Agenda

Day One – Thursday, June 11, 2026

7:15am – 8:00am
Conference Registration & Networking Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am
Chairperson's Opening Remarks

8:15am – 9:00am
Ketamine's Unique Role in Rapid Opioid or Alcohol Detox
This presentation will briefly review the opioid epidemic, how opioid induced hyperalgesia differs from tolerance and addiction, and evidence against the use of chronic opioids for chronic pain. The discussion will address symptoms and treatment of opioid withdrawal and the standard approaches to opioid use disorder in the U.S. Information will be provided on the existing evidence for the use of ketamine for opioid dependence as well as our protocol that has been developed and implemented over the past 10 years. Finally, we'll summarize how that protocol formed the basis for a successful treatment option for alcohol use disorder as well.

Randall Malchow
Medical Director
Tennessee Ketamine and Wellness Center

9:00am – 9:45am
What's Law Got To Do With It: How Justice and Healthcare Work Together to Reduce Relapse and Improve Mental Health Outcomes
This presentation explores how legal systems and healthcare providers can partner in meaningful, practical ways to support recovery and long-term stability. Moving beyond theory, it highlights the specific mechanisms that make collaboration effective and the measurable outcomes that result. Attendees will gain insight into how integrated approaches can reduce relapse, improve mental health outcomes, and create more responsive systems of care.

Judge Wayne Trockman
Superior Court Judge and Founder of the Treatment Court Model

Lisa Seif LCSW, LCAC, CSAMS
Treatment Court Consultant
Psychotherapist, and Educator

9:45am – 10:15am
Networking & Refreshments Break

10:15am – 11:00am
Addressing Stimulant Use: Treatment Approaches for Methamphetamine and Cocaine
Stimulant-involved overdose deaths now rival opioids yet treatment lags far behind—no FDA-approved medications exist and traditional abstinence-based approaches show poor outcomes. Methamphetamine use has surged in rural communities and among populations experiencing homelessness while cocaine-involved deaths climb as fentanyl contaminates the supply. This session explores emerging treatment approaches for stimulant use disorders including:
- Contingency management providing incentives for negative drug screens
- Cognitive-behavioral therapy and community reinforcement approaches
- Managing acute psychosis and psychiatric complications
- Addressing polysubstance use combining stimulants with opioids
- Harm reduction strategies when abstinence isn't achievable

Bibhas Singla, MD, MBA, FACHE, CPE
Chief Medical Officer
Sanford Behavioral Health

11:00am – 11:45am
Building Clinical Development Infrastructure in Addiction Treatment: Lessons from the Field
Addiction treatment organizations recognize the importance of well-trained clinicians, yet many struggle to move beyond isolated trainings toward a culture of learning with systems that consistently support clinician growth and retention. This session highlights how one large addiction treatment provider has begun building a structured approach to clinical development across programs. Presenters will share implementation strategies, lessons learned, and early efforts to strengthen clinician engagement and retention. The focus is on practical approaches organizations can use to create sustainable systems that support clinician development and high-quality addiction treatment.

Rachel Sasseville, LICSW, LADC-I
Director of Corporate Training
Spectrum Health Systems

Alyssa Horlbogen
LMHC Regional Program Director

Spectrum Health Systems (Massachusetts)

11:45am – 12:30pm
Medication-Assisted Treatment: Expanding Access Beyond Specialty Clinics-Pharmacist Prescriptive Authority for Buprenorphine
Buprenorphine and methadone save lives, but most people with opioid use disorder never access these medications due to treatment being confined to specialty settings with limited capacity. Federal rule changes eliminated the X-waiver requirement for buprenorphine prescribing, yet uptake remains disappointing. This session covers strategies for expanding MAT, including pharmacist prescriptive authority for buprenorphine. We will discuss the steps that Minnesota clinicians took to pass this legislation and show video testimonials, so other clinicians can advocate for these changes in their communities. Additionally, we will discuss pharmacist prescriptive authority for buprenorphine implementation in various settings (retail/community pharmacy, emergency medical services, clinics/ambulatory care, hospital-inpatient/hospital discharge, correctional medicine), billing, and additional considerations (point of care testing authority, long-acting injectable administration authority).

Jordan M. Banister, PharmD, CDCES
Clinical Ambulatory Pharmacist
CentraCare

12:30pm – 1:30pm
Networking Lunch

1:30pm – 2:15pm
No Wrong Door: Implementing a Low-Barrier Access Model in Outpatient Addiction Treatment
This presentation highlights the development and implementation of a “No Wrong Door” low-barrier access model within an outpatient addiction treatment clinic at Meharry Medical College. Our approach focuses on reducing barriers to care, improving timely access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), strengthening patient retention, and supporting provider sustainability through standardized workflows and harm-reduction–oriented practices. We will share practical strategies for walk-in access, bridge visits, interdisciplinary coordination, and operational changes that improved both patient engagement and clinic efficiency.
Presenter Information:

Kandace Arlaud, MSN, APRN, PMHNP-BC
Treatment Director, Meharry Addiction Medicine Clinic
Meharry Medical College

Amanda Smith, LMSW
Clinical Supervisor, Meharry Addiction Medicine Clinic
Meharry Medical College

2:15pm – 3:15pm
Panel: Addressing the Whole Person: Co-Occurring Mental Health, Medical Complexity and Social Needs
Most people with substance use disorders have co-occurring conditions that complicate treatment and recovery—depression, anxiety, PTSD, chronic pain, infectious disease, homelessness and unemployment. Yet treatment systems remain fragmented with addiction programs addressing substance use while expecting people to navigate separate mental health, medical and social services. This panel brings together leaders who've built integrated programs treating the whole person including models for integrated addiction and mental health treatment, managing chronic pain in people with opioid use disorder, addressing infectious disease complications, providing medical care for people who avoid traditional healthcare, coordinating housing and social services, and measuring outcomes beyond just substance use.

Jordan M. Banister, PharmD, CDCES
Clinical Ambulatory Pharmacist
CentraCare

Dr. Matthew Bruhin
CEO/ Psychotherapist & Addiction Specialist - Adjunct Professor
APEX Recovery -

Randall Malchow
Medical Director
Tennessee Ketamine and Wellness Center

Amanda Smith, LMSW
Clinical Supervisor, Meharry Addiction Medicine Clinic
Meharry Medical College

3:15pm – 3:45pm
Networking & Refreshments Break

3:45pm – 4:30pm
Peer Recovery Support: Integrating Lived Experience into Treatment Systems
Peer recovery specialists—people with lived addiction and recovery experience supporting others—improve engagement, retention and outcomes yet face persistent marginalization in treatment systems. They're paid less than other staff, excluded from clinical decisions, given vague job descriptions and viewed skeptically by professionals questioning their legitimacy. This session will explore successful peer integration models including defining peer roles distinct from clinical staff, establishing supervision and support structures, creating compensation recognizing expertise gained through lived experience, building career pathways enabling advancement, addressing concerns about boundaries and relapse risk, and measuring peer specialist impact on treatment outcomes.

Toni M. Handboy, MSW, LAC
Behavioral Health Director
Wakpa Waste Counseling Services
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe-Tribal Health

4:30pm – 5:15pm
Harm Reduction: Leading with Empathy, Humanization, and Justice
This comprehensive training uses a social justice framework to explore the philosophy, principles, and practical application of harm reduction in real-world settings. Grounded in dignity, equity, and compassion, it examines how harm reduction approaches can reduce the negative consequences associated with substance use, including opioid overdoses, hepatitis C (HCV), HIV/AIDS, and other related health conditions. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the impacts of substance use disorder, mental health challenges, and the barriers experienced by individuals, families, and communities. The training also explores the broader context in which change occurs, recognizing that behavior change is shaped by environment, relationships, and systemic inequities rather than individual choice alone. Participants will learn the core philosophy and guiding principles of harm reduction, along with practical policies and procedures that organizations can adopt to sustain these approaches. In addition, the session will introduce a range of effective techniques and strategies for engaging individuals in harm reduction practices and supporting healthier behaviors. By the end, participants will also be able to identify key harm reduction resources that can support ongoing wellness and recovery in their communities.

Janer Hernandez, Ph.D., CPS, CADCII, LADCI (He, Him, El)
Training and Technical Assistance Associate
Massachusetts Center of Excellence on Problem Gambling Prevention
Education Development Center

5:15pm
End of Day One

Day Two – Friday, June 12, 2026

7:15am – 8:00am
Networking Breakfast

8:00am – 8:15am
Chairperson's Remarks

8:15am – 9:00am
Building Recovery Systems That Last—and Sustain Themselves
This lecture explores how addiction treatment can shift from short-term, fragmented care to a sustainable, long-term model. It addresses the gap between addiction being a chronic condition and the way it is often treated episodically, leading to poor outcomes and instability. The

framework of Culture, Community, and Connection is introduced as the foundation for lasting recovery and engagement. These elements work together to create systems that prioritize belonging, value, and continuity of care. The lecture also outlines how organizations can generate consistent revenue by extending services and aligning with long-term outcomes. Attendees will gain a clear strategy for building recovery systems that are both effective and financially sustainable.

George Massengill
President
RCN Treatment Centers

9:00am – 9:45am
Approaching Addiction Recovery From a Systems Theory Perspective
Many individuals choose to pursue sobriety in an effort to rebuild and repair relationships with their loved ones. When working with a clinician who integrates a systemic approach to recovery, individuals can better understand the complex relational and behavioral dynamics that have shaped their sense of what is “normal,” and identify ways to develop and sustain healthier patterns.

This presentation will explore how systems theory can be integrated into substance use recovery and will highlight the importance of including systems-oriented clinicians in treatment teams within substance use recovery facilities, both for individuals and their families.

Sean Surber, Ph.D., LMFT
Clinic Director, Assistant Professor of Marriage and Family Therapy
Lipscomb Family Therapy Center
Lipscomb University

9:45am – 10:15am
Networking & Refreshments Break

10:15am – 11:00am
Unmasking the New Opioid Threat: Kratom, 7-OH, and the Road to Regulation in Tennessee and Beyond
This session explores the emerging clinical and regulatory challenges posed by Kratom and its high-potency alkaloid, 7-Hydroxymitragynine (7-OH). Participants will examine the impact of these substances on the treatment industry, focusing on prolonged withdrawal management, cross-tolerance risks, and the difficulties of clinical detection. Finally, we will detail the legislative journey of "Matthew’s Law" and the advocacy efforts that led to Tennessee’s comprehensive ban on these substances.

Dr. Matthew J. Bruhin, PhD, LMFT, M-RAS
CEO

Apex Recovery

11:00am – 11:45am
Integrating Addiction Treatment into Emergency Departments
Emergency departments serve as important arenas to support individuals in moments of crisis. Forward-thinking hospitals are embedding addiction care and supports into emergency departments, humanizing the disease of substance use disorder, initiating medication for addiction treatment, and connecting patients to longitudinal care navigation. This session examines ED-based care models and systems ensuring quoity annd evidence based care. By diversifying current practices, emergency departments can implement and sustain thoughtful processes to meet the needs of the communities they serve.

Sandeep Kapoor, MD, MS-HPPL
Vice President, Addiction Services
Emergency Medicine Service Line | Northwell Health

11:45am
Conference Concludes

WORKSHOP (Lunch Provided for Workshop Attendees)
12:00pm – 2:00pm
Expanding Addiction Treatment Access: Providing evidence-based care beyond specialty clinics
Despite recent efforts to reduce regulations around the prescribing of medication for addiction treatment, a significant gap remains between those with substance use disorders namely opioid and alcohol use dis orders (OUD and AUD) and those who receive evidence-based treatment. While increases in screening, brief intervention and referral to treatment (SBIRT) in primary care settings and rule changes such as removal of the provider X-waiver to prescribe buprenorphine have resulted in some improved identification and access to care, the National Institute of Drug Abuse (NIDA) still estimates that only 25% of eligible individuals receive medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and as little as 3% of individuals with alcohol use disorder receive evidence-based medications. This presentation will examine barriers that remain for individuals to receive evidence-based treatments for SUD and will look at programs that are being implemented to expand access to care outside of conventional SUD treatment environments. Attendees will also become familiar with practical strategies for integrating SUD care into primary care settings.

Michael Frost MD,FACP,DFASAM
Chief Medical Officer
Wayspring