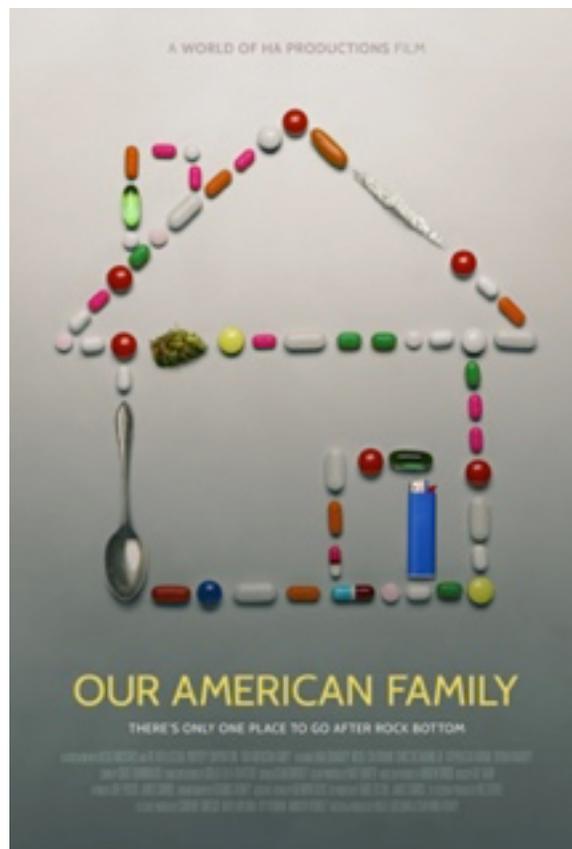


GIANT PICTURES PRESENTS
A World of HA Productions Film in association with Atlas Industries and
The Intellectual Property Corporation



OUR AMERICAN FAMILY

Directed & Produced by Hallee Adelman & Sean King O'Grady

Feature Length Documentary (USA)
RT 87 mins

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY-SYNOPSIS

Addiction is an all-encompassing force, in not only of the lives of the afflicted, but also those around them. OUR AMERICAN FAMILY provides an honest, unfiltered look at a close-knit Philadelphia family dealing with generational substance abuse. Captured at a pivotal “nothing to lose” moment, for over the course of a year, five family members tired of life with addiction on center stage, each struggle to transcend their crippling histories.

What will it take to shift this entrenched, wrenching pattern in their lives? Will they be able to make significant shifts to help their next generation? The members of OUR AMERICAN FAMILY invite us into their lives to find hope and to explore what’s possible. Though they often falter, their familial loyalty is powerful, demonstrating how through love and dedication people can rise out of the deepest depths. For a touching, eye-opening look into one of America's most pressing crises, look no further.

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY-DIRECTORS' STATEMENTS

HALLEE ADELMAN

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY is the story of complex family dynamics, playing out as each character attempts to overcome crippling obstacles they didn’t necessarily choose. I had met Linda, the mother of our film family over eight years ago. At the time, I was writing stories for children, and Linda was fighting to get her daughter, Nicole, into her tenth rehab stint. Nicole had a dream of helping others, but could not find a way to help herself. We explored different vessels for her to share her voice and ultimately landed on documentary film. It was clear that what was missing was a story that included an entire family. Each of Nicole’s family members had an important perspective to help others relate, find compassion, or bash stigmas.

As a filmmaking team we were committed to presenting a portrait that was not riddled with ginned up drama for the sake of entertainment. Our goal was to be as honest and loving as possible so that other families could see themselves in this story, find hope, or perhaps bash unfair or contrived stigmas.

My long-standing relationship with Linda and Nicole, along with the loving dispositions of Sean, Seamus and our entire film team allowed us to create an intimate, non-judgmental environment so the family could be themselves fully--rather than “perform” a self-conscious melodrama. We purposefully chose not to include any experts or drug use. We were never trying to sensationalize this family’s pain and triumphs. The power of the story lies in radically honest moments-- of confrontation and love and family-- unfolding in scene after scene. Our vérité camera is unflinching, so the audience witnesses the struggles, clashes, and subtle, life-changing shifts that come as a result of each character’s earnest, if imperfect efforts to transform. In the spirit of intimate family stories like "Minding the Gap," "Love & Diane," and "Quest" and with visual references like Terrence Malick’s "The Tree of Life" and John Cassavetes' "Husbands," OUR AMERICAN FAMILY immerses viewers into the lives of this brave family, never

shying from the truth-- no matter how difficult and always embracing the true hope that they uncover together.

Viewers might enter this story for different reasons. Some will understand how it feels to struggle with generational addiction. But others might simply connect to the uncertainty around how to parent, or the challenge of not being able to fix something for a loved one, or the amazing strength it takes to find oneself, to let go of resentments, and to heal as a family.

If 21 million Americans are struggling with addiction, how many family members are struggling alongside them?

SEAN KING O'GRADY

Rarely in documentary making do you get to work with subjects who are truly act is if the camera isn't there and let you into the deepest recesses of their minds, and highs and lows of their lives. This was that experience. And it was magical.

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY for me is comprised of three pieces: the Family as the Heart, Hallee as the Head, and myself and our crew as the Body, carrying these other parts physically forward and together forming something greater -- a Soul.

The years long collaboration between Hallee, Linda, and Nicole offered an opportunity unlike any other I've experienced to be allowed to truly immerse ourselves in the lives of this family. I didn't feel like we were a production crew separate from the subjects of our film, I felt like we were part of a larger family experiencing life together, driving towards a shared purpose.

This was an unparalleled and intimate filming experience in which this family's bravery allowed us to capture something truly special. I hope the film can have even a fraction of the impact on viewers that this process has had on our entire team.

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY- ADDICTION STATISTICS

(August 2021)

- Almost 21 million Americans have at least one addiction, yet only 10% of them receive treatment. ([Addiction Center](#))
- Among people struggling with addiction, 253,100 or 12.7% acknowledge their addiction. ([National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics](#))
- Based on data from the combined 2009 to 2014 National Surveys on Drug Use and Health, about 1 in 8 children (8.7 million) aged 17 or younger lived in households with at least one parent who had a past year substance use disorder (SUD). SUDs are characterized by recurrent use of alcohol or other drugs (or both) that results in significant impairment. ([SAMHSA](#))
- About 1 in 10 children (7.5 million) lived in households with at least one parent who had a past year alcohol use disorder. ([SAMHSA](#))
- About 1 in 35 children (2.1 million) lived in households with at least one parent who had a past year illicit drug use disorder. ([SAMHSA](#))
- 70% of users who try an illegal drug before age 13 develop a substance abuse disorder within the next 7 years compared to 27% of those who try an illegal drug after age 17. ([National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics](#))
- More than 90% of people who have an addiction started to drink alcohol or use drugs before they were 18 years old. ([Addiction Center](#))
- Overdose deaths soared to a record 93,000 in 2020 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. That estimate far eclipses the high of about 72,000 drug overdose deaths reached the previous year and amounts to a 29% increase. ([Associated Press](#))
- For the first time in U.S. history, a person is more likely to die from an accidental opioid overdose than from a motor vehicle crash, according to National Safety Council analysis ([National Safety Council](#))
- More than 40 states across the U.S. have reported increases in opioid-related deaths over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic. ([Addiction Resource](#))

- Emergency department (ED) overdose visits in the U.S. increased up to 45 percent during the pandemic, despite a reduction in total visits to EDs. ([Addiction Resource](#))
- According to [UNODC's](#) World Drug Report 2020, some 269 million people abused drugs in 2018 – a 30 per cent jump from 2009. ([United Nations News](#))
- A 2018 study found that the United States has illicit drug use rates among the highest in the world. Eastern European nations, however, report the highest rates of alcohol consumption. ([VeryWellMind](#), study from [Addiction](#) journal)
- In 2019, over 21 million people were identified as needing substance use treatment—meaning less than one-quarter of those who needed it went on to receive it. ([Addiction Resource](#))
- In a 2020 survey of over 300 treatment facilities, about 52 percent reported a rise in the need for treatment. Yet 65 percent reported having to cancel, reschedule, or turn away people in need. ([Addiction Resource](#))
- 53 million or 19.4% of people 12 and over have used illegal drugs or misused prescription drugs within the last year. If alcohol and tobacco are included, 165 million or 60.2% of Americans aged 12 years or older currently abuse drugs ([National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics](#))
- Americans between the ages of 18 and 25 are most likely to use addictive drugs. ([Addiction Center](#))

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY- FILMMAKER BIOGRAPHIES

HALLEE ADELMAN, DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Hallee Adelman is a writer, filmmaker, and co-founder of World of HA Productions. She is an executive producer on the Emmy-winning documentary “The Social Dilemma,” and the Oscar-nominated international film, “Writing with Fire.” Other titles include the Academy shortlisted, “The Truffle Hunters,” the Sundance premiere “UsKids,” and the soon to be released, “Art & Crimes by Crimes.” Recent festival premieres, “Aisha,” “Broadway Rising,” and “Your Friend, Memphis.” Adelman is a Board Member of the International Documentary Association. Adelman co-directed and produced OUR AMERICAN FAMILY after a writing project deepened her connection with the brave participants featured in the film.

SEAN O’GRADY, DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

Sean King O’Grady is a filmmaker based in Michigan. His award-winning feature films have screened at Sundance, Tribeca, Telluride, Berlinale, Sitges, SXSW, Woodstock and dozens of other festivals around the world.

As a producer, he has worked on FOR LOVERS ONLY, BIG SUR, IN A WORLD..., DINNER IN AMERICA, THE ASSISTANT, USERS, and most recently the SXSW winning I LOVE MY DAD, with THE LISTENER in post-production. He also was an Executive Producer on the Netflix limited series LIVING UNDOCUMENTED.

Sean has directed LAND GRAB, WE NEED TO DO SOMETHING, REVOLUTION: GMC HUMMER EV, and an entry in MTV’s long running series TRUE LIFE. He co-directed OUR AMERICAN FAMILY with Hallee Adelman.

CAROLINE LIBRESCO, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Caroline Libresco is a leading film curator, creative producer, and program strategist for driven by the belief that independent film is crucial to a democratic, humanistic society. She is the artistic director of Jewish Story Partners and recently wrapped 19 years as senior programmer at the Sundance Film Festival, where she co-led documentary programming and spearheaded international competitions. During her tenure at Sundance Institute, Caroline also created Sundance Catalyst, where she forged a community of 100+ high-net worth investors, raising \$30+ million in six years for the 89 films she curated, including Crip Camp, Social Dilemma, Truffle Hunters, Won’t You Be My Neighbor, The Witch, and 40 Year Old Version. Additionally, Caroline co-founded and directed the Sundance Women’s Program, supporting dozens of rising women directors and producers.

Previously, she was an Independent Television Service (ITVS) program executive, San Francisco Film Festival senior publicist, associate director for San Francisco Jewish

Film Festival, and development officer at UC Berkeley and SF Library Foundation. An active producer, her credits include Fanci's Persuasion, starring Justin Vivian Bond; Tribeca-winner Sunset Story; Peabody-winner American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs, and the Netflix Original Disclosure. She is a consultant to Thessaloniki Film Festival and AGC Studios, and advises non-fiction filmmakers on story and strategy. A frequent juror, moderator, and artist interviewer, Caroline serves on the International Documentary Association Board and is an AMPAS member. She holds degrees from Oberlin College (BA), Harvard Divinity School (MA, history of religion), and UCLA Film School (MFA).

SEAMUS TIERNEY, DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

Seamus Tierney's film and TV credits include: "The Mighty Ducks: Game Changers," "Brittany Runs A Marathon," "Like Father, Sarah Silverman: A Speck of Dust," "In a World," and "HappyThankYouMorePlease."

JOEL PLOTCH, EDITOR

Joel Plotch's film and TV credits include: "In the Company of Men," "Your Friends and Neighbors," "Nurse Betty," "The Shape of Things," "Lakeview Terrace," "I-Land," "Billions," "Longmire," "Southern Rites," "Gone," and "Out of the Shadows."

JAMES CARROLL, EDITOR

James Carroll's film and TV credits include: "Obsessed," "Undercover Boss" (Emmy Award), "The Seven Five," "Gaycation," and "Westside."

GIL TALMI, COMPOSER

Gil Talmi's film and TV credits include: "The Great Hack," "All In: The Fight for Democracy," "White Noise," "Chavela," and "Man on Fire."

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY- CAST AND CREW LIST

A World of HA Productions Film in Association with Atlas Industries and The Intellectual Property Corporation

CAST

Linda
Nicole
Chris
Stephen
Bryan

Helen Wall
Meagan, "Miss Mags"
Miss Sarita
Miss Denise
Miss Lena
Miss Alyia
Caleb Roca
Lisa Silk
Teresa Florio & Family
Deb Weyand
Dom Weyand
Miss Polly
Hannah Wood
Damian Carroll

CREW

Directed & Produced by
Executive Producers

Hallee Adelman & Sean King O'Grady
Caroline Libresco, David Adelman, Ivy Herman,
Andrew Herwitz

Co-Executive Producer
Editors
Cinematographer
Composer
Co-Producers
Additional Cinematography
Camera Operators
Head of Production Sound
Additional Sound
Associate Editor
Assistant Editors

Bill Stertz
Joel Plotch, James Carroll
Seamus Tierney
Gil Talmi
Tiago Zielski, James Carroll
Sean King O'Grady, Richie Trimble
Logan Siegel, Tiago Zielske, Dom Weyand
Cruce Grammatico
Mark Haygen, Chris Breest, Jeff Archer
Kathryn Cates
Vincent Welch, Caroline Berler

Post Sound Supervisor
Sound Designer/Mixer
Additional Post Sound Mixer
Director, Post Production
Consulting Producer
& Story Consultant

Gisela Fullà-Silvestre
Cruce Grammatico
Nick Sapounas
Hallee Adelman
Caroline Libresco

Additional Services by
Assistant Editor
Assistant Editor
Post Producer

Atlas Industries
Sara Larson
Sara Sienkiewicz
Antonia Del Duco

Additional Production Services by Creative Outfit
Project Managers
Camera Operators
Sound

PJ DiMuzio, Alex Favin, Meegan Rubin
Randy Boehm, Gerald Hegedus
Daniel Alfaro, Casimir Pokorny

Music Production by
Music Supervisor
Music Coordinator
Score Orchestrator
and Producer
Music Preparation
Vocals
Violin
Viola
Additional Violin
Piano

Konsonant Music
Andrew Gross
Maddy Rose Weisman
Gil Talmi

Simon Wilson
Maddy Rose Weisman
Leah Zeger
Thomas Lea
Moe Ferrara
Gil Talmi

Digital Intermediate by
Senior Colorist
DI Producer
DI Account Executive

LightIron
Sean Dunkley
Matt Hubert
Katie Fellion

OUR AMERICAN FAMILY- ADDICTION RESOURCES FOR VIEWERS

NATIONAL SUPPORT/RECOVERY RESOURCES

- [Recovery Centers of America](#)
- [Resources for Human Development](#)
- [National Association for Children of Addiction](#) (NACoA).
 - [Just 4 Teens](#) and [Just 4 Kids](#)
- [AlaTeen](#)
- [Nar-Anon Family Groups](#)
- [Al-Anon Family Groups](#)
- [Families Anonymous](#)
- [Of Substance](#)
- [SMART Recovery](#)
- [US Department of Health & Human Services | Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration \(SAMHSA\)](#)

PR CONTACT:

EMMA GRIFFITHS

EG PR

E: EMMA@EG-PR.COM