



## **The Importance of Addiction Treatment**

Alcoholism and drug addiction have devastating effects for alcoholics, addicts and the people who love them. While at times the situation for an alcoholic or addict may feel hopeless, we believe that all alcoholics and addicts can, and deserve to be, treated for their disease and given the opportunity to lead full lives in recovery.

Father Martin's Ashley's treatment program is based upon this understanding of the disease of addiction and Father Martin's treatment philosophy. Treatment at Ashley is private, respectful and dignified, and helps each individual patient, and their loved ones, learn skills to support life-long recovery.

### **The Facts:**

- One of every eight Americans has a significant problem with alcohol or drugs, with 40 percent of the group having a "dual diagnosis," or concurrent mental/nervous disorder
- Approximately 27 million Americans either use illicit drugs regularly or are "heavy drinkers." Of these almost 16 million are estimated to need immediate treatment
- By age eighteen, almost 12 percent of all young people are illicit drug users;
- An untreated alcoholic's medical costs are approximately 300 percent higher than non-alcoholic's medical costs
- Approximately 70 percent of illegal drug users are employed and contribute significantly to workplace absenteeism, accidents and injuries, decreased productivity, increased insurance expenses, employee turnover costs and on-the-job violence
- The estimated annual direct cost to our society resulting from substance abuse is more than 250 billion dollars
- It is generally accepted that chemical dependency, along with associated mental health disorders, has become one of the most severe health and social problems facing the United States.\*

Source: SAMHSA (U.S. Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services)

For more than 25 years Father Martin's Ashley has been devoted to saving lives. Our 147-acre campus on the Chesapeake Bay outside Havre de Grace, Maryland is place of sanctuary, serenity and healing. Your support helps families from all over the country who seek treatment here.