

Former First Lady Key to the Public's Understanding of Addiction

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For Immediate Release

NAADAC President Don Osborn released a statement regarding the passing of former First Lady, Betty Ford, on July 8, 2011.

"On behalf of the 8,000 members of NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, I am writing to express our deepest condolences for the loss of your mother, Mrs. Betty Ford.

Betty Ford's personal and professional contributions to the substance use and addiction treatment community over the last 35 years are a lasting contribution to her pursuit of a better life for all Americans. Whether it was helping others discover the 'joy' of recovery, or working tirelessly to reduce the stigma surrounding addiction, she served as an inspiration to millions, and helped change the lives of thousands of people. She was a true champion, and she will be missed.

While her death is a cause for sadness, we know that organizations such as the Betty Ford Center will honor her legacy by giving countless Americans a new lease on life."

The Betty Ford Center, which treats addiction, is collecting tributes from people who remember Mrs. Ford and her work. [Click here for more information](#) .