CLINICAL CARE WITH CLIENTS USING OPIOIDS: BEYOND THE RECOVERY / HARM REDUCTION BINARY

Community-based clinical care with clients using opioids is often framed as either oriented toward “harm reduction” or “recovery.” In practice, however, clinical social workers and their clients often must transcend this divide, drawing on a range of approaches and services. Although there has been significant recent media and political attention to the opioid crisis, the complexity, challenges, and opportunities of community-based clinical care in the context of opioid use is typically overlooked. In this Tuesday evening colloquium, we will bring our attention to one clinical case from the community, presented by current Bryn Mawr social work student Kerri Hartnett. A panel of discussants will provide responses to the case material, as well as join in a broader discussion about next steps we can take—as students, social workers and others engaged around these crucial issues. This colloquium is intended to deepen our focus as a school and clinical community on the need for person-centered, trauma-sensitive, and critically engaged clinical social work practice outside of traditional and well-resourced psychotherapy settings.

PANELISTS

- Kerri Hartnett, MSS Student
  Bryn Mawr College GSSWSR
- Priya E. Mammen, MD, MPH
  Thomas Jefferson University Hospitals
- Jose Benitez, MSW
  Prevention Point Philadelphia
- Lauren Barrett, MS, LPC, CADC
  Jeremy Frank & Associates
- Sara Bressi, MSW, PhD
  Bryn Mawr College GSSWSR

OBJECTIVES

- Participants will be able to identify “harm reduction” and “recovery” oriented approaches to clinical care in the context of opioid use, as well as ways that clinical social workers often draw from both.
- Participants will be able to apply learning about “harm reduction” and “recovery” approaches to analysis of a case.
- Participants will be able to reflect on their own practice with clients who are using opioids in various community-based settings.

CEUs

1.5 CEUs, $20 Processing Fee