



The Consortium on  
Addiction Recovery  
Science (CoARS)

# NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADDICTION RECOVERY SCIENCE



September 23-24, 2026



Virtual

**Full Agenda**

*Last Updated: 8/5/26*



**Register Here**



RECOVERY  
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# NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADDICTION RECOVERY SCIENCE

## ***Important Details***

September 23 - 24, 2026

Virtual Conference

## ***Themes***

*Defining and Measuring Recovery*

*Health Disparities*

*Medications for Substance Use and Recovery*

*Recovery Capital*

*Recovery Pathways/Phenotypes/Milestones*

*Recovery Services Workforce Development*

*Recovery Support Services*

*Services that Support Saving Lives and Recovery*

*Youth, Young Adults, and Family*

*Other topics focused on recovery are welcome*

## ***Overview of Presentation Types***

Symposium Presentation (1 hour): These are formal, thematic presentations. These proposals should include three to four symposium presenters, one of whom will be the introductant/discussant. Each presenter will have 15 minutes, with roughly 15 minutes at the end for discussion. The discussion is intended to be interactive with audience participation strongly encouraged.

Roundtable (1-hour session): These should include up to five participants, including a moderator, who will have an opportunity to engage in an interactive discussion about a specific topic. Proposals should describe how they will address the components of roundtables: (1) brief overview of the topic to be discussed, (2) nature and orchestration of the interactive discussion.

Poster Presentation: These presentations provide an opportunity for groups or individuals to display their program descriptions and research findings in a poster format. A virtual poster board area will be available for each poster. Each poster presentation will consist of a 3-minute pre-recorded voice over as well as a virtual area for Q & A.

# NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADDICTION RECOVERY SCIENCE

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>General Session</b><br>10:30 AM - 12:00 PM ET   | <b>Keynote Panel</b><br>Aligning Addiction Recovery Science with the US Policy Landscape                                                                      | Peter Gaumond; Jessica Hulse; Patty McCarthy, MS; Keely Rees, PhD, MCHES®                                           |
| <b>Break</b><br>12:00 PM - 12:30 PM ET             | No scheduled session                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Breakout Session 1</b><br>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET | <b>Recovery Principles as a Tool to Translate Evidence into Practice (roundtable)</b><br><b>Defining and Measuring Recovery</b>                               | Abigail Winiker, PhD, MSPH; Shelly Weizman, JD; Kristen Pendergrass, MSW; Philip Rutherford; and Cody Thompson, MPP |
|                                                    | <b>Peer Recovery Support Services to Improve Retention in Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (symposium presentation)</b><br><b>Recovery Support Services</b> | Melissa N. Poulsen, PhD, MPH; Kristyn Zajac, PhD; Kevin Wenzel, PhD; and Jessica N. Flori, PhD                      |
|                                                    | <b>Increasing Accessibility and Acceptability of Adolescent Substance Use Disorder Treatment (roundtable)</b><br><b>Youth, Young Adults, and Family</b>       | Sarah J. Miller, PhD; Hayley D. Seely, PhD; and Shelby M. Burton, PhD, LP                                           |

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|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Breakout Session 1</b><br/>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET</p> | <p><b>Resources and Mentoring Support for the Next Generation of Recovery Science Researchers (roundtable)</b></p> <p>Other Topics</p>                                           | <p>Ashli J. Sheidow, PhD; Tisha Wiley, PhD; and Lindsey A. Martin, PhD</p>                                                                 |
| <p><b>Breakout Session 2</b><br/>1:45 PM - 2:45 PM ET</p>  | <p><b>Recovery Capital Strengthening Interventions for Loved Ones (symposium presentation)</b></p> <p>Youth, Young Adults, and Family</p>                                        | <p>Sean Lynch, PhD, LCSW; Fred Muench, PhD; Rachel Kornfield, PhD; Julie McCarthy; and Karen Alexander, PhD, RN</p>                        |
|                                                            | <p><b>Advancing MOUD-Supportive Recovery Housing: Needs, Lessons Learned, and Next Steps (symposium presentation)</b></p> <p>Recovery Support Services</p>                       | <p>Sheryl A. McCurdy, PhD; J. Michael Wilkerson, PhD, MPH, MCHES; Kathryn R. Gallardo, PhD, MSW; and Serena A. Rodriguez, PhD, MA, MPH</p> |
|                                                            | <p><b>Disseminating Recovery Research Beyond Academia (roundtable)</b></p> <p>Other Topics</p>                                                                                   | <p>Susan Stellan, MPH; Justin Bell, PhD; Jason Schwartz, LMSW, CADC; and Brandon Bergman, PhD</p>                                          |
|                                                            | <p><b>Building Empirical Evidence for Including People with Lived/Living Experience in Recovery Research (symposium presentation)</b></p> <p>Defining and Measuring Recovery</p> | <p>Felecia Pullen, PhD; Emily Pasman, PhD, MSW; Martha Tillson, PhD; and Patrick F. Hibbard, MBA, PhD</p>                                  |

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**Wednesday, September 23, 2026**

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|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Meet our Supporters</b><br>2:45 PM - 3:15 PM ET | Join us as our supporting organizations connect with attendees (see these organizations at the bottom of the document)                                                    |                                                                                                                |
| <b>Breakout Session 3</b><br>3:15 PM - 4:15 PM ET  | <b>Implementation Science Perspectives on MOUD Across Recovery and Healthcare Settings (symposium presentation)</b><br><i>Medications for Substance Use and Recovery</i>  | Amy Mericle, PhD; Renee Cloutier, PhD; Cynthia Nichols, PhD; and Isaiah Niles Zoschke, DrPH                    |
|                                                    | <b>The Peer Recovery Workforce: Job Satisfaction, Skill Development, and Future Directions (symposium presentation)</b><br><i>Recovery Services Workforce Development</i> | Craig Henderson, PhD; Angela Hagaman, PhD; Bettina Hoepfner, PhD; Emily Pasman, PhD, MSW; and Justin Bell, PhD |
|                                                    | <b>Recovery Reimagined: Evolving Definitions and Metrics (Symposium presentation)</b><br><i>Defining and Measuring Recovery</i>                                           | John F. Kelly, PhD; Sarah Zemore, PhD; Adam Vose-O'Neal, PhD; and Sharon Reif                                  |
|                                                    | <b>Examining Recovery Support Services Across Collegiate and Community Recovery Settings (symposium presentation)</b><br><i>Recovery Support Services</i>                 | Diadora DeCristofaro; Noel Vest, PhD; and Christina E. Freibott, PhD, MPH                                      |

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**Wednesday, September 23, 2026**

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| <b>Poster Session</b><br>4:30 PM - 6:00 PM ET | 4:30 - 5:00 PM ET<br><b>Early Career Poster Awards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                               | 5:00 - 6:00 PM ET<br><b>Poster “Office Hours” - All poster presenters will be available in Zoom breakout rooms, so that attendees may visit the rooms of the presentations they would like to learn more about.</b><br><br><i>Due to the high volume of poster presentations, we will not feature all poster videos in a single session this year. Poster videos will instead be available on the Whova conference platform for several weeks before the conference, and live poster office hours will still be held during the conference. We strongly encourage attendees to review the videos in advance of the poster session so they can identify the presenters and posters they would most like to visit.</i> |

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**Thursday, September 24, 2026**

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|------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Welcome to Day 2</b><br><i>10:30 AM - 11:00 AM ET</i>   | <b>Brief Introduction to Day 2 of the National Conference on Addiction Recovery Science</b>                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Mentorship Session</b><br><i>11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ET</i> | <b>Virtual research mentor/mentee meet up. Please fill out the interest form on our website if you would like to participate as a mentor or mentee.</b>       | <br><a href="https://www.recoveryanswers.org/coarsconference/">https://www.recoveryanswers.org/coarsconference/</a> |
| <b>Break</b><br><i>12:00 PM - 12:30 PM ET</i>              | <i>No scheduled session</i>                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Breakout Session 1</b><br><i>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET</i>  | <b>What Difference Does Lived Experience Make? A Participatory Roundtable on Recovery Research (roundtable)</b><br><br><b>Defining and Measuring Recovery</b> | <i>Trey Santorine, MA; Patrick F. Hibbard, MBA, PhD; Meghann Perry, CARC, RCPF; Michael McCart, PhD; and Ryan Flinn</i>                                                                                |
|                                                            | <b>Engaging Loved Ones to Support Recovery Capital Development (symposium presentation)</b><br><br><b>Youth, Young Adults, and Family</b>                     | <i>Sean Lynch, PhD, LCSW; Martha Tillson, PhD; Kaitlin Sheerin, PhD; Karen Osilla, PhD; and María José Luna, PhD candidate</i>                                                                         |

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|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Breakout Session 1</b><br>12:30 PM - 1:30 PM ET | <b>Fueling Recovery Residences: Workforce Wellbeing and Sustainable Infrastructure (roundtable)</b><br><i>Recovery Support Services</i>                                              | Leah Davies, MSSW; Julie McElrath, MSSW; Justin York; David Best, PhD; and Fiona Conway, PhD                                                    |
| <b>Breakout Session 2</b><br>1:45 PM - 2:45 PM ET  | <b>Bridging Recovery Housing and Medication for Opioid Use Disorder: The Role of Community Pharmacy (roundtable)</b><br><i>Medications for Substance Use and Recovery</i>            | Amy Mericle, PhD; Forough H. Heidarzad Pahlaviani, PharmD; Karen Ablondi, MPH, LCSW, LADC; Ojonimi Salihu, MS; and Adati Tarfa, PharmD, MS, PhD |
|                                                    | <b>From Lived Experience to Peer Practice: Announcing a Second Generation Model of Peer Recovery Work (symposium presentation)</b><br><i>Recovery Services Workforce Development</i> | Jon Soske, PhD; Austin Brown, PhD, MSW; Kurt D. Lebeck, MA, MSW, PhD candidate; and Arryn A. Guy, PhD                                           |
|                                                    | <b>Understanding the Measurement of Recovery Capital Over Time (symposium presentation)</b><br><i>Defining and Measuring Recovery</i>                                                | Bettina Hoeppner, PhD; Betsy Bowen, PhD, LCSW; Jordan Jurinsky, MEd, PhD; J. Michael Wilkerson, PhD, MPH, MCHES; and Li Yan McCurdy, PhD        |

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| <b>Meet our Supporters</b><br>2:45 PM - 3:15 PM ET | Join us as our supporting organizations connect with attendees (see these organizations at the bottom of the document)                                                |                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Breakout Session 3</b><br>3:15 PM - 4:15 PM ET  | <b>From Pilot to Practice: Lessons Learned Scaling Peer Respite Crisis Stabilization Programming (roundtable)</b><br><div>Recovery Support Services</div>             | Maria Paschke, MPP; Rachel Davidson, CPS, HRS; Merna Eppick; Jordan Hampton, CPS, MARS; Cameo Jones, MA; and Heather Reams |
|                                                    | <b>Perspectives on Using Community Boards to Advance Recovery Science (roundtable)</b><br><div>Other Topics</div>                                                     | Tess K. Drazdowski, PhD; Jose N. Flores; Eden Buell; Patrick F. Hibbard, MBA, PhD; and Ashli J. Sheidow, PhD               |
|                                                    | <b>Family Support Impact on the Recovery Journey: Innovations from the Engaging Loved Ones (symposium presentation)</b><br><div>Youth, Young Adults, and Family</div> | Aaron Hogue, PhD; Kevin Wenzel, PhD; Leonard A. Jason, PhD; Alexander J. Sikora; and Sarah Forthal, MPH                    |
| <b>General Session</b><br>4:30 PM - 5:30 PM ET     | <b>Keynote Panel</b><br>Enhancing the Policy and Public Impact of Addiction Recovery Science                                                                          | John F. Kelly, PhD, ABPP; Keith Humphreys, OBE, PhD; Lindsey Ann Martin, PhD; Tisha Wiley, PhD                             |

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Wednesday, September 23, 2026

General Session

Breakout 1

Breakout 2

Breakout 3

Breakout 4

10:00 -  
11:00

Aligning Addiction  
Recovery Science with the  
US Policy Landscape

11:00 -  
12:00

12:00 -  
1:00

Recovery Principles as a  
Tool to Translate Evidence  
into Practice

Peer Recovery Support  
Services to Improve  
Retention in Medication  
for Opioid Use Disorder

Increasing Accessibility  
and Acceptability of  
Adolescent Substance Use  
Disorder Treatment

Resources and Mentoring  
Support for the Next  
Generation of Recovery  
Science Researchers

1:00 -  
2:00

Recovery Capital  
Strengthening  
Interventions for Loved  
Ones

Advancing MOUD-  
Supportive Recovery  
Housing: Needs, Lessons  
Learned, and Next Steps

Disseminating Recovery  
Research Beyond  
Academia

Building Empirical Evidence for  
Including People with  
Lived/Living Experience in  
Recovery Research

2:00 -  
3:00

Meet with Supporters

3:00 -  
4:00

Implementation Science  
Perspectives on MOUD  
Across Recovery and  
Healthcare Settings

The Peer Recovery  
Workforce: Job Satisfaction,  
Skill Development, and Future  
Directions

Recovery Reimagined:  
Evolving Definitions and  
Metrics

Examining Recovery Support  
Services Across Collegiate  
and Community Recovery  
Settings

4:00 -  
5:00

Early Career Poster  
Awards

5:00 -  
6:00

Posters "Office Hours"

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**Thursday, September 24, 2026**

General Session

Breakout 1

Breakout 2

Breakout 3

10:00 -  
11:00

Welcome to Day 2!

11:00 -  
12:00

Mentor/Mentee  
Virtual Meet Up

12:00 -  
1:00

What Difference Does Lived  
Experience Make? A  
Participatory Roundtable on  
Recovery Research

Engaging Loved Ones to Support  
Recovery Capital Development

Fueling Recovery Residences:  
Workforce Wellbeing and  
Sustainable Infrastructure

1:00 -  
2:00

Bridging Recovery Housing and  
Medication for Opioid Use  
Disorder: The Role of Community  
Pharmacy

From Lived Experience to Peer  
Practice: Announcing a Second  
Generation Model of Peer  
Recovery Work

Understanding the Measurement  
of Recovery Capital Over Time

2:00 -  
3:00

Meet with Supporters

3:00 -  
4:00

From Pilot to Practice: Lessons  
Learned Scaling Peer Respite  
Crisis Stabilization Programming

Perspectives on Using Community  
Boards to Advance Recovery  
Science

Family Support Impact on the  
Recovery Journey: Innovations  
from the Engaging Loved Ones

4:00 -  
5:00

Enhancing the Policy and Public  
Impact of Addiction Recovery  
Science

5:00 -  
6:00

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## Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

|   |                                                                                                                                                    |   |                                                                                                                                                            |    |                                                                                                                                               |
|---|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | <b>How Does Hospitalization Impact Readiness to Change Among Individuals with Alcohol Use Disorder?</b><br><i>Olivia Murphy and Amelia Dausman</i> | 5 | <b>Peer Recovery Support Services as a Tool to Support the Use of Medications for Opioid Use Disorder</b><br><i>Kevin Wenzel, PhD and Sragvi Pattanaik</i> | 9  | <b>A Qualitative Exploration of Recovery Capital Among Justice-Involved Youth</b><br><i>Wendy Avila Rodriguez, MPH</i>                        |
| 2 | <b>Substance Use and Recovery in People with Disabilities</b><br><i>Tanjim M. Himika, MS and Jessica Williams, MD</i>                              | 6 | <b>What Impacts Medication for Opioid Use Disorder Utilization in Recovery Housing?</b><br><i>Riya Kunderan</i>                                            | 10 | <b>Character Strengths in Addiction Recovery: Use, Misuse, and Transformation</b><br><i>Yunzhen Huang and Stuart Rumrill</i>                  |
| 3 | <b>Tobacco Withdrawal and Craving in Smokers with OUD Attempting to Switch to Electronic Cigarettes</b><br><i>Irene Pericot-Valverde, PhD</i>      | 7 | <b>Benefits and Reimbursement Factors for Extended-Release Buprenorphine Across Central Appalachia</b><br><i>Alex Simmons, MHA</i>                         | 11 | <b>Patient-Level Predictors of Treatment Cascade Progression in OUD After Inpatient Discharge</b><br><i>Ruolin Chen and Kevin Wenzel, PhD</i> |
| 4 | <b>Discrimination and Recovery Capital: Racism, Sexism, and PTSD Symptoms Among Women With SUDs</b><br><i>Troi R. Rutherford</i>                   | 8 | <b>Geographic Proximity, Vehicle Access, and Retention in Medication for Opioid Use Disorder</b><br><i>Michelle L. Truong, PhD, MPH</i>                    | 12 | <b>Lifting Toward Recovery: Strength Training and Relapse Prevention in SUD Recovery</b><br><i>Lori Davidson, PhD, HS-BCP, TIWL</i>           |

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## Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 13 | <b>The Wound Beneath the Wound: An ATTM© Pilot for Codependency in Addiction Recovery</b><br><i>Angela M. Hryniuk, MA and Andrew Amos</i>                                    | 17 | <b>Content Analysis of Addiction Recovery Smartphone Applications</b><br><i>Lourah M. Kelly, PhD</i>                                                             | 21 | <b>Recovery Starts with Stability: Early Outcomes from Missouri's Peer Respite Stabilization Pilot</b><br><i>Lindsey Pawlowski, MSW and Maria Paschke, MPP</i>     |
| 14 | <b>Recovery Viability Theory: A Recursive Framework for Addiction Recovery</b><br><i>Wayne Kepner, PhD, MPH</i>                                                              | 18 | <b>Results from a Culinary Curriculum for Recovery Housing Residents</b><br><i>Samuel Kirzner, MPH</i>                                                           | 22 | <b>Quantifying Recovery Community Center Supports &amp; Assessments: Analysis of the Recovery Data Platform</b><br><i>Marion J. Riggs, PhD and Jonathan Picard</i> |
| 15 | <b>A Mixed-Methods Analysis of Overdose Prevention and Recovery Community Organization Workforces</b><br><i>Danielle M. McCoy, MPH</i>                                       | 19 | <b>Enhancing Recovery Through Integrating Sexual Health Education: A Qualitative Study</b><br><i>Jakira S. Lewis, MPH, CPH, PhD</i>                              | 23 | <b>Criminal History and Recovery Outcomes in Peer-Run Democratic Recovery Housing</b><br><i>Alexander J. Sikora and Leonard A. Jason, PhD</i>                      |
| 16 | <b>Expanding the Buprenorphine Workforce: Engaging Non-Traditional Providers in Low-Barrier OUD Care</b><br><i>Kate Morton, PharmD, PhC and Oakley Blasdel, RN-BSN, CARN</i> | 20 | <b>Understanding Recovery Capital and Reported Reasons for Departure Among Recovery Housing Residents</b><br><i>Katie A. McCormick, PhD, MSW and Justin York</i> | 24 | <b>Investigating the Effects of Environmental Enrichment on Alcohol Related Outcomes</b><br><i>Ryan E. Tyler, PhD</i>                                              |

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## Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 25 | <b>Extending Quick Response Team Care into Recovery Through a Client Alumni Program</b><br><i>Alexander Ulintz, MD</i>                     | 29 | <b>Exploring Uptake, Barriers, and Facilitators of a Recovery Kentucky-Based Recovery Voucher Program</b><br><i>Amber L. Kizewski, MA, PhD Candidate and Robin A. Thompson, DrPH, MPH</i> | 33 | <b>A Qualitative Evaluation of an Integrative Adolescent Intensive Outpatient Program</b><br><i>Sarah J. Miller, PhD and Hayley D. Seely, PhD</i>           |
| 26 | <b>Assessing Barriers and Facilitators to Organizational Readiness for Peer Recovery Support Services</b><br><i>Enya B. Vroom, PhD, MS</i> | 30 | <b>Beyond the BARC-10: Participatory Development of Recovery Capital Statements for Early Recovery Plan</b><br><i>Kurt D. Lebeck, MA, MSW, PhD Candidate</i>                              | 34 | <b>Strengthening Recovery Through a Focus on Parenting with Fathers in Recovery Housing</b><br><i>Robin A. Thompson, DrPH, MPH and Kristin Tiedeman, MA</i> |
| 27 | <b>Recovery Capital Outcomes Associated with an Access to Recovery Program</b><br><i>Terry Bunn, PhD and Madison Ashworth, PhD</i>         | 31 | <b>Factors Driving Interest in a Gamified Digital Contingency Management Intervention for Stimulant Use</b><br><i>Kaitlyn Martin and Kaileigh Byrne, PhD</i>                              | 35 | <b>In Remission but at Risk: Poorer Outcomes for Emerging Versus Older Adults in SUD Remission</b><br><i>Bridget B. Hayes, PhD</i>                          |
| 28 | <b>Barriers to Implementing Brief Written Exposure Therapy in Substance Use Treatment Settings</b><br><i>Laura V. Gordon, MA, JD</i>       | 32 | <b>Examining Sensory Processing Sensitivity, Cannabis Motives, and Consumption in Young Adults</b><br><i>Alyssa M. Hill, MEd</i>                                                          | 36 | <b>Unintended Benefits: How Lower Blood Alcohol Concentration Limits Relate to Drinking Outcomes</b><br><i>Meenakshi Subbaraman, MS, PhD</i>                |

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|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 37 | <b>Six-Week Monitoring of Women's Cannabis Withdrawal Symptoms</b><br><i>Veronica B. Szpak, MS</i> | 38 | <b>Addressing Challenges to Implementation of Attendance-Based CM for Tobacco Education</b><br><i>Christine Trevino, PhD</i> | 39 | <b>The Hidden Relapse Trigger in Substance Use Recovery: Sexual Behavior Relapse Risk in LGBTQ Recovery</b><br><i>Anthony J. Williams</i> |
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|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Poster Session</b><br>Wednesday, 9/23<br>4:30 PM - 6:00 PM ET | 4:30 - 5:00 PM ET<br><b>Early Career Poster Awards</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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