

GENERAL SESSIONS

Opening Ceremony

Against All Odds: Overcoming Barriers and Finding Meaning and Strength Through Adversity

Marlee Matlin

This session is currently not available. Please check back for on-demand viewing. Thank you for your patience.

GS-1: Recovery, Recovery Capital, and COVID-19: Predicting and Improving the Likelihood of Recovery During a Crisis

David Best

This session is currently not available. Please check back for on-demand viewing. Thank you for your patience.

Recovery is a process of change through which individuals achieve remission from substance use disorder and improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential. Most people living with SUD will eventually achieve stable long-term recovery. This session will explore the critical steps in achieving stable recovery, the factors that differentiate those who recover from those who do not, and how treatment courts can help.

GS-2: Drug Testing in Treatment Courts - 2020 Update: Specimen and Collection Decisions in a "New Normal" World

Paul Cary

Abstinence monitoring of participants is one court element that has been drastically affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. This presentation will address the challenges of drug testing in this new environment - concentrating on specimen choice and safe collection strategies. While the focus of this session will be on returning to urine drug testing as the specimen of choice for abstinence monitoring in treatment courts, it will also discuss appropriate collection guidance for alternative specimens.

GS-3: Continuing Operations During and After a Pandemic

Hon. Shaun Floerke, Carolyn Hardin, Rosemary Manrique, Julie Seymore

Seamless operation of treatment courts is critical, but what do practitioners and participants do when faced with a pandemic? This session will explore strategies to help your court continue operating in these difficult times. Information provided will touch on each of the treatment court models and cover overall court operations, including treatment, court hearings, staffing, supervision, and ancillary services.

GS-4: When Sanctions (and Incentives) Don't Work: Responding Effectively to Addiction-Driven Non-Compliance

Terrence Walton

Incentives and sanctions are essential to treatment court success. When properly used, they are a powerful tool for improving client behavior and program outcomes. Treatment courts achieve better outcomes when practitioners understand the science behind behavior management and apply the principles. This session will describe the essential elements of effective behavior modification in a drug court and reveal what actions a program should consider when efforts appear futile.

GS-5: Preventing a Social Recession

A Fireside Chat with Melissa Fitzgerald and Vivek Murthy, MD

As COVID-19 sweeps across the globe, the public health imperative is clear: to save lives, we need to radically increase the space between us. But will this crisis lead to social, as well as physical, isolation? Will social distancing condemn us to loneliness and a "social recession?" Dr. Murthy will discuss how he believes healthy relationships are as essential as vaccines and ventilators for our global recovery and fortify and strengthen our connections and communities during this crisis.

GS-6: Co-Occurring Substance Use and Mental Disorders: Clinical Issues in Diagnosis, Treatment, and Pharmacotherapy

David Mee-Lee, MD

A significant number of people in the justice system have co-occurring mental and substance use disorders. This presentation will offer guidelines to address dilemmas in the assessment and treatment of justice-involved individuals with co-occurring mental and substance-related disorders, including guidelines about the use of medications in co-occurring disorders.

GS-7: America's Opiate Epidemic: How It Began and the Changes It's Asking We Make
A Conversation with Sam Quinones, featuring Hon. Karen Freeman-Wilson

The opioid epidemic is now in its fourth stage (pain pills, heroin, fentanyl, methamphetamine). It has affected communities coast to coast. Author Sam Quinones will talk with NADCP Board Vice Chair Karen Freeman-Wilson about the roots of this epidemic. He will discuss why he believes this epidemic is one of the greatest forces for change in America and what it portends for the future of drug courts. He will also discuss how the coronavirus pandemic and the epidemic are connected.

GS-8: The Improvisor's Mindset: Hitting Bottom and Finding Your Way After a Pandemic
Dion Flynn

This session is currently not available. Please check back for on-demand viewing. Thank you for your patience.

There are an amazing number of similarities between hitting bottom in an addiction and subsequently finding recovery and suffering a global pandemic and finding your way after. Comedian, veteran, and teacher Dion Flynn will make helpful connections between the recovery journey and how to have success after any kind of adversity.

GS-9: Courage and Crucibles: Lessons We Learn from Leading in a Crisis
Pierre Quinn

You're either headed into, in the middle of, or just on the other side of a crisis. The challenges of leadership extend far beyond our professional experiences. Crucible moments are an inevitable part of navigating where we live, work, play, and experience community. This session will help attendees discover insights that will help them find the courage to lead before, during, and after the most difficult times.

GS-10: High in Plain Sight: The Climate of Rapidly Evolving Drug Trends and Concealment
Jermaine Galloway

This session is currently not available. Please check back for on-demand viewing. Thank you for your patience.

The Tall Cop will show the changes in today's drug trends and their impact on impaired individuals and those seeking to acquire various drugs. Drug topics will include over-the-counter drugs; some opioids; drugs that are "the friends of opioids"; hallucinogens; herbal drugs; websites; and marijuana waxes, oils, and vapes. Also discussed will be popular drugs used to avoid detection in public and through drug tests.

GS-11: A Deeper Dive into Defining and Responding to Risk and Need
Douglas Marlowe

To be effective, safe, and cost-efficient, interventions in drug courts require substantial modifications based on the risk and need profiles of participants. This workshop will review a typology of risk and need profiles for drug court participants and discuss specific clinical and supervisory adaptations required for various subtypes and profiles.

GS-12: Self-Care: Ways You Can Cope with Stress, Anxiety, and Isolation in Difficult Times
Christa Marshall, Brian Meyer

The advent of the COVID-19 pandemic has set off a wave of international anxiety different than what most people have seen in their lifetimes. Social distancing guidelines isolate us from the connections and support that we depend upon to manage our distress. This presentation will provide 20 specific ways that you can care for yourself and cope with your anxiety and distress to make it through the pandemic.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

CS-1: Using Technology to Enhance Treatment Court Outcomes

Douglas Marlowe

Adherence to evidence-based practices requires treatment courts to carefully match services to participants' risk and need levels; adjust services based on progress in treatment; deliver incentives, sanctions and treatment adjustments swiftly and reliably; and adjust the magnitude of responses based on the proximal or distal nature of participants' behavior. This session will review research studies demonstrating the use of new technologies to enhance outcomes in treatment court settings.

CS-2: Developing Cultural Humility: Looking to the Future While Learning from Our Past

Miguel Gallardo

This refreshing session will challenge everything you think you know about culture and what it means to be culturally competent. Attendees will be encouraged to approach issues of culture, equity, and diversity by starting with the humble realization that some of what we assume about ourselves and others may not be true.

CS-3: Understanding Team Member Ethics in Treatment Court

David Pelletier, Julie Seitz

"Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have a right to do and what is right to do." -Potter Stewart
 In this session, the presenters will facilitate a dialogue on the sometimes-conflicting ethical obligations of drug court team members and try to reach consensus on how best to handle ethical variations in drug court team member obligations.

CS-4: Data and Money: How to Build Killer Grant Proposals to Fund Your Program

Katelyn Michaud, Rani Singh

Securing funding can be an ongoing battle for drug courts. Often drug courts obtain seed money from a federal grant and then continue to supplement their budget with federal funding. However, competition for available funding is stiff. Consequently, creating a grant proposal that stands out is essential. Panelists will discuss how to craft a strong, data-backed grant proposal. Interaction between the audience and the panelists is highly encouraged. This session is presented by corporate sponsor Reconnect.

CS-5: Bureau of Justice Assistance Forum

Michael Costigan, Erich Dietrich, Gregory Torain

With the recent release of Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) treatment court funding solicitations, this always-popular session is even more timely. Hear directly from BJA regarding current funding opportunities. Senior BJA staff will conduct this interactive session. Get all your questions answered and ask critical questions.

CS-6: Supporting Healthy Attachments and Development for Children, Adolescents, and Their Parents

Russ Bermejo, Kim Coe, Hon. Caren Loguercio, Marian Silverman

When individuals struggle with substance use disorders, it can negatively affect their capacity to provide children with essential care. Through multiagency, community-based, and family-focused approaches, treatment courts are pivotal in a family's healing process. This session will explore special topics, including distinct bonding and attachment, challenges of military and veteran families, fathers of young children, and pregnant and post-partum mothers.

CS-7: Welcome to the Matrix: Integrating Roles, Responsibilities, and Expertise to Strengthen a Treatment Court Team

Vanessa Price

This session will discuss the various treatment court models, looking at concepts of team development, communication, interaction, and role expertise. The session will also discuss ways to handle team issues, such as transition and conflict management, to ensure collaborative team outcomes that improve participant engagement and success.

CS-8: VIVITROL (naltrexone for extended-release injectable suspension) as a Treatment Option in the Criminal Justice Space

This session will not be available on demand at the request of the corporate sponsor, Alkermes.

CS-9: Developing Risk/Need Tools for Tribal Populations

Noel Altaha, Precious Benally, Adele Fontanet, Alisha Morrison

Criminal justice systems across the country have increasingly come to rely on risk-need responsivity (RNR) tools to help make critical decisions. There are currently no widely known or used RNR tools that have been developed or adapted for use with American Indian and Alaska Native populations. This presentation will outline the issues surrounding RNR tools and critical issues for tribal justice practitioners.

CS-10: It's Much More than Self-Medication: The Very Complicated Relationship Between PTSD and Substance Use

Brian Meyer

One of the most common co-morbidities with substance use is PTSD. This presentation will examine the very complicated relationship between PTSD and substance use in order to help us understand our clients better. It will also propose how to assess our patients to make sure that we are treating all of their underlying reasons for using drugs and/or alcohol.

CS-11: Everything You Need to Know About Addictive Substances and the Brain

Ken Robinson

This eye-opening session will outline everything you need to know about addictive substances and their actions in the brain and resulting effects on behavior. All the major substances will be surveyed, including heroin and other opiates; methamphetamine, cocaine, and other stimulants; marijuana; and alcohol. The latest research and eye-opening brain scan images will be shared that demonstrate once and for all that addiction is indeed a brain-based disorder.

CS-12: COVID-19 and Drug Courts: Using Technology to Operate Remotely

Sam Hotchkiss

This session looks at how community supervision can effectively transition to remote supervision. It will provide practical recommendations and guidance on how to transition while observing community supervision best practices. At the end of the session, Sam Hotchkiss, founder and CEO of Reconnect, Inc., will answer questions – audience participation is encouraged. This session is presented by corporate sponsor Reconnect.

CS-13: Program Crash: How to Revive Your DWI Court

Jim Eberspacher, Julie Seitz, Shane Wolf

DWI courts are faced with significant challenges: team member turnover, drift from best practices, and low productivity are some of the more common issues. If your team recognizes the need for improvement and is willing to come together to implement changes to the program, your DWI court can be revived. This session will explore the challenges that cause the DWI court to crash, how to minimize the program's crash risk, and how to revive the program if it does crash.

CS-14: Legal, Constitutional, and Ethical Issues in Treatment Courts

Hon. William Meyer

In this interactive session, attendees address the legal, constitutional, and ethical issues in treatment courts. Topics covered include the First Amendment, Fifth Amendment, and current case law affecting your treatment court.

CS-15: Attention All Treatment Courts: Innovations to Improve Overall Family Functioning and Wellness

Audrey Clairmont, Hon. Marcia Hirsch, Larisa Owen, Jane Pfeifer, Theresa Lemus

This session will provide treatment court professionals with concrete and cost-effective strategies for implementing a family-focused approach – including the compelling research on why all treatment courts should focus on the needs of all family members. Panelists will share their innovative strategies and successes. Attendees will leave with a call to action that identifies steps they can take to become family centered and improve outcomes for all families affected by substance use.

CS-16: Drug Testing Solutions During a Pandemic of Unknown Duration

Hon. James Beck, Mike Coelho, Dominique Delagnes, Jason Herzog, Darcy Kamau, Mary Wolfinger

Treatment courts are navigating through uncharted waters during COVID-19 with drug testing reduced or temporarily halted and deciding how to keep participants and staff safe while continuing to test. Yet the clients we serve are one of the most vulnerable populations at this time, and we need solutions that will help avoid relapse, overdose, and possible death. Learn how to approach drug testing in a safe environment and learn what testing solutions are available to you now and in the future. This session is presented by corporate sponsor Averhealth.

CS-17: Medications for Addiction Treatment

Steve Hanson

Opiate addiction has quickly become a national crisis, as communities are seeing the number of deaths from drug overdoses overtake those from car accidents. Research has shown that the use of medications in coordination with substance use disorder treatment can save lives. This session helps treatment court professionals understand the ways various medication-assisted therapies are used in clinical practice.

CS-18: Fostering Trauma-Informed Practices in Your Courtroom

Hon. Marcia Hirsch, Jennifer Johnson, Chanson Noether

This session focuses on strategies for judges and other treatment court professionals to implement trauma-informed practices in their court policies, practices, and environment. Among the topics included will be how to collaborate across justice and behavioral health systems to create courtroom atmospheres that support a trauma-informed approach.

CS-19: Promising Practices from the Field to Enhance Equity and Inclusion in Treatment Courts

Anne Dannerbeck Janku

Over the last couple years, equity and inclusion workshops have been conducted with drug court teams around the country, where teams have examined their access process to identify potential sources of bias. Teams used a social marketing perspective to better understand how participants perceive and experience their programs. Since then, changes have led to increased access and retention of African Americans and Hispanics in their programs. This session will describe those changes.

CS-20: This is How We Do It: Automated Drug Screening Strategies

Joel Carter, Andrew Cummings, Jon Ridge

Automated urine drug screening provides rapid and accurate results. Hear how two drug courts implemented automated urine drug screening and learn how they manage their participants' journey through the program and what they have learned about drug use in their community. Finally, a consultant will provide guidance establishing guidelines to promote evidence-based practices for sustaining a drug court program. This session is presented by corporate sponsor Thermo Fisher Scientific.

CS-21: Treatment Providers Working Effectively with the Drug Court Team

Helen Harberts

This session provides a succinct overview of what treatment providers must understand about drug courts, the drug court team, the justice system, and the critical functions that they, as providers, must perform. Practical advice will be offered on how treatment and supervision professionals can work together most effectively.

CS-22: Opioid Overdose Prevention and Other Harm Reduction Strategies

Cara Poland, MD

Overdose Prevention is a method to save lives in the event of an opioid overdose. Harm reduction is a methodology to reduce risk of an active substance use disorder and the complications that may come from substance use. Join us as we talk about how these two topics interact with drug courts including 1. what they are, 2. what they can predict, and 3. how you can create a safe, inclusive environment for your participants. This session is presented in collaboration with the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

CS-23: Family Treatment Court Best Practice Implementation: The What, Why, and How

Alexis Balkey, Kathryn Barry, Kirstin Frescoln, Theresa Lemus

After 25 years of practice experience and scholarly research, family treatment courts (FTCs) have a shared definition of the elements needed to establish and sustain an effective FTC. Join this session to gain indispensable insight, encouragement, and strategies from the real experts: FTC teams doing the work. Practitioners will share approaches to breaking down barriers and applying best practices to improve outcomes for children and families affected by substance use disorders.

CS-24: From the Laboratory to the Courtroom

Leo Kadehjian

Drug testing is a key tool in addressing drug use in drug court populations. Since these test results are being used in the legal environment of the courts' decision-making, they may be subjected to legal scrutiny. This presentation will address those policies and procedures necessary to ensure the admissibility, evidentiary weight and legal defensibility of drug test results. This session is presented by corporate sponsor Siemens.

CS-25: Rural Drug Courts: Tools and Opportunity for Innovation

Betty-Ann Bryce, Anne Hazlett, Hon. Duane Slone, Darrell Mitchell

Rural America has been hard hit by addiction. Beyond the impact of addiction, there are also significant gaps in resources to build strong, healthy, and drug-free communities. To support rural leaders in this work, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy has built a number of tools designed specifically for rural communities. This session will give an overview of effective solutions and tools to support rural leaders in meeting prevention, treatment, and recovery needs.

CS-26: Motivational Techniques for the Treatment Court Team: Therapeutic Methods for Compressed Timeframes

Michael Clark

This training session will offer 13 therapeutic techniques team members can use with program participants to quickly change perspectives to change mindsets and influence better decisions and healthy behavior. These techniques can be helpful for staff in their day-to-day interactions or by treatment court judges as participants appear before their bench. These techniques have been gathered from the brief family therapy field to offer helpful techniques to the multiple roles of the treatment court team – all designed to be used in very short timeframes of two to three minutes.

CS-27: Marijuana Legalization: What Treatment Court Professionals Need to Know

Yasmin Hurd, Kaylin Klie, MD, Rosalie Pacula, Tauheed Zaman, MD

If you don't have medical and/or recreational marijuana in your state yet, you will. This session will discuss the legal and practical aspects of working with drug court participants in the medical/recreational marijuana environment. What type of drug court policy regarding these legal drugs might work in your court? This session is presented in collaboration with the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

CS-28: SCRAM Nexus – A Groundbreaking Software Promises Better Client Engagement and Outcomes in Treatment Courts

West Huddleston, Mack Jenkins

Decades of research has shown that applying proper behavioral responses in conjunction with evidence-based treatment results in outstanding outcomes. The biggest obstacle to applying evidence-based practices is that critical client data typically reside in written progress notes or electronic files unable to synthesize information or make recommendations for informed decision-making. That has now changed with SCRAM Nexus, the first-ever decision support system for treatment courts. This session is presented by corporate sponsor SCRAM Systems.

CS-29: Treating Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders and Providing Recovery Support Through Telehealth and Virtual Options

Jeffrey Kushner, Hon. Mary Jane Knisely, Karen Otis

Telehealth involves technologies such as telephone-based services, videoconferencing, texting, smartphone applications, and web-based tools to provide care over a distance without requiring patients to travel. This session will explore how treatment court treatment providers make full use of telehealth to effectively treat and provide recovery support service for those with substance use, mental health, and co-occurring disorders.

CS-30: Compassionate Jurisprudence

Bridgett Ortega

Little is understood about human-centered judging or how judging with compassion impacts everyone in the courtroom. Given this lack of understanding, an action research study was conducted to explore how human-centered judging affected the thoughts, communications, and behaviors of 32 adult drug court judges. This workshop will explore the themes discovered that support a more compassionate approach to justice in our system of American jurisprudence.

CS-31: Community Supervision: Protecting Public Safety and Ensuring Accountability While Providing Support for Recovery Using Virtual and In-Person Strategies

Mack Jenkins, Magdalena Morales-Aina, Susan Rice

During these unprecedented times, community supervision faces new challenges. This session includes a discussion of the fundamentals of effective community supervision, with tips from practitioners providing ongoing services during the COVID-19 pandemic. This session explores the use of technology to assist case managers and supervision officers to keep in touch with clients virtually and comply with social distancing restrictions.

CS-32: CBD: Is It the New, Natural Miracle Drug?

Pat Pizzo

Forensic examiner and certified expert witness Pat Pizzo presents on the implications of CBD use on drug addiction and recovery, how it might affect urine drug test results, and what the side effects might be from this unregulated product, especially when interacting with other prescription or illicit drugs. This session is presented by corporate sponsor Thermo Fisher Scientific.

CS-33: Mental Health Court Essentials

Hallie Fader-Towe, Ethan Kelly, Hon. Michael Montero

This session covers the history and research base for mental health courts and key issues in deciding whether to start a mental health court, designing a mental health court, and operating and sustaining a mental health court. Speakers will utilize the Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center's decade-long experience in providing training and technical assistance to mental health court grantees, and the CSG Justice Center's online, free curriculum, "Developing A Mental Health Court: An Interdisciplinary Curriculum."

CS-34: So We're Not Supposed to Use Jail: What Do We Do Instead? Alternatives to Incarceration as a Sanction

Shannon Carey, Helen Harberts

Treatment courts were created to connect individuals with substance use disorder to treatment and end the "revolving door" of incarceration. Jail sanctions, however, remain a common treatment court practice. This presentation will ask, "What can we do instead?" - addressing issues such as: What if we believe the participant is going to overdose? What if we're waiting for a treatment bed? What if the participant threatens the integrity of the program? And what if the participant is dangerous?

CS-35: Integrated Case Management in Juvenile Drug Treatment Courts

Martha Blomquist, Jessica Pearce, Wendy Schiller, Jacqueline van Wormer

This session will highlight strategies used by juvenile drug treatment court team members to implement integrated case management. Participants will have an opportunity to identify the roles of each team member in the development and implementation of integrated case management.

CS-36: Essential Elements and Growing Trends in Veterans Treatment Courts

Hon. Robert Russell, Scott Tirocchi

The Buffalo Veterans Treatment Court took veterans from its drug and mental health courts to create the first veterans treatment court. In doing so, it created a docket reflecting military culture and the distinct needs that arise from service in the U.S. armed forces. This session will identify current trends and common issues facing veterans treatment courts, along with strategies these programs are employing to address these challenges to improve outcomes for veterans and their families.

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