# INTO LIGHT Project

*Examining the Human Reality of Drug Addiction*



**Drug Addiction: *Real People, Real Stories — Maine***

Help change the conversation about drug addiction and end the stigma.

*You are invited to participate in this exhibition by sharing your loved one's story and image — because every life deserves to be seen in its full humanity. At the close of the exhibition, your loved one's original framed portrait will be gifted to you to keep.*

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**About the INTO LIGHT Project**

The INTO LIGHT Project is a national nonprofit working to help people better understand addiction. We share the stories of those who have died from substance use disorder through hand-drawn graphite portraits and personal narratives created from memories shared by family and friends.

By bringing these portraits and stories into communities, schools, and public spaces, we put a human face on addiction. Our goal is to encourage learning, spark honest conversations, and reduce the shame and judgment that too often surround this disease.

**A Legacy That Endures**

The portraits and stories in INTO LIGHT exhibitions are more than works of art. They help others better understand addiction by showing the real lives, relationships, and experiences behind this disease. Each story adds to a larger conversation about addiction, loss, and the need for greater compassion and awareness.

Through our partnership with the University of California, San Francisco, these portraits and stories are preserved as part of a permanent archive. This allows your loved one's story to continue making an impact by helping researchers, educators, and future generations learn from the experiences of real individuals and families.

The exhibition is limited to **30 submissions**, accepted beginning **October 1, 2026** on a first-come, first-served basis. Submissions close **February 1, 2027,** or sooner, when all spots are filled. There is never a fee to submit or be included in the project.

Submit your loved ones at: **intolightproject.org/share-your-story**

*For more information, please contact:*

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University of New England, Parker Pavilion, Portland, ME
June 1, 2027 – October 29, 2027
Opening Reception: June 4, 2027 from 5 – 7PM

INTO LIGHT PROJECT

Permanently archived by UCSF, searchable under the official collection title:
*Drug Addiction: Real People, Real Stories — INTO LIGHT Project National Collection.*

*Sponsored by* **INDIVIOR** *and the* **NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS,** *in collaboration with the* **University of New England**

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