

## Former NFL player speaks at Common Ground event in Brookline

### Wicked Local Brookline

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Brookline — The National Library of Addictions in Brookline hosted Common Ground 2009 on Aug. 5, on Boston Common. Former Seattle Seahawks player and Brookline resident **Isaiah Kacyvenski** spoke about being raised by an alcoholic father, and the road to recovery his father took to mend their relationship. He engaged in a meet and greet with guests at the end of the program. Several members of the Boston medical community also attended the event.

The mission of the Common Ground event is to express support and hope against addiction. NLA founder is Dr. Punyamurtula S. Kishore. Through education, fellowship and compassion, the NLA tries to demonstrate to every person struggling with addiction they have a chance to lead a healthy and productive life.

Another Common Ground keynote speaker was Miss Massachusetts Amanda Kelly. Kelly talked to invited guests about the importance of education in preventing youth from following a path of addictions.

The event also included a speech by NLA Ambassador Ashley West, who shared her life experiences struggling with addictions and her journey toward a sober lifestyle.

“We were honored to have Isaiah Kacyvenski share his inspirational family story with us at Common Ground, so that people can see that they can also overcome their addictions for a brighter future,” said Kishore.

Founded in 1993, the National Library of Addiction is a not-for-profit, intellectual gathering place for health care professionals and community members who are working to overcome the effects of addictions. The library serves as a research facility, continuing medical educational institute, and place for professionals to exchange ideas and develop treatment methodologies. For more information, call the National Library of Addictions at 617-738-8899.

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