyon Crossing: Addiction treatment can provide a path for long-term success through a therapeutic environment, which promotes self learning and growth

Canyon Crossing: Treatment can help empower an individual for recovery from an addiction and overcome barriers that might be faced along the way.

AH: What encouragement do you have to offer someone recovering from addiction?

Canyon Crossing: Recovery from an addiction is possible!

Canyon Crossing: If you have struggled with broken relationships as a result of an addiction, you can repair your life by seeking out the treatment you need.

Canyon Crossing: Relationships can be restored as you focus on healing yourself and treating your addiction.

Canyon Crossing: Reach out to someone you trust and get connected to support and recovery.

AH: If you or a loved one has been suffering with an addictive disorder, we hope this information brings you hope.

AH: Seeking out treatment is critical for hope, healing, and recovery

AH: For more information about Canyon Crossing Recovery, visit: https://www.canyoncrossingrecovery.com/

AH: Thank you to everyone who participated in our Twitter Chat today! And thank you for the great insight @Canyon_Crossing

AH: Please stay tuned for future Twitter Chats from AH!

AH: If you are in need of resources for substance abuse, **visit our website at:** <u>www.addictionhope.com</u>