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## **WEDU PBS Debuts Sarasota Filmmakers' *"The Silent Majority"* During National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month**



"The Silent Majority," by Sarasota filmmakers Leslie and Lindsey Glass, will air on WEDU PBS, September 19<sup>th</sup> followed by a round-table discussion. Courtesy press photo.

**Tampa, FL** – In recognition of September's National Alcohol and Drug Addiction Recovery Month, **WEDU PBS** will debut Sarasota filmmakers' *"The Silent Majority,"* a groundbreaking documentary about what teens want and need to make healthy choices about drugs and alcohol.

The documentary will premiere on WEDU PBS, **September 19<sup>th</sup> at 9 p.m.** and will be followed by a round-table discussion produced by WEDU. The presentation of this documentary and round-table is a collaborative effort between WEDU PBS and

community partners, **Reach Out Recovery, Community Foundation of Sarasota, and Community Foundation of Tampa Bay.**

"This unique collaboration opens the door for innovative television programming about teen addiction prevention," said Leslie Glass. "Our dream was to reach a broad audience with a compelling and positive story that could change local and national opinions about how parents and communities can address teen drug use."

While we often explore the reasons why children, teens, and college students turn to drugs and alcohol, much less attention is given on the young people opting not to use drugs and alcohol or those that are recovering. In 2011, filmmakers Leslie and Lindsey Glass turned the cameras on these teens to produce *"The Silent Majority."* The documentary highlights teens and college students impacted by four unique programs that empower them to change their lives forever.

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"The Silent Majority" is supported in part by:



#### **ABOUT REACH OUT RECOVERY**

Reach Out Recovery is a 501c3 tax-exempt nonprofit, founded by a family that has experienced addiction, whose mission is to lift the stigma from the disease and bring awareness and support to addiction prevention and recovery efforts nationwide. Call 877.628.5828 or go to [reachoutrecovery.com](http://reachoutrecovery.com).

#### **ABOUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SARASOTA COUNTY**

Since 1979, the Community Foundation has been making the important connection between individuals' personal memories, passions, dreams and the fulfillment of their charitable goals. We help create permanent charitable funds of everlasting impact. These funds ensure that people of vision will have an enduring influence on the life of their community and the charitable causes they hold dear. With assets of over \$234 million in nearly 1,100 charitable funds, the Community Foundation awarded grants and scholarships totaling more than \$18.3 million dollars this past year in the areas of arts, culture and humanities; education; civic engagement; health and human services; animal welfare; and the environment. Since our founding, more than \$125 million has been awarded in grants and scholarships. We are one of more than 700 community foundations in the U.S. and Canada enjoying rapid growth, making our field the fastest growing sector of American philanthropy. Tax-deductible gifts and bequests make up the permanent endowment of community foundations and annual income from investment of that endowment is used to match donors' charitable interests with needs in the community through grants and scholarships. Each community foundation is governed by a board of directors made up of respected volunteer business and civic leaders chosen to represent the rich diversity of the population.

#### **ABOUT COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF TAMPA BAY**

The Community Foundation of Tampa Bay is a nonprofit, tax exempt organization that administers funds established by individuals, corporations, private foundations and nonprofit organizations to support the charitable needs of the Tampa Bay area. The Foundation was incorporated in November, 1989 and held its first board meeting on March 22, 1990. Fred D. Learey, retired CEO of GTE in Florida served as founding chairman of an initial board of 42 community leaders. George Baxter, a CPA, along with his wife Deborah, were the founding staff members and served the Foundation as President and Director of Public Information, respectively, until 2004 when David J. Fischer became its President and CEO, a position he held for seven years until his retirement in December, 2011. In October, 2012, Marlene Spalten became the Foundation's third President and CEO. Affiliate divisions of the Foundation include the Community Foundation of Greater Sun City Center, founded in 1992; the Community Foundation of Pasco County, founded in 2002; the Community Foundation of Greater St. Petersburg, founded in 2004; and the Community Foundation of Hernando County, founded in 2006.

#### **ABOUT WEDU PBS**

WEDU is West Central Florida's leading PBS station and public media company reaching 16 counties through media platforms including on-air programming and online experiences that broaden horizons, transport and transform and open gateways to new ideas and new worlds. Financially supported by the community, the organization offers a wealth of award-winning inspirational, educational and enlightening content over a variety of media platforms including: television programming, station's website, [wedu.org](http://wedu.org) and various social media platforms, monthly member magazine *Premiere*, educational outreach activities and a myriad of special events. WEDU's focus on the local community has resulted in the station being regarded as a beacon of trust for men, women and children of every walk of life no matter their age, ethnicity or socio-economic status. WEDU is a treasured community resource; a window to the world for the homebound and a vital educational source for the youngest members of society. WEDU prides itself on its position in the Tampa Bay community as a leader, partner, informed citizen and a member of PBS, the most trusted institution in America (Harris Interactive Trust QuickQuery, January 2013). For more information, program schedules or to support WEDU visit [wedu.org](http://wedu.org); WEDU Public Media on Facebook and Twitter or call 813.254.9338.

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