



Ex-Flyers D-man Chris Therien to Make Mark at Pa. Capitol for Addiction Awareness

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Chris Therien holds the Philadelphia Flyers' record for most career games played by one of their defensemen. But the man affectionately known as "Bundy" has made his most impressive contributions off the ice, where he is helping people who are battling alcohol and/or drug addiction. Therien, 52, is the chief wellness officer for the Pennsylvania Recovery Center, which currently treats substance-use disorders and mental health with three centers in the region. He will join bipartisan legislators from across the Commonwealth, as well as problem-solving court alumni, and speak at the Capitol about his personal battles with abuse and his recovery.

The former Flyers defensemen's works for three centers have aided those in need. "When someone had struggles or they had to do something through the drug court, we have a place for them to come," Therien said.

Therien has been sober for 13-plus years. In his final days as a player with the Flyers in the 2005-06 season, he said, he was "basically told to get out" because his drinking was out of control. He has straightened out his life and turned his attention toward others who are trying to find recovery.

Chris Therien holds the Philadelphia Flyers' record for most career games played by one of their defensemen. "It can hit anyone," Therien said. "You can be a hockey player, a school principal, a trash collector. It doesn't matter."

A reformed alcoholic, Therien will join the Pennsylvania Association of Treatment Court Professionals on a visit to the Pennsylvania State Capitol in Harrisburg on Wednesday. Among other things, he will educate legislators about recovery, and the reduction in the rate of incarceration for drug-related offenses.

"It gives me an opportunity to get in front of people who can make decisions," said Therien, who in 2022 wrote an emotional book with Wayne Fish called Road to Redemption. "It's the message of hope. I'm selling hope " and that's what people need to have. I want to give people the same kind of hope that I had. And when I didn't have it, I found it."

Matt Schmonsees, director of Philadelphia Treatment Court, recently asked Therien if he was interested in being the keynote speaker Wednesday in Harrisburg.

"I'm excited to do it," Therien said. "A lot needs to be done, but if one or two voices that really hear the impact of my story and what we're trying to do, and get people the help they need," it will be helpful. "Really, to knock the stigma off it. We're at a time where people really shouldn't be ashamed of it. I want them to know they have a safe place and a safe environment? You want to be able to give that recovery to other people."

He is also the founder of Bundy Recovery which allows people to hear his message of hope while also voicing and sharing their own personal struggles. Therien supplies after-care treatment at three facilities " one in Center City, and others in Phoenixville and Cherry Hill. (For those who want info on his centers, call 1-800-638-5370, or go to www.pabehavioralhealth.com or www.parecoverycenter.com)

"Chris' story of recovery is an inspiration to so many individuals," Schmonsees said. "He truly is a champion for recovery and we are honored he will join us at the State Capitol and share his story. Perhaps even move some of our legislators to action in providing more opportunities to help those battling addiction?"

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For more information about Pennsylvania Recovery Center, contact the company here: Pennsylvania Recovery Center
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Pennsylvania Recovery Center

Pennsylvania Recovery Center is an outpatient addiction treatment center offering partial hospitalization(PHP), Intensive Outpatient(IOP), and Generalized Outpatient services. Individual, Group, & Medication Management is available.

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