The Purpose of an Intervention

The principle behind an intervention is that those with an addiction may never choose to seek treatment on their own accord. The goal of an intervention is to use empathy and understanding to make a case that opens the eyes of the addict, making them suddenly capable of seeing that help is needed after all. Sometimes, the experience of seeing all of their loved ones in one place or of hearing a case made by a professional interventionist will make the situation seem more serious and urgent to the addict. Interventions are very effective at illustrating the fact that everyone is united in the belief that there is a significant problem (and that this problem is causing strife and misery for a wide range of people).

You should spend time considering the structure of the intervention well in advance of the actual day. With a clear plan in place, you will be better prepared to navigate the heated emotions and difficult conversations that can naturally result during the intervention process and you will limit the chances of the intervention spinning out of control.
Step One : Gather Information

Start by finding answers to the following questions:
1. How long has substance abuse been a problem for your loved one?
2. What form does the addiction take, and is more than one addictive substance being used?
3. What treatment is available?

The staff at White Sands can help you with this third question, as we are happy to disclose comprehensive descriptions of our highly customizable detox and therapy programs. We can also help you to plan an arrival date for your loved one.

Step Two: Agree on the Consequences

Everyone planning to participate in the intervention must agree on a plan for what to do if the addict refuses to enter a treatment program or admit that there is a significant problem. At this stage of planning, a professional interventionist can help all of the participants to figure out the extent to which they enable the addicts’ behavior, and to plan how to make sure that they do not protect the addict from the consequences of their actions. It is also common for all parties to agree that they will no longer help the addict (e.g. financially) if treatment is refused, and spouses often decide that a failure to enter a treatment program will mean at least a temporary end of the romantic relationship.

Step Three: Decide What to Say

Everyone involved in the intervention should know what to say on the day, and should practice potential replies to the things that the addict might say in response. For example, participants should prepare a summary of how and why the addicts’ behavior is causing damage, and give clear indications of the ways in which they have personally been hurt, humiliated or frightened by the addicts’ choices. A professional interventionist can help you to make sure that you communicate these ideas in a loving but firm way that does not incite anger but respectfully makes it clear that the status quo will no longer be tolerated.
Who Should Participate in an Intervention?

To maximize the chances of success, we strongly recommend that you spend some time seriously considering the people who should take part in the intervention. The bulk of interventions are performed by family members of the addict, but in principle anyone who has a significant relationship with the person can be a useful part of the intervention process. The following people may be of help:

**The Addicts’ Doctors And/Or Therapists**
While confidentiality laws and agreements will prevent your loved one’s doctors or therapist’s from discussing anything they have found out in the course of their treatment procedures, they may consent to attend an intervention if they let them know that you are organizing one. If they have a positive relationship and good understanding of your loved one, their support may lend credibility and authority to the intervention.

**Adults In The Addicts’ Family Or Inner Circle**
When thinking about who to include in an intervention, consider everyone who is close to your loved one. This includes siblings, spouses, parents and close friends. Each person will have a unique perspective on the reasons behind the addiction and can contribute valuable information and ideas during the planning stages.
The Addicts’ Children
Older children may be especially effective during an intervention. Addicts often shirk their responsibilities and commitments in favor of abusing drugs or alcohol, and concrete evidence of the damage that this is doing to their loved ones may be a powerful wakeup call. However, we caution against allowing younger children to attend the intervention. There is no guarantee that anger will not erupt, and witnessing an ugly confrontation could cause trauma to younger attendees.

Religious Figures In The Community
If the addict is religious, the input and support of religious authority figures could help to encourage positive change in the family.

A Professional Interventionist
Intervention professionals can be instrumental in ensuring that an intervention does lead to treatment. Such people are specifically trained to instruct family members on how to stage an intervention safely and effectively. White Sands treatment center can provide individuals that are perfect for this job, as well as addiction counselors who can help to educate the family about the complex nature of addiction.
The Key Signs That Intervention Is Needed:

- They seem unable to see that they have a problem that requires urgent treatment.
- Their behaviors regarding their addiction have become compulsive and they seem genuinely unable to stop these behaviors on their own.
- They cannot comprehend that their substance dependence is having a negative impact on their most significant relationships.
- They do not realize that their lifestyle poses a serious risk to their physical and mental health.
- They use the substance that they abuse in order to treat the withdrawal symptoms they experience after a period of abstinence.
- They believe that they would not recover if they were to submit to treatment for their addiction.
- They are abusing a substance (or multiple substances) more frequently and at greater levels.
- They are suffering from significant financial problems due to an attempt to support their habit.
- They have undergone unsettling personality changes.
- They are encountering legal problems due to their addiction.
- They are demonstrating a dramatically decreased capacity to stick to their commitments at work or in the home.

Once you have made all the appropriate arrangements for the intervention itself, the final step is to ensure that the individual has a place to go for treatment. At White Sands, we will do our very best to ensure your loved one receives the type of customized care that leads to a full recovery.

Life can be so much better than what it is now. You can find peace and joy again. Just take that first step today by calling. Our drug addiction and alcoholism specialists will answer the phone. We are here for you 24 hours a day to help. Call us now at 1-877-855-3470.
About Our Campuses
White Sands - Fort Myers, FL

White Sands - Fort Myers is our main campus which is located in Fort Myers, Florida. Our facility is designed to provide a community atmosphere that supports both privacy and interpersonal support between patients. Each patient at White Sands will be provided with a luxurious living quarters for their stay at rehab. Your surroundings have a great deal to do with your mood; therefore, we have created not only a holistic rehabilitation environment, but also a beautiful one. We want you to enjoy the process of recovery, be happy with your decision and proud that you completed your stay at our center. Our design team spared no expense. We created what we believe is the finest alcoholism and drug rehabilitation center in Florida.

Our treatment center promises state of the art facilities, compassionate care, and a welcoming community where healing will begin on the very day that you or your loved one join us. We place a strong emphasis on family involvement and help the families of addicts to cope with the damage and confusion that addiction can cause.
White Sands - Tampa, FL

Our White Sands - Tampa campus, beautifully located in Plant City, Florida is a drug and alcohol addiction treatment center that believes in pinpointing the core issues behind where the behavioral disorder and/or addiction began so that we can aid in eradicating any and all behaviors associated with the initial birthplace of the addictive behaviors.

Our warm, compassionate, and well-trained staff are dedicated towards helping you or your loved one to recover from addiction safely, comfortably, and effectively. We want you to feel safe in knowing that you can tell us anything without feeling judged or misunderstood. We truly care and want you to succeed. We also know that in order to truly recover, honesty is key – not just with us, but with yourself as well.

You don’t have to go through this alone. We are here for you and are endlessly committed towards not only your long-term recovery, from a chemical dependency standpoint, but also towards helping you to become a productive, happy, and healthy member of society. We are an addiction treatment center that truly cares about every person who walks through our doors that are willing and ready to change for the better.

We understand that change is never easy. This change, however, may just save your life.
Our Mission

At White Sands, we understand how difficult this time may be for you or your loved one. We empathize with the fear, confusion, and discomfort that can come along with entering a rehab center away from the life that you’ve grown so accustomed to. Change is a scary thing, but the right change may also be life-saving. Our mission is to show you or your loved one that your life does not have to be defined by the disease of addiction.

We strive to ensure that you develop a stronger sense of self, foster healthy relationships, and practice successful coping skills to help to prevent future relapses.

When you have finished your treatment at White Sands, you will acquire a newfound sense of self-worth and a rejuvenated mindset. You will take the knowledge, experience, and tools that we've provided to you so that you can be confident in not only believing that you have the ability to maintain life-long sobriety, but truly knowing that you do.
Our Treatment Programs

Our programs are designed for each individual based on their unique needs. We accomplish these customized treatment programs after the individual undergoes their in-depth assessment upon arrival at one of our White Sands facilities.

At White Sands, you will be in the safest, most competent, and compassionate hands. We wish to provide you with the most cost-effective, but highest-quality treatment that will help you or your loved one to achieve their sobriety goals and follow their dreams towards a successful future.

Our team of medical and clinical staff are on the premises 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to monitor any changes or arising physical or psychological needs that the patient may have.