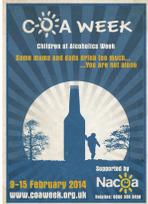


Children of Alcoholics Week is February 9–15, 2014

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Children of Alcoholics (COA) Week is a campaign led by Nacoa (The National Association for Children of Alcoholics) to raise awareness of children affected by parental alcohol problems.

It is celebrated internationally each year during the week in which Valentine's Day falls.

The campaign is led by The National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA). And the aim of the week is to raise awareness of the problems faced by children of alcohol-dependent parents and it's about letting them know that there is support there for them. For example: Did you know that one in four children are in an environment where alcohol abuse or alcoholism affects their day to day life? The problem often goes unsolved or ignored while children living with an alcohol-dependent parent suffer in silence.

It must be really difficult dealing with this problem during your formative years - particularly when you have no idea what's in store when you get home from school each day.

Children of Alcoholics Week marks the recovery of thousands of children who have received the help they needed to recover from a traumatizing childhood. Hope will also be offered to children of alcoholic parents who are still struggling.

NCADD urges you to be an advocate for those children and parents who need alcohol abuse help. Alcoholism is a family disease and affects everyone in the household. If you're interested in helping out, find more ideas at the [Children of Alcoholics Week website](#).

Helping a friend or family member struggling with alcohol or drugs can be heartbreakingly painful but, with help, it can be remarkably rewarding. At times, it can seem so overwhelming that it would be easier to ignore it, pretend that nothing is wrong and hope it just goes away. In the long run, however, denying it or minimizing it, will be more damaging to you, other family members, and the person you are concerned about. [Click here](#) to learn what you can do to help.