



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Judy Johnson
jjohnson@councilonrecovery.org
281.200.9339

Contact: Nikolai Robinson
nrobinson@councilonrecovery.org
281.200.9333

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Former Houston Astro and Baseball Hall of Famer Jeff Bagwell to be Keynote Speaker at The Council on Recovery's Spring Luncheon

HOUSTON, Texas (Jan. 7, 2020) – The Council on Recovery announces that Jeff Bagwell will be the keynote speaker at its Spring Luncheon, Friday, April 24, 2020, at the Hilton Americas Hotel. This is the 37th Annual Spring Luncheon of the Waggoners Foundation Speakers Series, which features notable actors, authors, athletes and more discussing their experiences with addiction and recovery, and is presented by the Wayne Duddleston Foundation. Proceeds from the Luncheon will fund The Council's programs that help individuals and families affected by alcoholism, drug abuse, other addictions, and co-occurring mental health disorders.

Bagwell is a former professional baseball first baseman and coach who spent his entire 15-year Major League Baseball career with the Houston Astros beginning in 1990. During his tenure, he was a core part of the Astros lineup along with Craig Biggio and Lance Berkman, with fans and media dubbing them the "Killer B's." He was awarded the National League Rookie of the Year in 1991, the NL Most Valuable Player Award in 1994, and he was a four-time MLB All-Star. In 2017, he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Says Mel Taylor, The Council's President and CEO, "For decades, The Council's Speaker Series has given us a powerful platform to share our story of hope for recovery. Jeff Bagwell is a Houston hero, and we are especially excited to have his support in carrying a message of hope to our neighbors who need to hear it. Most importantly of all, funds raised through the luncheon allow us to delivery urgently needed addiction treatment services to hard-working individuals and families who might not be able to afford it otherwise."

The Waggoners Foundation Speaker Series was created in memory of June and Virgil Waggoner's son Jay, who died of alcoholism at the young age of 36. Since its inception, the Speaker Series has raised over \$16 million to help individuals and families overcome addiction.

The Council is now accepting corporate and organizational sponsorships and donations for the Spring Luncheon, as well as sales of individual tables at the event. For more information or to purchase a table, contact us at specialevents@councilonrecovery.org or call 281.200.9336.

###

About The Council on Recovery: Founded in 1946, The Council on Recovery is Houston's oldest and largest non-profit organization providing the full spectrum of prevention, education, intervention, treatment, and recovery services for individuals of all ages. The Council on Recovery is committed to helping Houston overcome the addiction epidemic through a focus on family healing and long-term support that is equally accessible to all in need. Directly touching over 50,000 lives each year through prevention programs for children and youth, in-school and clinical counseling for teens, outpatient substance abuse treatment for adults, and more, our mission is to provide the highest quality of care at affordable rates for individuals and their families. Affiliated with the United Way of Greater Houston, The Council receives funding from private contributions and grants, special events, and program fees. For more information, visit www.councilonrecovery.org.