2021
ANNUAL
REPORT
"You have been assigned this mountain so that you can show others it can be moved."

-- Mel Robbins
Table of Contents

About Us 5
Strategic Priorities 6
Impact Overview 8
Crisis Services 10
Stigma Initiative 16
Prevention Initiative 21
Advancing Evidence-Based Practice 25
Research Initiatives 31
Financial Highlights 34
Support Our Work 35
6 Years of Service
About Us

Founded in 2015, the vision of the Addiction Policy Forum is to eliminate addiction as a major health problem. We work in states and communities across the country to help patients and families in crisis; end addiction stigma; advance prevention; increase the uptake of evidence-based solutions, and advance research.

The Addiction Policy Forum community is changing the way the world responds to addiction. A 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit, APF is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland and services are provided in 50 U.S. states.

Leadership

Board of Directors

District Attorney Jonathan Blodgett, *Essex County, Massachusetts*, **Board Chair**

Mary Ashley, *Deputy District Attorney San Bernardino County, California*

Ron LeGrand, *Policy Director, National Criminal Justice Association, Washington, DC*

Blake Norton, *Chief Strategy Officer, Philadelphia Police Department, Pennsylvania*

Robert Rancourt, *District Court Judge, Minnesota*

National Advisory Board

Lyn Anderson *Washington*

Carol Boyer *Maryland*

Dale Covington *Utah*

Julie DeNofa *Texas*

Lou Duran *New Mexico*

Jim Freund *Virginia*

Doug Griffin *New Hampshire*

Diana Hollister *Colorado*

Karla Jaques *Missouri*

Michelle Jaskulski *Wisconsin*

Kelli Lavery-Maurer *Arizona*

Lorraine McNeill-Popper *New York*

Chris Mecham *Idaho*

Athena Naranjo *California*

Charlotte Wincott *Washington, DC*
Our vision is to eliminate addiction as a major health problem.

Mission
We lead the fight against the deadly consequences of addiction and help patients, families, and communities affected by the disease.

The Addiction Policy Forum was created by families impacted by this disease. Founded in 2015, we are working in states and communities across the country to end stigma, help patients and families in crisis and translate the science around addiction.

Strategic Priorities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Help Patients and Families in Crisis</td>
<td>End Addiction Stigma</td>
<td>Advance Prevention</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Practice</td>
<td>Advance Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provide new, effective resources and support for patients and families in crisis.</td>
<td>Address stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination associated with substance use disorders through education and advocacy.</td>
<td>Help communities and families take steps to prevent addiction or find it at its earliest, most treatable stage.</td>
<td>Address barriers to adoption of scientifically proven evidence and interventions around the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders.</td>
<td>Facilitate patient-led research and accelerate the translation of research findings to the SUD community.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.4 million
patients, families, and practitioners impacted -- and counting
Impact Overview

Crisis Services
140,000
APF has provided support and guidance to 139,611 families, patients, key stakeholders and healthcare providers from 2015 to 2021.

Stigma Initiative
3.95 million
APF is dedicated to ending addiction stigma, which prevents patients and families from engaging in needed services. To date, we have reached 3,946,652 individuals through our stigma initiative.

Prevention Projects
317,000
APF creates audience-specific prevention materials, resources and awareness campaigns to prevent substance use disorder. To date, we have reached over 317,478 individuals.

Evidence-Based Practice
33,115
APF has educated and trained over 30,000 practitioners about proven policies and programs to increase the uptake of evidence-based practices and programs to address addiction.

Lives Impacted

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Lives Impacted</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Countries Served through APF Programs and Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andorra</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>Iraq</td>
<td>Mauritius</td>
<td>Sierra Leone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>Curacao</td>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</td>
<td>Czechia</td>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anguilla</td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Jersey</td>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>Mozambique</td>
<td>El Salvador</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Armenia</td>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>India</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angola</td>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>Niger</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>Algeria</td>
<td>Kyrgyzstan</td>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>Mongolia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Samoa</td>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>Myanmar (Burma)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>North Macedonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Egypt</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>North Korea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aruba</td>
<td>Western Sahara</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>Qatar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Azerbaijan</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
<td>Reunion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bosnia &amp; Herzegovina</td>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>St. Kitts &amp; Nevis</td>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Seychelles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>St. Lucia</td>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burkina Faso</td>
<td>Faroe Islands</td>
<td>Libya</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>Slovakia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>St. Martin</td>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Skye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahrain</td>
<td>Gabon</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Sudan</td>
<td>South Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>St. Martin</td>
<td>St. Petersburg</td>
<td>Spanish Virgin Islands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benin</td>
<td>Georgia</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>Guadeloupe</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>St. Vincent &amp; Grenadines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunei</td>
<td>Guernsey</td>
<td>Munich</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>Ghana</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Gibraltar</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bahamas</td>
<td>Gambia</td>
<td>Morocco</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>Guinea</td>
<td>Monaco</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Botswana</td>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>Moldova</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belarus</td>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belize</td>
<td>Guam</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Congo - Kinshasa</td>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cote d'Ivoire</td>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>Montenegro</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>Suriname</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
139,000+ patients and families received crisis services
Crisis Services

APF provided support and guidance to 139,611 families and patients over the last six years.

Helpline

Calls and texts to APF’s helpline come in from professionals, loved ones of someone with a substance use disorder, people in recovery, and people struggling with their substance use are answered by social workers and peer support specialists.

Digital Therapeutics

Individuals in recovery rely on APF’s smartphone app for digital recovery services and an online therapeutic community. In 2020, telehealth services were expanded to justice-involved individuals with a substance use disorder.

enCompass

enCompass: A Comprehensive Training on Navigating Addiction is a resource for family members who are trying to navigate the complex world of addiction and help loved ones achieve recovery.

Navigating Addiction Guide

APF developed Navigating Addiction for family members and other concerned significant others. This free resource guide and toolkit is grounded in science and explains substance use disorders, treatment options, self-care and important tools to improve confidence and knowledge in how to respond to addiction.
enCompass: A Comprehensive Training on Navigating Addiction

enCompass: A Comprehensive Training on Navigating Addiction is a resource for family members who are trying to navigate the complex world of addiction and help loved ones achieve recovery. The training includes in-depth information about substance use disorders, treatment options, communication strategies, and self-care tips. This training was created by the Addiction Policy Forum.

Like CPR training, the 8-hour course is designed to build the skills to support and respond to someone who needs help and teaches participants how to navigate and access the resources that are available in their community. In addition, by building addiction knowledge, the training can also help to reduce stigma around substance use disorders.

What participants learn

- Signs and Symptoms of Addiction
- How to Start the Conversation
- Getting an Assessment and Treatment Options
- How to Set Healthy Boundaries
- Recovery Support
- Medications to Treat Addiction

Who should get trained?

- Families, Friends & Caregivers
- Clergy
- Law Enforcement & First Responders
- Employers
- Educators
- Community-Based Service Providers
In 2021, the Addiction Policy Forum, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, and RecoveryOhio Initiative partnered to deploy the enCompass training program to more than 1,600 Ohioans. Locations were selected to prioritize the top 23 counties in Ohio that experience 80% of the overdoses in the state and coordinated with Ohio’s county-operated, state supervised behavioral health system made up of area behavioral health authorities.

The evaluation of the Ohio enCompass initiative was conducted by the University of Delaware. Preliminary results from the first cohort of training sites included 312 pre- and post-matched participants. The evaluation measured addiction knowledge, confidence in how to respond to a substance use disorder (SUD), and levels of stigma, including stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination.

**Increased Addiction Knowledge Overall**

Data shows that knowledge improved from the pre- to the post-test – with participants recording an average of 14 out of 17 of the items on the pre-test correct, and an average of 15.74 on the post-test correct. The University of Delaware created a 17-point scale to measure knowledge of substance use disorders. Scores include how many items participants got correct of the 17 total, with higher scores indicating more knowledge. Participants were invited to complete surveys before and after they participated in the enCompass training.

**Significant Improvements for Participants with Lower Knowledge Scores**

Twenty-five percent of the sample consisted of individuals who scored a 12 and below on the addiction knowledge pre-test. For this lower knowledge group, knowledge scores increased from 10.3 items, or 59 percent correct in the pre-test, to 14.5 items, or 85 percent correct in the post-test. This improvement would equate to going from a failing grade to a solid B. The medium and high knowledge groups showed smaller gains after the intervention – going from a B+ score to a solid A.

**Reductions in Stigma**

Manifestations of stigma -- including stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination -- reduced from pre to post test. Previously validated scales were utilized for the stigma constructs and participants generally indicated how much they agreed or disagreed with stigma items on 1 to 5 point scales. Higher scores indicate more stigma.
When examining differences in stigma among the low knowledge 25% of the sample, and the medium to high knowledge 75% of the sample, the data show that stigma is higher among the low knowledge group overall. While each stigma manifestation goes down in both groups, the low knowledge group shows a bigger change after receiving the intervention.

### Demographics

**Evaluation Participants**  
312

**Gender Identity**

- Female 81%
- Male 19%

**Age**

- 18 - 29 12%
- 30 - 44 40%
- 45 - 59 32%
- 60+ 16%

**Race/Ethnicity**

- Black/African American 12%
- White/Non-Hispanic 81%

**Education**

- High School Degree 7%
- Some College or Technical School 18%
- College Degree (AA, BA, etc) 48%
- Graduate Education 27%

### Conclusion

In summary, the pilot evaluation showed that knowledge about addiction increased across the board for all enCompass participants, with the greatest improvement among people that entered the training knowing the least about addiction. Stigma decreased across the board for all participants, with the greatest decrease among participants with lower knowledge scores on addiction.

### Key Partners

[Ohio Mental Health & Addiction Services](https://ohio.gov/OhioMHAS)  
[Ohio Recovery](https://ohio.gov/Recovery)  
[University of Delaware](https://udel.edu)
Telehealth Support for Justice-Involved Patients

The COVID-19 pandemic created significant challenges for those struggling with addiction. Justice-involved patients with opioid use disorder (OUD) are particularly at-risk, and COVID-19 presented further challenges and disruptions in care. The continuous stress, changes to program and recovery support availability, and isolation during the pandemic resulted in increases in relapses and overdoses nationwide.

Justice-involved individuals with substance use disorders are a high-risk subset of the SUD population. To alleviate the sudden disconnect from treatment and recovery services, and to counteract the isolation caused by the COVID-19-related shutdowns for justice-involved populations, APF partnered with 21 criminal justice agencies across 16 states to provide telehealth recovery services to 639 justice-involved individuals.

The project was made possible through support from the FORE Foundation. A grant from the Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN), part of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, provided support for research and analysis of program and implementation outcomes for the intervention.

APF provided an evidence-based smartphone app for recovery support; CBT4CBT, a digital therapeutics platform that delivers cognitive behavioral therapy; online support groups, peer/social worker sessions and case coordination with the referring justice agency.

**Outcomes**

Participants reported improved protective factors, including participation in work (7.25%), spiritual activities (6.14%), increased confidence in recovery (2.67%), support group meeting attendance (1.52%), and increased time with supportive people (.2%). Risk factors were also reduced, with reductions in relationship troubles (24.08%), difficulty sleeping (20.21%), reduced depression and anxiety (17.97%), reduced urges and cravings (12.08%), and reduced risky situations (4.65%).

**Improved Protective Factors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Improved Participation in Work, School</th>
<th>7.25%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Increased Participation in Spiritual Activities</td>
<td>6.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Participation in Support Groups</td>
<td>1.52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increased Time with Supportive People</td>
<td>.2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Reduced Risk Factors**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reductions in Relationship Troubles</th>
<th>24.08%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reduction in Difficulty Sleeping</td>
<td>20.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reductions in Depression/Anxiety</td>
<td>17.97%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reductions in Urges/Cravings</td>
<td>12.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reductions in Risky Situations</td>
<td>4.65%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Stigma Initiative

Projects in APF's anti-stigma initiative include science translation, awareness campaigns, a stigma research portfolio, distribution of educational materials and toolkits, community trainings and deployment of a free, online addiction school. To date, we have taken anti-stigma projects to 3,946,652 individuals worldwide.

Science Translation
APF creates content that simplifies the science of addiction. Our leading translation series include ADDICTION: Dispelling the Myths, Language Matters, What is Addiction, and the ABCs of Addiction.

Awareness Campaigns
APF creates campaigns to address stigma and myths around addiction, as well as advance prevention and treatment. Our campaigns include #StopOverdose, Stop the Stigma, Naloxone Awareness and A Message from Gramma.

Stigma Research
APF’s stigma research initiatives measure manifestations of stigma in the community, including stereotypes, prejudice and discrimination, to raise awareness and establish metrics and goals for stigma reduction efforts.

Education Toolkits
Our toolkits help educate communities on key topics from overdose reversal, the science of addiction, to prescription drug disposal.

Community Trainings
Community trainings are available in-person and virtually and bring the science of addiction and other key topics to your doorstep or computer screen.

Addiction School
Our free, online school features courses on critical topics for patients, families, and practitioners.
Science Translation

APF translates scientific evidence about addiction into stories that patients and families struggling with addiction can understand.

Risks for Justice-Involved Individuals

There are many opportunities to respond to opioid addiction in the criminal justice system, with medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) being the gold standard for treatment.

ABCs of Addiction

In the “ABC's of Addiction” provides information on prevention, treatment of substance use disorders, as well as the risk and protective factors associated with addiction.

Addiction: Dispelling the Myths

The animated series aims to expand public understanding about addiction and replace the myths and misinformation that keep substance use disorders (SUDs) from being treated like any other medical condition.

What is Addiction?

The What is Addiction campaign and video explainer boils down the brain science of addiction. The project aims to tackle the stigma around addiction by explaining in easy to understand terms about how substance use disorder is a health condition that affects two primary parts of the brain.
Awareness Campaigns

APF is dedicated to building public visibility and awareness around prevention, early intervention and treatment of substance use disorders, as well as increased support for patients and families impacted.

Stop Overdose

The Stop Overdose campaign gives families and friends a national platform to share their stories of loved ones lost while also increasing public awareness of the opioid epidemic.

Stop the Stigma

The Stop the Stigma campaign addresses the stigma and discrimination that people with substance use disorders face and solutions to deconstruct stigma.

A Message from Gramma

The public service announcement 'A Message from Gramma' provides important information to individuals with a substance use disorder about their risk of COVID-19 complications.

Naloxone Facts

Naloxone Facts was developed in partnership with the University of Waterloo School of Pharmacy to help explain overdose reversal and how naloxone saves lives.
Stop Overdose Campaign

The number of drug overdose deaths has quintupled since 1999. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there were 107,622 overdose deaths in 2021, the highest annual death toll on record from drug overdose fatalities, and a 15 percent increase from the year prior. Fentanyl was involved in the majority of overdose fatalities.

#StopOverdose is an awareness campaign to honor the individuals who die each day from a substance use disorder: parents, siblings, children, cousins, aunts, uncles and friends.

We can change this national epidemic. Find resources and ways to get involved at stop-overdose.org.

We remember.
317,000 reached through prevention and education projects
Prevention Projects

Helping Children Impacted by Parental Substance Use Disorder
The toolkit is designed for adults who come into contact with children impacted by a parent’s addiction and provides information about how to help.

Opioid Prevention Campaign
The Opioid Prevention Campaign is a public health media campaign to help prevent adolescent substance use.

La Campaña de Prevención de Opioides
The Spanish language campaign helps prevent adolescent substance use for LatinX communities.

Vaping: Know the Facts
A free, open-source toolkit that explains the harms associated with adolescent vaping and empowers audiences with the tools to take action.

What is Prevention?
The campaign explains the nuts and bolts of evidence-based prevention and seeks to empower everyone to play a role—at home, at school, and throughout our communities.
La Campaña de Prevención de Opioides

Given recent increases in overdose deaths among LatinX communities and the dire need for evidence-based, culturally appropriate prevention resources, Addiction Policy Forum created the Opioid Prevention Campaign for LatinX communities. Prevention content is provided in both English and Spanish, and features primary prevention, early intervention, and educational resources, ensuring that the important lessons taught in the Opioid Prevention Campaign are accessible to Spanish-speaking communities.

With this resource, LatinX communities can leverage the science of substance use disorders and integrate prevention efforts into communications with younger members of their community. Campaign resources include video explainers, activity and discussion templates, fact sheets, infographics and social media resources for parents and educators that translates what science says about preventing youth opioid misuse.

This campaign was made possible through funding from the AmerisourceBergen Foundation.

"La Campaña de Prevención de Opioides es una campaña de salud pública en los medios de comunicación para ayudar a prevenir el uso de sustancias en los adolescentes."
Helping Children Impacted by Parental Substance Use Disorder

A Resource for Adults Helping Children Affected by Parental Substance Use Disorder

In the U.S., over 8 million children have at least one parent with a SUD. Children who have a parent with a SUD are more likely to see and hear more fighting, witness more crime, suffer more from poverty, and lose more stable relationships with caring adults. The resulting trauma can last a lifetime, harming physical health, academic performance, employment status, and relationship formation. It also puts children at an increased risk for developing mental health and substance use disorders.

There are many effective ways for adults to respond to children impacted by parental addiction and begin the process of helping them on a better path. There are also innovative programs and services available to help. Healing from trauma takes time, but the support of a caring adult can make an important difference.

Developed in coordination with Warren County, Ohio, Helping Children Impacted by Parental Substance Use Disorder is designed for adults who come into contact with children impacted by a parent’s addiction and provides information about how to help. It is meant for anyone—teachers, coaches, pastors, relatives, friends, neighbors.

The toolkit offers resources for understanding adverse childhood events, what to look for if you suspect a child might have a parent with a substance use disorder, what you can do to help, and more.

THE 7 CS

- I Didn't Cause It
- I Can't Control It
- I Can't Cure It
  But I Can Help Take Care of Myself by Communicating My Feelings
  Making Healthy Choices and Celebrating Me
33,115 practitioners have received resources on evidence-based practices
Advancing Evidence-Based Practice

APF tackles the barriers to adoption of scientifically proven evidence around the prevention and treatment substance use disorders through targeted initiatives.

Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network

The Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN) initiative is led by the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) and funded through the NIH HEAL (Helping to End Addiction Long-term) Initiative. JCOIN is designed to advance scientific knowledge on effective policies, practices, and interventions to improve care for individuals that are justice-involved with opioid use disorder (OUD) and expand the use of these approaches into daily practice within health and justice settings.

The Addiction Policy Forum is part of JCOIN’s Coordination and Translation Center and responsible for engagement with practitioners and other key stakeholders in the justice and behavioral health fields, the dissemination of products and key research findings and translates promising interventions and approaches to improve the capacity of the justice system.

Innovation Now

Innovation Now recognizes innovators and leaders creating solutions and driving change across different sectors addressing addiction—prevention, treatment, recovery, child welfare, criminal justice, law enforcement and medicine.

Emergency Medicine Initiative

Providing resources, training and technical assistance on substance use disorders to 196 Emergency Departments in partnership with Yale School of Medicine and the American College of Emergency Physicians.
Engaging Key Practitioners

APF develops customized content for practitioners and key stakeholders.

Prosecutors

In partnership with the National District Attorneys Association, developed the following projects:

- Understanding Overdose Risk and Medication Efficacy e-Course
- District Attorneys Addressing Addiction

Judicial Leaders

In partnership with the National Center for State Courts, developed the following projects:

- MAT Course for Judicial Leaders e-Course
- Addressing the Stigma Around Substance Use Disorder

Corrections

In partnership with the Correctional Leaders Association, developed the following projects:

- MAT Course for Corrections Leaders
- Understanding Stigma

State Governments

In partnership with the National Center for State Courts, developed the following projects:

- MAT Course for Judicial Leaders e-Course
- Addressing the Stigma Around Substance Use Disorder

Physicians

In partnership with Yale School of Medicine, training and technical assistance on SUD provided to 196 Emergency Departments. In partnership with CME Outfitters, APF also assisted with free continuing medical education course on opioid use disorder for physicians.

Child and Family Services

In partnership with the National Association for Children of Addiction, developed the following projects:

- Medications for Addiction Treatment
- Addressing the Stigma Around Substance Use Disorder
Conferences, Trainings and Events

APF organizes conferences, community trainings, webinars and other events to engage practitioners, policymakers, families and patients.

Addiction and COVID-19: A Conversation with Dr. Anthony Fauci and Dr. Nora Volkow

On Tuesday, March 23, 2021, the Addiction Policy Forum hosted a webinar with Dr. Anthony Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), and Dr. Nora Volkow, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), about the intersection of the disease of addiction and the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Definition of Insanity: Virtual Film Screening and Panel Discussion

On Thursday, May 20, 2021 held a special exploration of the PBS documentary The Definition of Insanity, which explored Miami-Dade’s humane and effective approach to individuals with mental health and substance use disorder. Speakers included Judge Steven Leifman, Dr. Norm Ornstein, filmmaker Rob Reiner and Dr. Stephanie Le Melle.

JCOIN Speaker Series: Reentry Research

The risk of overdose death significantly increases during the first two weeks during entry into the community. In this webinar, presenters will discuss the latest research, science and innovation around mitigating risk during reentry for people with opioid use disorders. Topics covered will include medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), behavioral interventions, and establishing linkages to community-based support services.

The Role of Syringe Service Programs in Ending HIV and HCV

The escalating opioid epidemic has increased injection drug use, which has contributed to the spread of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis C virus (HCV), and other infectious diseases. Decades of research demonstrates SSPs are a key component to combat the opioid epidemic, prevent the spread of infectious diseases, save costs, and control outbreaks in vulnerable communities.
The National Leadership Conference, held on November 4 - 5, 2021, gathered Addiction Policy Forum’s network of patients, families and grassroots leaders from across the country together for two days to build attendees’ leadership skills and knowledge around the latest science, innovations and strategies to address addiction. In addition to raising awareness through panels and presentations, the conference served as an opportunity for Addiction Policy Forum to recognize individuals who are fundamentally transforming the ways we address substance use disorder in our communities and across the nation.

**Featured Speakers**

**GENERAL BARRY MCCAFFREY**  
Retired, Four Star General, United States Army

**DR. NORA VOLKOW**  
Director, National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

**DR. GEORGE KOOB**  
Director, National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

**SEAN FEARNES**  
Chief, Community Outreach Section, Office of Congressional & Public Affairs, Drug Enforcement Administration

**ALISHA NELSON**  
Director, RecoveryOhio

**DR. VALERIE EARNSHAW**  
Associate Professor, University of Delaware
Addiction Policy Forum recognizes the following awardees with the 2021 Pillar of Excellence Awards.

**Research**

**DR. NABILA EL-BASSEL**
Columbia University
Dr. Nabila El-Bassel is a Professor at the Columbia University School of Social Work. She has designed and tested a number of multi-level HIV and drug use intervention and prevention models for women, men, and couples in settings including drug treatment and harm reduction programs, primary care, and criminal justice settings.

**Justice**

**CHIEF JUSTICE LORETTA RUSH**
Indiana Supreme Court
Chief Justice Loretta H. Rush serves on Indiana's Supreme after being appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels in 2012. She was appointed by Chief Justice John Roberts to serve as a member of the Judicial Conference Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction and is a National Judicial Task Force to Examine State Courts’ Response to Mental Illness Executive Committee member.

**Treatment**

**DR. JAMES BERRY**
West Virginia University School of Medicine
Dr. James H. Berry is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Behavioral Medicine and Psychiatry at West Virginia University School of Medicine and the Director of Addictions. Dr. Berry has been a dedicated clinician and enthusiastic educator in West Virginia since the early days of the opioid epidemic, developing innovative community-based treatment models in response to the addiction crisis in Appalachia.

**Public Health**

**DR. LEANA WEN**
George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health
Dr. Leana Wen is an emergency physician and visiting professor of health policy and management at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health. Previously, she served as health commissioner for the city of Baltimore, where she led the nation's oldest continuously operating health department to combat the opioid epidemic and improve maternal and child health.

**Recovery**

**CATRA CORBETT**
Ultra Runner, Author
Catra Corbett strength in sharing her recovery story is inspiring many others to find alternative ways to combat a substance use disorder, showing how running can lead to positive personal growth and help those struggling with their mental health or a substance use disorder.

**Children & Families**

**SIS WENGER**
National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA)
Sis Wenger has been the President and CEO of the National Association for Children of Alcoholics (NACoA) for most of the last 25 years. Her groundbreaking work and advocacy for children impacted by addiction has had a profound impact nationwide.
Research Initiatives
Research Initiatives

APF conducts original research on emerging issues, often bringing together experts from multiple disciplines to collaborate on complex challenges that affect our community.

Emerging Challenges

APF has conducted research on the effects of COVID-19 on individuals with SUDs, and other topics related to the pandemic.

Research publications to date include:

- COVID-19 Pandemic Impact on Patients, Families & Individuals in Recovery from a SUD
- Trust in Healthcare and COVID-19 Readiness

Stigma Research

Measuring levels of stigma in communities and the effects of new interventions are key priorities for APF. Stigma-focused research publications to date include:

- Stigma Survey Report: Findings on Attitudes, Levels of Stigma and Support of Key Policies Around Addiction
Addiction Policy Forum conducted a stigma survey in partnership with North Dakota Office of the Governor’s Recovery Reinvented Initiative and the University of Delaware.

The study found that stigma across the state has improved over the last three years, with 74% of North Dakota residents reporting that addiction is a health condition.

Study findings also indicated that public health responses to addiction are preferred over criminal justice penalties, stereotypes and discrimination are low throughout the state while higher levels of prejudice towards individuals with substance use disorders remain, and lived experience and professional expertise are key factors in lower levels of stigma.

Individuals with an SUD are subject to very harsh moral judgments and frequent discrimination. In fact, research shows that individuals with SUDs are viewed in a more critical way than those with severe mental illness. The three major domains of stigma include 1) stereotypes, the inaccurate beliefs or thoughts about a particular group of people; 2) prejudice, negative feelings or emotions towards a particular group; and 3) discrimination intent that includes negative or unjust treatment of a particular group. Discrimination towards individuals with an SUD or in recovery can be found in healthcare services and quality, employment opportunities, decisions around child custody, and housing.
Support Our Work
Your tax-deductible donation to the Addiction Policy Forum helps patients and families in crisis, end the stigma around addiction and improve our response to the addiction crisis nationwide.

Single Gift
Make a single gift today to support APF’s mission of ending addiction as a major health problem.

Recurring Gift
By giving online monthly, you help APF better save time and resources by providing stable and ongoing support to change the lives of the families and communities we serve.

Corporate Matching
Does your company provide corporate matching? Find out, and you could double the impact of your investment with a company match given to APF.

Planned Giving
Create an enduring impact by including Addiction Policy Forum in your estate plans. Making a planned gift is a meaningful way to contribute to APF’s future while providing financial and tax benefits for you and your family.

WANT TO TALK WITH A MEMBER OF OUR TEAM ABOUT INVESTING IN APF? Contact info@addictionpolicy.org with your request.

Make an Online Donation
Visit addictionpolicy.org or scan the QR code below to make a donation today!