



MOUNTAIN PLAINS RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

MOUNTAIN PLAINS POST

The month in review and looking forward



IN THIS EDITION:

VIRTUAL LEARNING
COURSE: STIGMA
REDUCTION

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT
SPOTLIGHT: IVORY TUBBS,
PH.D.

2023 NEEDS
ASSESSMENT
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

March 2023

VIRTUAL LEARNING COURSE

Stigma Reduction: Addressing Stigmatizing Language In Today's Landscape

Join MP ROTAC for a live virtual learning course emphasizing the impact of language to reduce stigma related to substance and opioid use disorders (SUD/ODU). In this course, participants will learn:

- ✓ How to define stigma and identify its negative effects, including internal and external stigma.
- ✓ Strategies for identifying and avoiding stigma.
- ✓ The effect of trauma on substance misuse.
- ✓ How to challenge negative beliefs about OUD/SUD and medications for opioid use disorders.
- ✓ How to define recovery and its elements.

Tuesday, April 18, 2023
1:30–2:30 p.m. MST



SHAREABLE RESOURCE: STIGMATIZING LANGUAGE VERSUS PREFERRED LANGUAGE

You asked, we listened! Download this shareable resource that provides alternative terminology related to OUD/SUD. The change starts with all of us!

DOWNLOAD

RESOURCE REVIEW

SUMMARY REPORT: NALOXONE ECONOMIC VIEW

Published by the Reagan-Udall foundation in partnership with the Food and Drug Administration, this report discusses naloxone distribution across the U.S., as well as potential economic impacts of a change in naloxone's prescription status. In addition to valuable data and analysis, the report outlines the results of a payor community expert roundtable on how this change might impact costs of and consumer access to this life-saving medication.

ACCESS THE REPORT

SAMHSA RELEASE: PREVENTION RESOURCES FOR BUILDING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Check out this valuable resource published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. This comprehensive guide provides information on new resource releases, reports and publications, youth and campus outreach, community engagement, apps and multimedia tools, and Spanish language resources.

ACCESS THE RESOURCE

DIRECTORY: SUD PROGRAMS FOR VETERANS BY STATE

Did you know there are specialized SUD programs for Veterans in each state through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs? Check out this directory to find services near you!

DIRECTORY

**Do you have a
resource to share?**



featured!

ADVISORY: CBD – POTENTIAL HARMS, SIDE EFFECTS, AND UNKNOWN

Check out this SAMHSA advisory to learn more about cannabidiol (CBD). Topics include how CBD is derived, how it differs from delta-9 THC and other cannabinoids, risks, potential harms, and common misconceptions.

CLICK HERE!

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT SPOTLIGHT

IVORY TUBBS, Ph.D.



What do you think is the most significant barrier to overcoming stigma related to opioid and stimulant use disorders?

In my experience, one of the least discussed barriers is fear. People hold fast to their ideals and those ideals shape how we think. When people are committed to a certain way of thinking it becomes the lens with which they view themselves and the world around them. Attempting to change their way of thinking is viewed as a challenge. People don't like to be challenged and any information that conflicts with their beliefs are rejected

Prior to earning his doctorate in psychology, Ivory served in the United States Air Force during Operation Desert Shield in logistics in 1991. Prior to his discharge from the military, Ivory's career in the mental/behavioral health field began in Las Vegas, Nevada as a crisis intervention specialist. Later, he transitioned to the role of child development assistant with Clark County Family Services.

In 1999 he was appointed as the Executive Director of Windsor Village Social Services, an agency working in conjunction with FEMA to provide emergency food, shelter and utility assistance for area residents. In addition to fulfilling his duties as Executive Director, Ivory was also a Senior Public Health Investigator with the City of Houston, Bureau of Epidemiology conducting psycho-social assessments regarding sexual practices and opioid use within the HIV/AIDS community for the CDC. After his simultaneous roles as Executive Director and Senior Public Health Investigator, Ivory began adding to his knowledge base by joining the University of Texas School of Health Sciences, Psychiatric Center working with acute and subacute psychosis patients as well as patients in the forensic psychology unit for the Houston Police Department.

Ivory was also a Psychological Assessor focusing on dual diagnosis patients as well as outpatient therapy to monitor psychotropic drug interactions. Ivory took a hiatus from behavioral health to become an HR Manager in compliance and performance management for Walmart US. Ivory has served on several boards of directors and has done extensive work in the homeless community. He has also held the role of director working with the developmentally delayed population.



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new

The results are in!

Thank you for your feedback on MP ROTAC's 2023 Needs Assessment! The results are in, and we are excited to share the 2023 Executive Summary with you! This interactive summary provides information on what we heard regionally, as well as state-specific data.

Executive
Summary

PARTNER EVENTS

Harm Reduction on College Campuses: Implementation Strategies for Naloxone Access

Overdose deaths are on the rise in the U.S. and the availability of Naloxone (Narcan) can save a life. Some colleges/universities are working to increase student access to this life saving medication.

In this training, hosted by the Mountain Plains Addiction Technology Transfer Center (ATTC), presenters from North Dakota State University (NDSU) discussed how they brought Be the ONE, a Naloxone training and education program, to their campus.

Access the recorded training below to learn about the program and how NDSU engaged campus administrators and students to ensure its success.



Check out the recording!

Workshop for Service Providers in Rural Communities

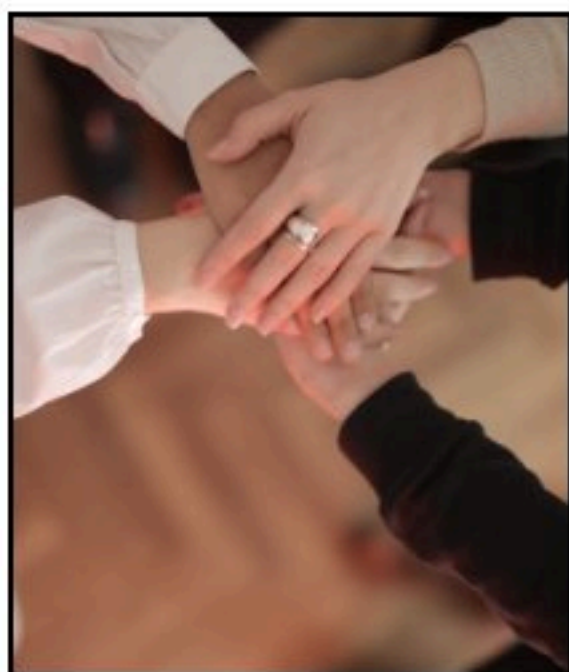
The University of Rochester's Recovery Center of Excellence has partnered with SafeSide Prevention to provide a free workshop focused on suicide prevention training for service providers in rural communities. This comprehensive training focuses on youth, substance use, and Indigenous communities.

Register below to attend this online, half-day workshop on May 23, 2023, or July 25, 2023.



PODCAST: Availability of Behavioral Health Providers and Services in Rural Areas

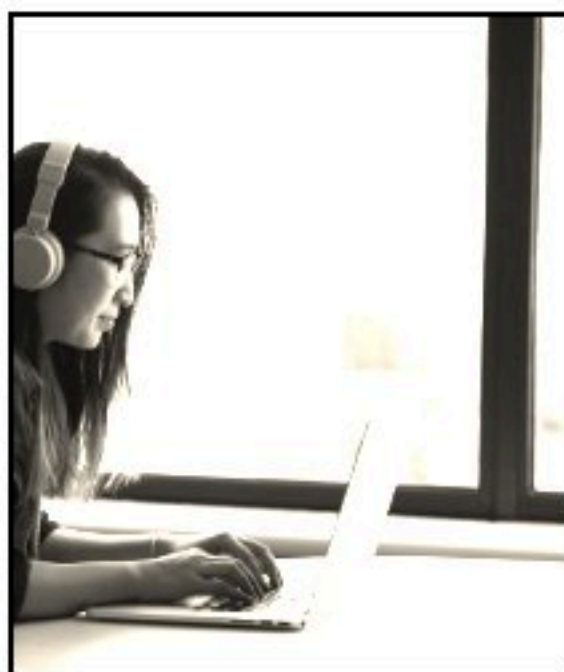




City and County of Boulder Partner To Support Substance Use Recovery

COLORADO - Boulder County's Community Services Department secured funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance to implement Project Recovery. The project aims to end the cycle of incarceration, support recovery, reduce crime and recidivism, and create a safer community by offering substance use recovery homes throughout the City of Boulder and Boulder County.

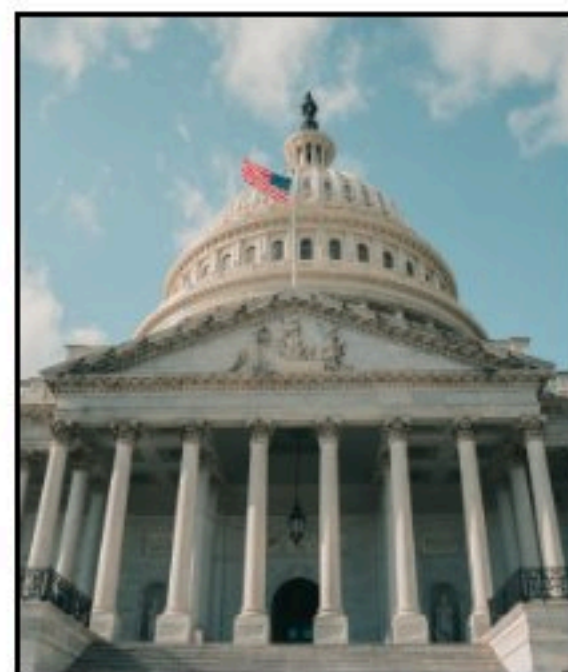
[READ MORE](#)



Project ECHO Recognized for Rural Partnerships

UTAH - The Project ECHO program offers education and guidance to rural providers who want to provide a high quality of care to their patients but specialized health care resources are scarce. Project ECHO connects medical practitioners working in remote areas with University of Utah Health specialists on programs that include hepatitis C treatment, pediatrics, burn injuries, substance use treatment, and behavioral health. The Project ECHO provides valuable guidance to physicians—and there is no cost to use an ECHO hub.

[READ MORE](#)



SAMHSA Seeks \$10.8 Billion in FY24 to Bolster Mental Health and Substance Use Services

The President's Budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 includes \$10.8 billion for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), \$3.3 billion over the agency's FY 2023 enacted budget. The FY 2024 budget proposal continues to support the President's Unity Agenda to address the national mental health crisis and overdose epidemic.

[READ MORE](#)

CASE STUDY: Small Rural Hospital Helps Build 'Bridge' to Addiction Services with New Mobile Clinic

A small rural Massachusetts hospital is breaking down barriers to Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment with an innovative new behavioral health program. Alongside several key community partners, Greenfield-based Baystate Franklin Medical Center recently established its mobile, home-based treatment service for its rural community, located about 100 miles northwest of Boston. Fueled by a \$1 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration's Rural Communities Opioid Response Program, the Franklin County and North Quabbin Bridge Clinic aims to help meet patients where they are – be it a recovery center, library, a home or the Salvation Army.

CLICK
HERE

Searching for the latest telehealth policy updates? Look no further!

Bookmark this page from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to stay up-to-date on the latest telehealth policy and access updates.



UPDATE: DEA Announces Proposed Rules for Permanent Telemedicine Flexibilities

READ MORE

OTHER NEWS FROM THE FIELD



Medications for the Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder: Removal of the DATA-2000 Waiver Requirements

JOURNAL ARTICLE:
Geography, rurality, and community distress: deaths due to suicide, alcohol-use, and drug-use among Colorado Veterans

ACCESS



ABOUT US

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has been strengthening higher education, workforce development, and behavioral health throughout the region since 1953. As an interstate compact, WICHE partners with states, territories, freely associated states, and postsecondary institutions in the West to share knowledge, create resources, and develop innovative solutions that address some of society's most pressing needs.

In 2022, WICHE was awarded a two-year grant from SAMHSA to establish the Mountain Plains Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center (MP ROTAC). MP ROTAC is dedicated to supporting opioid and stimulant prevention, treatment, and recovery in HHS Region 8, comprised of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. MP ROTAC develops and disseminates resources, training, and technical assistance to rural communities across the continuum of care. In partnership with our Regional Advisory Workgroup, MP ROTAC's efforts aim to meet the needs of a wide variety of audiences that are not traditionally targeted by other training efforts. We look forward to serving you and making a difference in Region 8's rural communities!

Visit mprotac.org to learn more.

CONTACT US:
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**Click here to
check out our
website!**