

**Substance Abuse among Indian Youth in Durban:
Their Rehabilitation through Extended Family
Intervention and Support**

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ABSTRACT This is an ethnographic paper based on interviews with victims of drug abuse, as well as with parents and well-meaning community members who had an interest in their recoveries. The interviews generated information on aspects of joint and extended familial support, caring and co-responsibilities. In each of the interviews it was evident that familial support was severely limited in attempting to rehabilitate victims of substance abuse. Their solace lied with a community-based organisation that depended upon personal, individualised approaches to their clients as well as unconventional methods of rehabilitation, which often depended upon use of local colloquial and social interactions. These methods, as the case studies reveal, were effective, not only in assisting individuals to recover but also in creating a greater sense of community by both victims as well as observant community others who recognised the need to meaningfully ameliorate a growing scourge.