

2026 NYSAM ANNUAL CONFERENCE

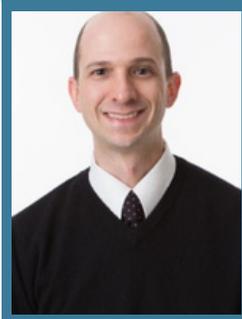
March 6-7, 2026
New York Marriott
Downtown



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Welcome to NYSAM 2026

Aaron D. Fox, MD, MS



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the New York Society of Addiction Medicine (NYSAM), I am thrilled to welcome you to our 2026 Intersection of Science, Treatment, and Policy Conference: Together for Change: Advancing Addiction Care through Science and Policy. This marks our first in-person conference since 2020, after five years of virtual meetings, and we are excited to reconvene in the heart of New York City at the New York Marriott Downtown.

As always, the agenda blends critical policy discussions with cutting-edge clinical updates to equip you with the tools to improve care for patients with substance use disorders. Friday emphasizes expanding access to lower-threshold SUD care in New York State, including key presentations from OASAS and DOH leaders, policy translation into practice (such as the 72-hour rule for methadone access), community responses to overdose crises, recovery-oriented communication and modern substance use terminology, psychiatric management for addiction providers, and oral presentations on clinical research.

Saturday shifts to high-impact clinical updates, including innovations in low-barrier addiction care, high-impact publications in addiction medicine, policy hot topics like involuntary commitment for SUD treatment, implementing chronic pain non-pharmacologic care in OTPs, developing interdisciplinary addiction training programs in NYS, improving OUD transitions from hospital to community, harm reduction frameworks for people who use drugs, rapid oral health assessment for addiction providers, oral abstract presentations on clinical care and education, and a multidisciplinary panel navigating challenging cases in addiction care.

We are proud to offer a robust program featuring expert presenters, interactive workshops, poster sessions, and ample opportunities for networking and idea exchange. This conference is designed to enhance your skills and confidence in treating diverse populations affected by addiction, while highlighting recent developments in New York State and nationally.

We hope you find this gathering as energizing and valuable as we do. If the conference inspires you, we invite you to deepen your involvement—join NYSAM, participate in our committees, or serve on the Board. Please also join us for a conference mixer happening Friday evening and Saturday's poster session for even more connection to make the most of this long-awaited in-person experience.

Thank you for being here and for your continued dedication to advancing addiction medicine.

Sincerely,
Aaron D. Fox, MD, MS
NYSAM President

2026 Conference Planning Committee



NYSAM Education Committee Chair

Tiffany Lu, MD MS FASAM

Associate Director of Addiction Services, NYC Health + Hospitals | Jacobi

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Clinical Lead for Primary Care Substance Use Integration, NYC Health + Hospitals | Woodhull

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Director of Harm Reduction Health Services, Harlem United

Neha Pawar, MD

Assistant Professor, Department of Anesthesia and Perioperative Medicine, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Rochester Medical Center

Conference Planning Committee

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Addiction Medicine Physician and Harm Reduction Consultant, Kelly S. Ramsey Consulting LLC

Simran Buttar, MD

Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine, Stony Brook University Hospital

Theresa Baxter, RN, FNP-C

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Marco Barber Grossi, MD

Attending Physician for Primary Care and Addiction Services, NYC Health + Hospitals | Jacobi

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Silver Sponsor



Silver Sponsor

Conference Exhibitor Directory

abbvie

AbbVie

AbbVie's mission is to discover and deliver innovative medicines and solutions that address complex health issues and enhance people's lives. Our commitment is measured by the impact we make – to patients, to our communities, and to the world. Our approximately 57,000 employees strive to make a remarkable impact that lasts, driven by our compassion for people, commitment to innovation and inclusion, service to the community and uncompromising integrity. Today our products help more than 60 million people living in more than 175 countries, and we are making significant advancements with a robust pipeline of potential new medicines as we look to find the treatments of tomorrow.

Alkermes

Alkermes

Alkermes is a global biopharmaceutical company that seeks to develop innovative medicines in the field of neuroscience. We have a portfolio of proprietary commercial products for the treatment of alcohol dependence, opioid dependence, schizophrenia and bipolar I disorder, and a pipeline of candidates in development for neurological disorders.

 **braeburn**

Braeburn

Braeburn is dedicated to transforming the management of opioid use disorder (OUD) to help people begin and sustain their recovery.

At Braeburn, we challenge the status quo and champion transformation of the management of OUD. We partner with the community to create a world where every person with OUD gets the best possible care and opportunity to reach their full potential.

NYSAM-ASAM.ORG

Conference Exhibitor Directory (continued)



Glowhopper

Glowhopper is a digital consultancy centered on delivering solutions that improve people's lives. We are building the first digital naloxone navigator for the State of Connecticut, and we want bring this resource to New York.



Indivior

Indivior is a global pharmaceutical company working to help change patients' lives by developing medicines to treat substance use disorders (SUD). Our vision is that all patients around the world will have access to evidence-based treatment for the chronic conditions and co-occurring disorders of SUD. Indivior is dedicated to transforming SUD from a global human crisis to a recognized and treated chronic disease.



MATTERS

MATTERS is an innovative, nimble, multi-state, rapid access linkage service for patients with opioid use disorder, connecting them seamlessly to resources and outpatient treatment organizations.



Montefiore; MiBUP Study

This is a study designed to see how safe and effective it is to transition from opioids, like heroin and fentanyl, to buprenorphine using microdosing versus standard methods of starting buprenorphine. This study is specifically for treating opioid use disorder in an outpatient setting.



Mount Sinai Health System Clinical Education Initiative

The Clinical Education Initiative (CEI) is a New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute program that offers free continuing medical education to enhance clinical capacity and improve patient outcomes. Our department leads CEI's Hepatitis C and Drug User Health Center of Excellence, providing tailored trainings, technical assistance, a toll-free clinical consultation line, and additional resources.



NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports

NYS OASAS oversees one of the nation's largest addiction services systems with approximately 1,600 prevention, treatment and recovery programs



Ophelia

Ophelia is a virtual provider group that treats Opioid Use Disorder and co-occurring conditions via medication, counseling and care navigation. We serve patients from all lines of business, with 64% of our patients on Medicaid. Ophelia currently operates in 16 States and is expanding!



Opioid Response Network

Opioid Response Network

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration-funded Opioid Response Network (ORN) provides urgently needed educational resources, training and consultation. We are helping to address local needs at no cost amidst the current overdose crisis. ORN provides training and education focused on opioid and stimulant use disorders. Our work is community driven and delivered by local, experienced ORN Consultants embedded in and working with individuals and organizations in every state and territory. We are enhancing the workforce and building sustainability with the support of our coalition of national professional organizations representing 2 million constituents across public health and public safety.



Partnership to End Addiction

Partnership to End Addiction is a national nonprofit that improves outcomes for adolescents and young adults by empowering the adults who support them. With decades of expertise in research and collaboration, we provide families, professionals, and communities with trusted knowledge to prevent and address substance use among teens and young adults. We offer free, confidential digital coaching for parents and caregivers, deliver evidence-based trainings, consulting, and technical assistance for professionals, and convene a nationwide network of nonprofits. We address addiction at every level – from helping individual families to paving the way for system-wide change. Our evidence-based approach emphasizes building resilience, early intervention, treatment, and family engagement. Learn more at experts.drugfree.org.



Phoenix House NY

Phoenix House was founded in 1967 and became a model for over 58 years, Phoenix House has helped thousands of people overcome addiction in order to lead healthy, productive, and rewarding lives. Phoenix House was born and become a model for a citywide treatment network. PHNY is passionate about healing individuals, families, and communities challenged by substance use disorders and related mental health conditions.

Conference Program



Friday, March 6, 2026

12:00 PM – 12:30 PM

Welcome from NYSAM - Aaron Fox, MD, MS
Opening Address - Chinazo Cunningham, MD, MS

12:30 PM – 1:45 PM

Plenary - Expanding Equitable Access to Substance Use Disorder Treatment in New York State

Presenters: Pamela Mund, MD; Ashly Jordan, PhD; Sharon Stancliff, MD
Facilitator: Tiffany Lu, MD, MS

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Policy Translation into Clinical Practice - 72 Hour Rule for Methadone Access

Christine Khakin, JD; Jordana Laks, MD
Facilitator: Marco Barber Grossi, MD

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM

Break and Networking

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

Concurrent Sessions (3)

Workshop A – It takes a village: Integrated community responses to the overdose and addiction crises - [Salon A](#)

Presenters: Joshua Lynch, DO, FACEP; Kimberly Boulden, PhD

Workshop B – Decode, Translate, Empower: A Skills Workshop on Recovery-Oriented Communication and Modern Substance Use Terminology - [Salon B](#)

Presenters: Tejal Desai, DO; Samantha Getsin, MD; Chethana Gallage Dona, MS, OMS-IV; Nicole McCarthy, Associates in Addiction science CACAC-T, CRPA

Workshop C – Psychiatric Management for Addiction Medicine Providers: A Practical, Case-Based Workshop - [Salon C](#)

Presenters: Daniel Suter, MD; Brendan Ross, MD; James Young, MD

4:15 PM – 4:30 PM

Break and Networking

4:30 PM – 5:00 PM

Awards Presentation

President's Award: Posthumously awarded to Dr. Ernest Drucker
Clinical Innovation Award: Dr. Benjamin Eckhardt
Advocacy Award: Christine Khaikin
Lifetime Achievement Award: Dr. Gregory Bunt

Conference Program



Friday, March 6, 2026

5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Oral Abstract Presentations – (4)

“How are we going to be able to pull that off?”: Staff perspectives on the Early Implementation of Mobile Medication Units in New York State

Presenter: Megan Miller, MPH

Short Rotation, Promising Gains: A Feasible Approach to Resident Addiction Education

Presenters: Samantha Getsin, MD; Tejal Desai, DO; Un Jung Lee, PhD; Loraine Harvey, MD; Elina Drits, DO

Women’s suicide across the life span: Changing life circumstances and roles of substances

Presenter: Jaewon Lee, MD, MPH

Exploring Psychiatrists’ Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices in Treating Opioid Use Disorder: A Pilot Study with an Online Educational Module

Presenter: Evguenia Makovkina, MD

Facilitator: Zina Huxley-Reicher, MD

6:30 PM

Conference Mixer

*Join us at Sixpoint Brewery after day one to mix and mingle!
200 Liberty Street, Ste. 106-A, New York, NY 10281*

Conference Program



Saturday, March 7, 2026

- 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM** **Breakfast and Networking**
- 8:00 AM – 9:00 AM** **Updates in Addiction Medicine - High Impact Publications**
Presenters: Joshua Lee, MD MSc; Diana Lee, MD
Facilitator: Tiffany Lu, MD, MS
- 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM** **Plenary Session: Innovations in Low-Barrier Addiction Care**
Presenters: Adam Bisaga, MD; Andrea Littleton, MD; Erica A. Lyons, DNP, CARN-AP; Zina Huxley-Reicher, MD
Facilitators: Judith Cole, AGPCNP-BC, WHNP-BC; Betty Lee, MSN, AGNP-BC
- 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM** **Breaking Update - Addiction Medicine Advocacy Conference and the Medical Student Experience**
Facilitator: Jeffrey Selzer, MD
- 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM** **Policy Hot Topic - Involuntary Commitment for Substance Use Disorder Treatment**
Presenter: Regina Labelle, JD
Facilitator: Marco Barber Grossi, MD
- 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM** **Lunch, Networking, and Poster Session**
- 11:30 AM – 12:45 PM** **Poster Presentations**
Facilitator: Mashal Khan, MD (Facilitated Poster Walk)
- 12:45 PM – 1:45 PM** **Concurrent Sessions (2)**
- Implementing non-pharmacologic chronic pain management in opioid treatment programs - *Salon A***
Presenters: Joanna Starrels, MD, MS; Steffany Moonaz; Dolores Natividad; Yash Bhambani, PhD; Laurie Gallo, PhD; Beth Hribar, MPP
Facilitator: Neha Pawar, MD
- Developing Interdisciplinary Addiction Training Programs: The New York State Experience - *Salon B***
Presenters: Natalie Buslach, MD; Tiffany Lu, MD, MS; Kiara Lora; Tolani Ajagbe, MD; Talia Rosen; Joshua D. Lee, MD MSc; Pamela Mund, MD; Sophia Favelus, Esq.; Jennifer Carlson, LMSW; Frederick Michael Elliott, MD
Facilitator: Theresa Baxter, MSN, FNP

Conference Program



Saturday, March 7, 2026

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM

Concurrent Sessions (3)

Workshop C – Workshopping Strategies to Improve Opioid Use Disorder Care Transitions from Hospital to Community - *Salon A*

Presenter: Noa Krawczyk, PhD; Megan Miller, MPH; Zoe Adams, MD; Clarissa O'Connor, MD

Workshop D – Prioritizing Patient Trust over Provider Comfort: A Harm-Reduction Framework for Navigating Clinical Challenges When Working With People Who Use Drugs - *Salon B*

Presenters: Judith Cole, MSN, AGPCNP-BC, WHNP-BC; Betty Lee, MSN, AGNP-BC; Bryan Kutner, PhD, MPH

Workshop E – Rapid Oral Health Assessment 101 for the Addiction Care Provider - *Salon C*

Presenters: Vanessa Mareno, DDS, MPH; Tiffany Lu, MD, MS; Nadia Laniado, DDS, MPH, MS

2:45 PM – 3:15 PM

Break and Networking

3:15 PM – 4:15 PM

Oral Abstract Presentations – (4)

Rapid Urine Immunoassay Evaluation for Xylazine in Emergency Department (ED) Patients Presenting with Opioid-Related Toxicity

Presenter: Zenovia Gonzalez

Improving HIV-PrEP Prescription rate in Eligible Black Women with Substance Use Disorders

Presenters: Moronkeji Fagbemi, MD; Ivie Odiase, MD

Opioid withdrawal management in methadone dependent and intubated opioid use disorder (OUD) patients in intensive care unit (ICU) : A case series

Presenters: David Vazquez Fortozo, MD; Mathew George, MD; Yar Zar Min Han

Implementing Safer Use Drug Supplies on an Inpatient Family Medicine Team

Presenters: Juliann Wang, MD, MPH; Ruchi Shah, DO

Facilitator: Betty Lee, CARN-NP

Conference Program



Saturday, March 7, 2026

4:15 PM – 5:15 PM

Navigating Challenging Cases in Addiction Care – Multidisciplinary Panel

Presenters: Timothy Wiegand, MD; Yonina Mar, MBBS; Alex Sidelnik, MD

Facilitator: Simran Buttar, MD

5:15 PM – 5:30 PM

Closing Remarks

This activity is eligible for CE credits. Visit our website for details.

Ophelia

Online opioid addiction treatment that saves lives

Learn more at ophelia.com

Medicaid
accepted

Why Ophelia?

- ✓ **It's accessible**
Care is 100% remote.
- ✓ **It's evidence-based**
Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) is the gold standard for OUD.
- ✓ **It's continuous**
Each patient is supported by the same care team throughout their treatment.
- ✓ **It's equitable**
Ophelia reaches people that traditional systems miss: we are 63% Medicaid and 47% women patients.
- ✓ **It's proven**
We've published peer-reviewed journal studies and partnerships with Yale and UPenn.

Clinical outcomes

- 64%** Retention in treatment at 180 days (Medicaid national average: 25%)
- 3%** Positive for opioids at 180 days
- NPS 97** Patient experience score (3x healthcare average)

Cost outcomes

- 72%** Reduction in total cost of treatment while patients are in care with Ophelia (national average: 25%)

The opioid crisis is one of Medicaid's biggest challenges.

Ophelia provides virtual care for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) and co-occurring conditions through medication, care navigation, and social support.

About Our Presenters



Adam Bisaga, MD

Dr. Adam Bisaga is a Professor of Psychiatry at Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons, and a Research Scientist at New York State Psychiatric Institute. His NIH-funded research is focused on development and implementation of new medications and protocols to treat opioid and other substance use disorders. Dr. Bisaga authored more than 100 scientific publications and published a book “Overcoming Opioid Addiction” written for both professional and lay audiences. In his commitment to medical education Dr. Bisaga serves as co-director of the SAMHSA-supported “Providers’ Clinical Support System (PCSS)” a national initiative to train providers and implement effective treatments for opioid use disorders. His expertise is recognized globally, he is a member of UN Office of Drugs and Crime Expert Panel and a WHO consultant and actively collaborates with United Nations agencies to train healthcare providers and develop international treatment guidelines and programs. Additionally, Dr. Bisaga is a leader in the collaborative effort to integrate technology into addiction healthcare, serving as the Medical Director of Ophelia, a telehealth company focusing on innovative treatments of opioid use disorder. He has consulted for Eli Lilly.



Alex Sidelnik, MD

Dr. Sidelnik works as the Director of the Addiction Consultation Service at NYU Langone Manhattan Campus. He completed his Adult Psychiatry training at Massachusetts General Hospital/McLean Hospital and completed fellowships in Consultation-Liaison Psychiatry and Addiction Psychiatry at NYU School of Medicine. Dr. Sidelnik has particular interests integrating substance use disorder treatment into medical settings, management of opioid use disorder in the hospital setting, harm reduction, and caring for people who injection drugs. He has a strong interest in medical education as is part of faculty of the NYU CL Psychiatry, Addiction Medicine, and Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship Programs. He works regularly with residents and medical students and was receiving teaching awards for work in medical education. He strives to improve substance use disorder treatment at NYU Langone and helps in policy development, expanding access to evidence-based treatment, and collaborating with other services to improve the care of individuals with substance use disorders.

About Our Presenters



Andrea Littleton, MD

Andrea Littleton MD is a 2002 graduate from Montefiore's Family Medicine Residency in Social Medicine, Andrea has been practicing Homeless health care in the Bronx since graduating her residency. Andrea has been a street medicine doctor with Care for the Homeless and BronxWorks for the past 20 yrs. She has also been the medical director for BronxWorks for the last 12 yrs. An Asst Professor in Family Medicine at Einstein/Montefiore for the past 20 yrs, she has taught numerous residents and medical students. She is a core faculty in the NYC Homeless health care Fellowship, founded the Homeless Outreach for Medical Students (HOPE) and is core faculty in the Service Learning Curriculum at Einstein Medical School. She received the Leo Tow Humanism Award in 2012, has been a Keynote Speaker for the ECHO free clinic gala, and done several presentations at various events including the International Street Medicine Symposium in 2022 and 2025. She is a mom of three wonderful people and lives in upstate NY where she also provides Addiction and primary care at Sunriver Health in Beacon, NY.



Ashly Jordan, PhD, MPH

Dr. Ashly Jordan (PhD, MPH) is a socio-behavioral scientist and epidemiologist serving as Director of the inaugural Research and Program Evaluation Bureau at the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports. Since 2007, Dr. Jordan has worked in applied public health and in government and academic research related to substance use and substance use-related harms (e.g., HIV, HCV, overdose). Using collaborative and interdisciplinary approaches, her work has focused on identifying how structural and healthcare delivery factors can be modified to sustainably and equitably allow for all to attain and sustain health and well-being.

Beth Hribar, MPP

Beth Hribar, MPP (she/her) is a healthcare administrator with expertise in caring for individuals with mental health and substance use issues, HIV, and chronic pain. Beth has been a Project Director in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine since 2022, working on NIH funded research on integrated care for people with chronic pain and opioid use disorder. Prior to this role, she was the Executive Director of outpatient HIV and infectious diseases at The Brooklyn Hospital Center, and before that was the Administrative Director of Behavioral Health at Wyckoff Heights Medical Center. Beth is passionate about caring for marginalized and minoritized communities through integrated, trauma informed, community-based care. She has her Masters of Public Policy from the University of Michigan and her BA from the University of Wisconsin.

IMAGINE a better future for patients. WE DO.



Individuals depicted are models used for illustrative purposes only.

From 2015 to 2023, national drug overdose deaths that involved synthetic opioids other than methadone (primarily fentanyl) increased **7.6 fold**—from 9,580 to 72,776.¹

Across 38 jurisdictions in 2023, **81.4%** of drug overdose deaths involved at least one opioid. Illegally made fentanyls were the most commonly involved drug class and were found in **75.2%** of overdose deaths.²

Indivior is a global pharmaceutical company working to help change patients' lives by pioneering life-transforming treatment for opioid use disorder (OUD). Our vision is that the millions of people across the globe suffering from OUD have access to evidence-based treatment to change lives.

References:

1. National Institute on Drug Abuse. Drug Overdose Deaths: Facts and Figures. Published August 2024. Accessed September 15, 2025. <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates#Download>
2. CDC. State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System Dashboard: Fatal Overdose Data. Updated February 13, 2025. Accessed August 4, 2025. https://www.cdc.gov/overdose-prevention/data-research/facts-stats/sudors-dashboard-fatal-overdose-data.html?CDC_AAref_Val=



Visit our website

About Our Presenters



Betty Lee, MSN, AGNP-BC

Betty Lee (she/her) is a nurse practitioner specializing in primary care, HIV medicine and addiction medicine. She is the manager of addiction medicine and mobile health for a FQHC located in Harlem. She works in the clinic and leads a medical mobile unit, where she strives to provide low-threshold care to underserved locations in Harlem. Before her current role, she worked on a street outreach MAT team in the south Bronx, providing low-threshold buprenorphine induction and treatment, HCV treatment, and harm reduction education. She is passionate about harm reduction and strives to bring those principles to all care settings.



Brendan Ross, MD

Brendan Ross, MD, is a third-year psychiatry resident at Mount Sinai Hospital. Originally from St. Louis, he holds a B.A. from Yale and received his medical degree from McGill. With a background in global health and medical humanities, his past experience includes a Fulbright Fellowship in Taiwan on public health, Pulitzer-funded medical journalism, and projects on topics in the history of medicine. He is interested in addictions psychiatry, palliative care, and consultation-liaison psychiatry.



Bryan Kutner, Ph.D, MPH

Dr. Bryan Kutner (he/him) is a clinical psychologist and behavioral health scientist. His research aims to improve HIV service quality and health outcomes across populations by reducing stigma and other barriers to equitable health services. A central focus of his research is the effort to accelerate the synthesis of evidence for policy and practice. In addition to research, Bryan specializes in motivational interviewing, which he often incorporates into research studies. Bryan has developed and supervised training programs in motivational interviewing for HIV and harm reduction service providers and led technical assistance initiatives to enhance workforce capacity.

About Our Presenters



Chinazo Cunningham, MD, MS

Dr. Chinazo Cunningham is Commissioner of the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports, where she oversees one of the nation's largest systems of substance use and addiction services. She is a physician, trained in internal medicine and addiction medicine, and has spent over 25 years providing care, developing programs, and conducting research with people who use drugs. For decades, she has collaborated with community-based harm reduction organizations and led one of the first programs in the US to integrate addiction treatment into primary care. Her work has focused on improving access to care, utilization of health care services, and health outcomes. Dr. Cunningham has authored over 150 peer-reviewed manuscripts and has been the principal investigator on numerous federally-funded grants. In addition to serving on and chairing several national advisory committees and guideline committees, she has trained hundreds of physicians and has been recognized by local and national awards.



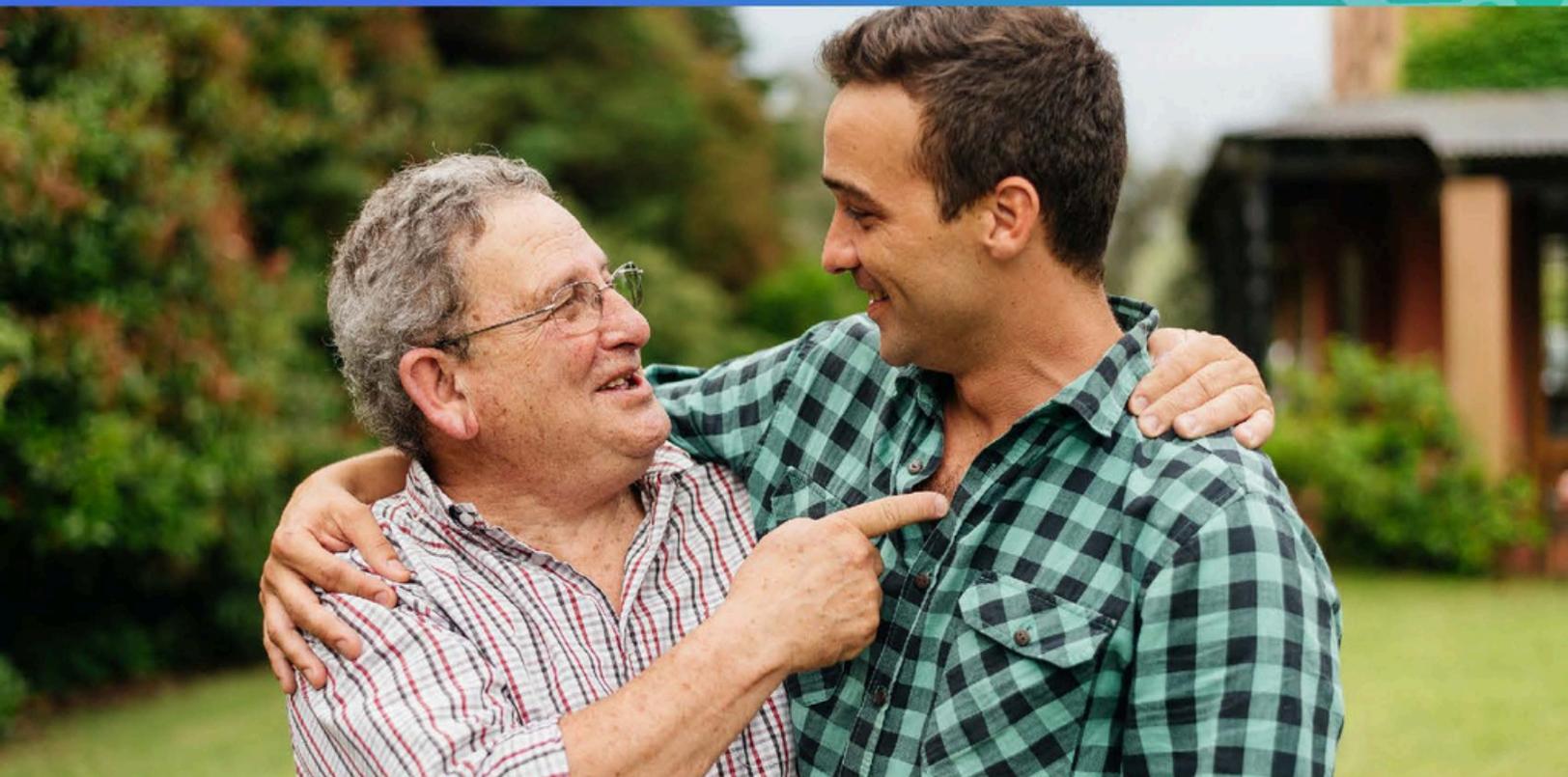
Christine Khaikin, JD (she/her/hers)

Christine leads LAC's New York State-based policy advocacy to expand access to treatment and harm reduction strategies for people who use drugs, people in addiction treatment and recovery, and people living with HIV with a focus on access to Medications for Addiction Treatment (MAT), public and private insurance coverage, and harm reduction services. She has successfully advocated for the removal of prior authorization of MAT in New York, the creation of New York State's Opioid Settlement Fund, and NYS's mandate to provide MAT in all jails and prisons. In addition to drafting legislation and regulatory comments, she provides policy and legal technical assistance and trainings in NY and nationally. Christine has been featured in several state and national publications, including the Albany Times Union, Crain's New York, New York Focus, and ProPublica. Christine previously participated in LAC's substance use disorder and HIV confidentiality education and training activities.

Prior to joining LAC, Christine was an attorney and policy analyst at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and previously focused on reproductive health policy while working at the Merger Watch Project of Community Catalyst and the Ms. Foundation for Women. She received her JD from Brooklyn Law School and is a graduate of Emerson College.

Empowering recovery in our communities

Braeburn is committed to empowering people on their journey to recovery from opioid use disorder. Through community partnerships and a patient-centric approach, we aspire to create a world where people receive the best possible care.



Visit www.braeburnrx.com to learn more.



braeburn

About Our Presenters



Chethana Gallage Dona, MS, OMS-IV

Chethana Gallage Dona was born and raised in Sri Lanka and has also lived in South Korea and India. She earned her associate's degree in Biology from LaGuardia Community College, her bachelor's degree in Biology from Hunter College, and her master's degree from Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, where she is now a fourth-year medical student. Chethana has served on the National Board of Trustees for the Student Osteopathic Medical Association and currently serves as Senior Director, representing and supporting medical and premedical students across the country. She has been deeply involved in community outreach, public health initiatives, and advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill, where she works to promote medical education and improve access to health care. She is an aspiring family physician committed to providing compassionate, patient-centered care and advancing the osteopathic medical profession.



Clarissa O'Connor, MD

Clarissa O'Connor, MD is the Assistant Medical Director of Addiction Services at Jacobi Medical Center, focused on the continuity of care for patients who have substance use disorders who present to the emergency department or who are admitted to the hospital, including birthing families affected by substance use. She received her medical degree from Drexel University College of Medicine and completed her family medicine training at West Suburban Medical Center in Chicago, IL. She graduated from addiction medicine fellowship at Montefiore/Einstein in July 2025.



Daniel Suter, MD

Dr. Daniel Suter is a board-certified psychiatrist with subspecialty training in addiction psychiatry. He completed both his psychiatry residency and addiction psychiatry fellowship at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Following fellowship, he worked for several years on the inpatient detoxification and rehabilitation unit at Mount Sinai West. Since then he has been working as an integrated and collaborative care psychiatrist with the IMA general medicine clinic and the REACH Program, a harm-reduction primary care clinic for people who use alcohol and drugs. In addition, he is the founder of Collaborative Psychiatry, an educational initiative that provides practical, evidence-based mental health education for primary care providers.

About Our Presenters



David Vazquez Fortozo, MD

David Vazquez Fortozo is a third-year internal medicine resident pursuing fellowship training in hospice and palliative care. Prior to residency, he practiced as a physician in his home country during the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, gaining frontline experience in the care of critically ill patients. He has also worked in urgent care settings, managing a broad range of acute medical conditions. His scholarly work includes publications in CHEST and the Journal of Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities, reflecting his interests in pulmonary medicine, health equity, and patient-centered care.



Diana Lee, MD

Diana S Lee, MD, AAHIVS is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Medicine and Division of General Internal Medicine at the NYU Grossman School of Medicine. She is a primary care and addiction medicine provider at the Family Health Centers at NYU Langone FQHC network in Sunset Park, Brooklyn. She also has a clinical focus on HIV and PrEP/PEP care. She is the Associate Medical Director of the Addiction Medicine Program at the Family Health Centers, Associate Program Director of the NYU Addiction Medicine Fellowship and lead faculty member for the NYU Multidisciplinary Addiction Training Program.



Dolores Natividad

Dolores Natividad is an ACSM Exercise Physiologist, C-IAYT, and co-published researcher specializing in pain management and stress reduction. She currently serves as a Yoga Therapist, Interventionist, and Researcher at The IMPOWR-ME Research Center at Montefiore/Einstein. Her work involves comparing Yoga for comorbid cLBP and OUD within an integrated medical management and opioid treatment center. Dolores also volunteers as a PI/CPC, advocating for public information and professional cooperation to increase addiction literacy and reduce stigma. In her private practice, she offers Yoga Therapy, Functional Strength, the MELT Method, and Gyrotonics both in person and online.



Erica A. Lyons, DNP, CARN-AP

Erica A. Lyons, DNP, MS, APRN, FNP-BC, CARN-AP, is a board-certified family nurse practitioner and addiction nursing specialist dedicated to advancing equitable, evidence-based care. She serves as a Clinical Manager and the Director of Education at Ophelia, a telehealth company treating opioid use disorder, where she combines active clinical work with strategic leadership in clinical program development and education. She has extensive experience in primary care and addiction medicine, with expertise in telehealth, Hepatitis C treatment, and quality improvement. She also continues to practice per diem at Generations Family Health Center, an FQHC in Connecticut, and holds clinical associate and instructor appointments at the University of Pennsylvania and Yale School of Nursing. Her scholarship focuses on workforce development and clinical innovation in addiction care.

About Our Presenters



Evguenia Makovkina, MD

I completed residency training in adult psychiatry and fellowship training in addiction psychiatry at New York Presbyterian Hospital - Weill Cornell Medical Center. Currently, I am an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Weill Cornell, where I have a clinical role on the addiction medicine consult service and house staff mental health team, and co-direct the Support, Advocacy, and Family Education (SAFE) Program within the Weill Cornell Medicine Program for Substance Use and Stigma of Addiction. My clinical and research interests center on developing and implementing integrated care models that reduce healthcare fragmentation and stigma for individuals with substance use disorders, with a particular focus on those with co-occurring psychiatric conditions during emerging adulthood and the perinatal period.



Frederick Michael Elliott, MD

I am a physician board certified in family medicine and addiction medicine and Clinical Associate Professor within the faculty of the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at the University of Buffalo.

I am a principal investigator for two ongoing five-year grant funded projects sponsored by the Health Resources and Resources Administration (HRSA) that focus on increasing training for behavioral health and the care of the unhoused within our family medicine residency program.

I have special interests in medical student and resident education in the treatment of substance use disorders within primary care settings.



Ivie Odiase, MD

Dr. Ivie Odiase is a second-year OB/GYN resident at Mount Sinai West with interests in women's health, clinical education, and evidence-based practice.

Her work focuses on improving patient care through research, quality improvement, and provider education, with particular attention to reproductive and sexual health.

Ivie has presented her work in academic and clinical settings and is committed to advancing accessible, patient-centered care.

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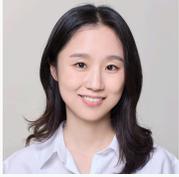


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About Our Presenters



Jaewon Lee, MD, MPH

Jaewon Lee, MD, MPH is a PGY-4 psychiatry resident at the University of Rochester Medical Center, with clinical interests in general adult psychiatry, early psychosis, and psychodynamic psychotherapy. She completed an MPH in the Applied Biostatistics and Epidemiology track at Yale University. Her scholarly interests lie at the intersection of substance misuse, psychopathology, and suicide prevention across the life course, using population-based datasets, including CDC NVDRS data. She is a recipient of the NYSAM Trainee Research Grant and the AAAP Top #2 Trainee Poster Award. Clinically, she finds the greatest fulfillment in longitudinal patient care and teaching and is actively exploring career paths that allow sustained clinical engagement alongside thoughtful, clinically grounded scholarship.



James Young, MD

Dr. James Young, MD, is a fourth-year psychiatry resident at Mount Sinai Hospital. Born and raised in Shreveport, Louisiana, he completed his undergraduate studies at Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design and his medical degree from Mount Sinai Hospital. He has a background in medical anthropology and sexual health, with focus on LGBTQIA+ communities. He will be going to NYU this year for fellowship training in Addiction Psychiatry.



Jennifer M. Carlson, LMSW

Jennifer M. Carlson, LMSW, is the Assistant Director for the OASAS-funded Interprofessional Education and Collaboration (IPEC) project within the University at Buffalo's Addiction Medicine Fellowship. Over the past two and a half years, she has been instrumental in the project's conceptualization, design, and implementation, and has led efforts to expand its interprofessional reach by recruiting participants across a wide range of health and social service disciplines.

A practicing mental health clinician and the Director of Clinical Development at Sheridan Medical Group, Jennifer brings a front-line behavioral health perspective to her interprofessional work. Her clinical insights inform the development of collaborative care models, strengthen communication across disciplines, and support integrated approaches to treating individuals with substance use disorders in primary care and specialty settings. Jennifer also serves as a Clinical Associate Professor (HS) in the UB Department of Family Medicine. Across her career, she has focused on innovation in interdisciplinary training, behavioral health integration, and patient-centered system design that improves engagement and health outcomes.

About Our Presenters



Joanna Starrels, MD, MS

Dr. Starrels is Professor of Medicine, Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Science, and Associate Chief of Research for the Division of General Internal Medicine at Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center in Bronx, NY. She is board-certified in Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine. For the past 15 years, Dr. Starrels' clinical, research, and teaching activities have focused on the intersection of chronic pain and addiction. Her research employs diverse methodology to define best practices and to test models for integrating care for people with chronic pain and substance use. Her work has been funded primarily by grants from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). Dr. Starrels has served as expert consultant for local and national agencies developing guidelines and initiatives to improve opioid prescribing, including the New York City and New York State Departments of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. She is the contact PI for the NIH HEAL Initiative IMPOWR Research Center at Montefiore-Einstein (IMPOWR-ME).



Jordana Laks, MD

Jordana (Jordy) Laks is a primary care and addiction medicine physician in Boston, MA. She is the current Respite Medical Director at Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program and a clinician-educator at Boston Medical Center, where she cares for patients in the Faster Paths substance use disorder bridge clinic and inpatient Addiction Consult Service. Her clinical interests center on care for people experiencing homelessness, low-threshold addiction treatment, and sexual and reproductive health care for women who use drugs.



Josh Lynch, DO, FACEP

Dr. Lynch completed an emergency medicine residency at the University at Buffalo in Buffalo, New York, where he served as Chief Resident in his final year. He is an Associate Professor of Emergency and Addiction Medicine at the University at Buffalo Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences and a senior physician with UB|MD Emergency Medicine. Dr. Lynch is a national leader in substance use disorder and serves as a technical advisor for the New York State Department of Health. Additionally, Dr. Lynch has nearly 25 years of EMS experience and is a medical director and flight physician for Mercy Flight of Western New York, serving on the board of directors at the 100 Club of Buffalo, and recently served as trustee for the Clarence Board of Education.

He is the founder and Chief Medical Officer of the MATTERS (Medication for Addiction Treatment and Electronic Referrals) program focused on prevention, education, increasing access to treatment for substance use disorder, rapid referrals to long-term substance use treatment, harm reduction supplies and education, along with emergency telemedicine assessments. He has been an invited speaker to many state, national, and international meetings on the topics of emergency medicine, EMS, and addiction medicine.

About Our Presenters



Joshua Lee, MD MSc

Joshua D Lee MD MSc is a Professor in the Department of Population Health and the Department of Medicine and Division of General Internal Medicine and Clinical Innovation at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. He is an addiction medicine clinician and researcher focused on alcohol and opioid use disorder medications in primary care and criminal legal settings. He is Program Director of the NYU Addiction Medicine Fellowship, the NYU Multidisciplinary Addiction Training Program, and Co-Director of Population Health's Section on Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug Use. He is a primary care and addiction medicine provider at Bellevue Hospital.



Judith Cole, MSN, AGPCNP-BC, WHNP-BC

Judith Cole, APRN, AGPCNP-BC, WHNP-BC, CARN-AP is a dual-certified Nurse Practitioner and Program Director of Harm Reduction Health Services at Harlem United in New York City. She designed and oversees Harlem United's street-based substance use treatment program, providing low-threshold medical services including buprenorphine and hepatitis C treatment. Previously, she practiced primary care in women's shelters across Manhattan and the Bronx. Judith has been with Ophelia Health for the past four years focused on expanding OUD treatment through telehealth. She also provides technical assistance through the Opioid Response Network, serves on the NYSAM Education Committee, and delivers community-based trainings on harm reduction, trauma-informed care, and street-based wound management.



Juliann Wang, MD, MPH

Juliann Wang (she/her) received her MD and MPH from University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is a PGY-2 at Montefiore's Family and Social Medicine Program in Bronx, NY. She is a trainee in the Addiction Medicine Mentored Training program at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine, a training program supported by OASAS. Her clinical interests include addiction medicine, carceral medicine, gender-affirming care, HIV care, and reproductive justice.



Kiara Lora

Kiara Lora is Manager of the Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program. She works on several hepatitis C research studies with a focus on engaging patients who have a history of substance use. She is currently involved in a national patient-centered longitudinal study, HCV Care for People Who Inject Drugs.

About Our Presenters



Kimberly Boulden, PhD

Kimberly Boulden holds a PhD in Education and brings extensive leadership experience developing and scaling effective health promotion programs that serve people who use drugs. Boulden's leadership practice centers on effective systems change and sustainable community collaboration.

In addition to her work connecting individuals to resources and support within their community, Boulden has published research on a variety of topics, including the negative impacts of stigma on health-seeking behaviors, best practices in sustainable community partnerships, inclusivity in university programming, and responsible computing practices. With a passion for program assessment and sustainability, she has consulted on a number of university-community partnerships and grants, such as the Mozilla Foundation's "Responsible Computing Challenge" which aimed at addressing ethical issues in machine learning and artificial intelligence. She also sits on the board of directors for the Impossible Project, an education nonprofit that fosters interdisciplinary collaboration to societal challenges.



Laurie Gallo, PhD

Laurie Gallo, PhD (she/her) is a clinical psychologist specializing in ACT with adults experiencing trauma-related stress, PTSD, anxiety, and stress related ailments. Dr. Gallo has worked as an Attending Psychologist and Assistant Professor at Montefiore Medical Center/Albert Einstein College of Medicine since 2010. During this time, she has held several clinical, supervisory, administrative, research and leadership positions in the Department of Psychiatry and Pre-doctoral Psychology Training Program. She currently serves as an investigator on the NIDA funded HEAL initiative at Montefiore-Einstein that is evaluating ACT for treatment of chronic pain and opioid use. Dr. Gallo is passionate about improving the implementation of trauma informed and trauma specialty care in community mental health and hospital settings, and the adaptation of evidence-based psychotherapy to meet the needs of historically marginalized communities.

About Our Presenters



Loraine Harvey, MD

Loraine Harvey, MD is a third-year psychiatry resident at Staten Island University Hospital with clinical interests in child and adolescent psychiatry and addiction medicine. She is particularly interested in the intersection of substance use disorders and adolescent psychiatric conditions, including mood, anxiety, and trauma-related disorders, and how early intervention can alter long-term outcomes. Dr. Harvey is also interested in general addiction psychiatry across the lifespan and the ways developmental, familial, and social factors influence substance use patterns. Her professional interests include evidence-based assessment and treatment of substance use disorders, co-occurring psychiatric illness, and advancing equitable, patient-centered care for youth and families affected by addiction.



Megan Miller, MPH

Megan Miller, MPH, is a Senior Research Coordinator at the Center for Opioid Epidemiology and Policy at NYU Grossman School of Medicine. Her work focuses on opioid use disorder treatment access, methadone policy reform, overdose epidemiology, and innovative service delivery models, including mobile medication units. She has extensive experience coordinating NIH-, CDC-, and foundation-funded studies, managing IRB and grant submissions, and supporting mixed-methods and policy-relevant research. Megan has co-authored multiple peer-reviewed publications in journals including Pediatrics, Addiction, and PLoS One, and regularly presents at national conferences. She holds an MPH from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a BA in Psychology from the University of Virginia.



Moronkeji Fagbemi, MD

Dr. Moronkeji Fagbemi is the clinical director of the Life Recovery Center in the Addiction service of BronxCare Health System, New York City and an Assistant Clinical Professor of medicine at The Icahn School of Medicine Mount Sinai. His over 28 years of experience spans academic medicine, clinical practice, education and research.

Dr. Fagbemi received his medical degree from University of Lagos, Nigeria, and completed his Internal Medicine residency at Harlem Hospital, New York. He received his Addiction Medicine training at BronxCare. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine and the American College of Physicians.

He is a recipient of the BronxCare Health System Addiction Medicine Mentor of the year. His areas of focus presently include narrowing the wide disparity in HIV PrEP use among substance-using minority populations in the south Bronx and addressing the inequity in the cardiovascular risk evaluation of substance using patients.

About Our Presenters



Natalie Buslach, MD

Dr. Natalie Buslach is an Assistant Professor in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center and the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She completed her family medicine training at Northwell Phelps Memorial Hospital and her addiction medicine fellowship at New York University Grossman School of Medicine. She currently serves as core clinical faculty for Montefiore's Addiction Medicine Fellowship Program, Medical Director of Montefiore's Addiction Medicine Bridge Clinic, and Co-Director of the OASAS-funded Albert Einstein Interdisciplinary Substance Use Disorder Fellowship Program. She practices primary care, women's health, addiction medicine, and HIV medicine at a Federally Qualified Health Center within the Montefiore Health System.



Noa Krawczyk, PhD

Noa Krawczyk is an assistant professor in the Department of Population Health at NYU Grossman School of Medicine and Associate Director of the NYU Langone Center for Opioid Epidemiology and Policy. Her research focuses on studying ways to address barriers to evidence-based treatment for opioid use disorder at the individual, program, and policy levels. She is also focused on studying new models of care delivery that can improve access, quality, and effectiveness of care, especially among vulnerable groups. Her work centers on bridging research and practice by collaborating with drug user organizations, health system leaders, public health and government agencies, and advancing science that can help inform evidence-based policies and practices that reduce harm and promote well being. Prior to her current position, Dr. Krawczyk completed her PhD at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.



Nicole McCarthy, Associates in Addiction Science CACAC-T, CRPA

Nicole McCarthy is currently serving as the Outreach Service Educator for the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program at Staten Island University Hospital. She has over a decade of experience in the addiction recovery field and has worked in diverse settings, including the District Attorney's office and multiple community-based facilities. Nicole is a Certified Peer Recovery Advocate and will earn her Associate's degree in Addiction Science and CASAC certification in January 2026. She has been dedicated to supporting individuals and families impacted by substance use disorders for more than 10 years and is passionate about harm reduction, early intervention, and improving access to evidence-based care. Looking ahead, Nicole plans to continue her education to become a Licensed Mental Health Counselor (LMHC) and hopes to specialize in working with adolescents to support early intervention in addiction and mental health.

About Our Presenters



Pam Mund, MD

Dr. Pamela Mund serves as the Chief of Addiction Medicine for the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), providing addiction-related medical guidance for the NYS operated and licensed substance use disorder and recovery treatment programs including the twelve OASAS state-operated Addiction Treatment Centers. In July 2024, Dr. Mund assumed the role of the NYS SOTA (the State Opioid Treatment Authority) as part of the Chief of Addiction Medicine responsibilities. Prior to joining OASAS in 2022, Dr. Mund worked for 23 years as an internal medicine physician with specialties in addiction and HIV medicine providing direct patient care to persons with substance use disorders, providing all forms of medications for addiction treatment including methadone.



Rashi Aggarwal, MD

Dr. Rashi Aggarwal is Chair of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science at Northwell's Staten Island University Hospital. Previously, she held numerous leadership roles at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School, including Psychiatry Residency Program Director and Vice Chair of Education, where she significantly expanded the consultation-liaison service, fostered resident scholarship, and developed nationally recognized wellness programs. A national leader in medical education, physician wellness, and consultation-liaison psychiatry, she serves as Deputy Editor of Academic Psychiatry and is the incoming President of the American Association of Directors of Psychiatry Training Programs (AADPRT). She also chairs the APA Council on Medical Education and Lifelong Learning, focusing on addressing psychiatrist burnout. Dr. Aggarwal earned her MD from Government Medical College in Jammu, India and completed her residency and fellowship in New York.

About Our Presenters



Regina Labelle, JD

Regina LaBelle is a distinguished scholar and director of the Center on Addiction Policy at the O'Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law at Georgetown University Law Center. She is also a professor at Georgetown University's School of Health, where she directs the Master of Science in Addiction Policy and Practice program, a program she founded in 2021.

Regina has a history of public service, including in the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) under the Biden and Obama administrations. At ONDCP, Regina was appointed Acting Director in the first year of the Biden Administration. Under President Obama, Regina served as Chief of Staff at ONDCP where she managed the agency's response to the overdose epidemic and the implementation of the National Drug Control Strategy. Prior to her federal service, Regina was appointed Legal Counsel to the mayor of Seattle, a position she held for 8 years.

Regina's work has been published in the *Journal of Opioid Management*; *Journal of Correctional Health Care/ Criminal Justice Review*, and *The Journal of Addiction Medicine*. She has testified before both Senate and House Committees in the US Congress and is widely quoted in major media outlets, including *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*. Regina has also appeared on CNN, MSNBC, the BBC, and CBS.

Regina earned her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center and B.A. magna cum laude from Boston College. She serves on the National Advisory Council on Drug Abuse at the National Institutes of Health and previously served on the International Ethics Board for the World Anti-Doping Agency.



Ruchi Shah, DO

Ruchi Shah, DO (she/her) is an Assistant Professor of Medicine in the Division of General Internal Medicine at Montefiore Medical Center & Albert Einstein College of Medicine. She is the medical director of the Wakefield Hospital Addiction Medicine Consult Service and also provides primary care including addiction medicine and reproductive healthcare outpatient. Ruchi strives to turn her big feelings into meaningful change and is grateful for the privilege of partnering with and learning from PWUD in their care.

About Our Presenters



Samantha Getsin, MD

Samantha Getsin, MD is a PGY-2 psychiatry resident at Staten Island University Hospital - Northwell with a strong interest in addiction psychiatry. She plans to pursue fellowship training in addiction psychiatry and is particularly interested in the treatment of substance use disorders across diverse clinical and community-based settings. Her academic interests include addiction education, harm reduction, and improving access to evidence-based care for individuals with substance use disorders. Prior to residency, Dr. Getsin volunteered with Community Action for Social Justice (CASJ), a harm reduction organization on Long Island, where she gained experience supporting people who use drugs through community-centered, nonjudgmental approaches. She has also been involved in research and educational initiatives focused on reducing stigma and improving trainee confidence in caring for patients with substance use disorders.



Sharon Stancliff, MD

Sharon Stancliff, M.D. is Associate Medical Director for Harm Reduction in Health Care at the AIDS Institute, New York State Department of Health and she is a staff physician at a Federally Qualified Health Clinic, providing addiction services. Dr. Stancliff has been working with people who use drugs since 1990 including provision of primary care, drug treatment, HIV care and syringe access. She has been the Medical Director of a Community Health Center, an Opioid Treatment Program and the Harm Reduction Coalition. Her current focus is on opioid overdose prevention through expanding access to buprenorphine in primary care and in less traditional settings such as syringe access programs as well as expanding access to naloxone. She has spoken and provided technical assistance nationally and internationally as well as publishing in books and peer reviewed journals. She maintains board certification in Family Medicine, and in Addiction Medicine.

About Our Presenters



Sophia Favelus, Esq.

Sophia Favelus is an attorney with experience in contract management, contract law, and personal injury law with years of experience in healthcare. She currently works as a Project Manager at the New York State (NYS) Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), where she manages both the Addiction Professionals Scholarship Program and the Interdisciplinary Substance Use Disorder Fellowship Program. These programs were instituted to address the shortage of professionals in the addictions workforce. She holds a Juris Doctor from Touro University Jacob D. Fuchsberg Law Center and a bachelor's degree in public health studies from Johns Hopkins University. She is passionate about growing the addictions workforce and diversity, equity, and inclusion issues – mostly recently serving as a member of the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Advisory Council at OASAS. During her spare time, she enjoys traveling, reading, exercising and spending time with her family, her friends, and her dog.



Steffany Moonaz

Dr. Steffany Moonaz is a yoga therapist, health coach, and research scientist residing in the San Diego suburbs. She serves as the Research Director and Professor at Southern California University of Health Sciences. Dr. Moonaz became curious about the importance of mind-body activities at a young age and has always had a passion and a curiosity about the healing power of mindful movement. She completed undergraduate work in biology and dance at Oberlin College, earned an MFA from University of Maryland as well as a CMA (movement analysis) from the Laban Institute and spent eight years at Johns Hopkins University, helping to develop and evaluate a yoga program for individuals with the chronic diseases of rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis, which became the basis for her PhD in public health. She then spent a decade at the Maryland University of Integrative Health, helping to develop a Master of Science in Yoga Therapy and a university-wide culture of research and evidence-based practice. Along with ongoing research collaborations at UH Connor Whole Health, Children's National Hospital, and Montefiore Einstein, Dr. Moonaz is working to bring yoga to people with arthritis and chronic pain in communities around the country, as well as educating yoga professionals about the unique needs of this population through Yoga for Arthritis courses and training programs, her podcast The Yoga Rheum, and related advocacy work. Her first book, "Yoga Therapy for Arthritis: A Whole-Person Approach to Movement and Lifestyle," was published by Singing Dragon in 2018. A subsequent memoir entitled "Driving Home: Cancer, Concussion, Mom and Me" was released by FriesenPress in 2024. Her third book on evidence-informed yoga practice will be available in 2026.

About Our Presenters



Timothy J. Wiegand, MD, FACMT, FAACT, DFASAM

Timothy J. Wiegand, MD, FACMT, FAACT, DFASAM, is Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine and Public Health Sciences at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and URMC.

He serves as Director of Addiction Medicine in the Department of Emergency Medicine, having founded and previously directed the integrated Addiction/Toxicology Consult Service (2011 onward), a national model for program development, patient care, and reimbursement. He bridges addiction medicine and medical toxicology through clinical work treating intoxications, withdrawals, substance use disorders, pain, and perioperative management for patients on buprenorphine or methadone.

Nationally, he is ASAM President-Elect, Co-Chair of the Forensic Addiction Medicine SIG, and contributor to guidelines, position statements, education, and mentoring. He presents regularly at ASAM conferences, leads the monthly Addiction Toxicology Case Conference, and received the 2022 ASAM Annual Award.



Talia Rosen

Talia Rosen is a Program Manager at NYU Grossman School of Medicine and leads the NYU Multidisciplinary Addiction Training (MAT) Program, a New York State OASAS-funded initiative expanding access to interprofessional addiction education. She has overseen the design and delivery of curricula for nurses, social workers, peers, and other allied health professionals, with a strong emphasis on harm reduction, team-based care, and evidence-based addiction treatment. She provides direct care as a Harm Reduction Counselor at Bellevue Hospital. Her work centers on integrating harm reduction interventions into hospital systems, expanding access to evidence-based addiction education, and delivering person-centered care for people who use drugs.



Tejal Desai, DO

Dr. Tejal Desai is an addiction medicine physician at Northwell Health, where she leads Addiction Medicine Consults for the Consult for Addiction Treatment and Care in Hospitals (CATCH) team at Staten Island University Hospital and serves as the Clinical Director of the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program. She completed her residency in Family Medicine and Community Health at Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and a fellowship in Addiction Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. Her clinical interests include caring for patients with substance use disorders and co-occurring psychiatric conditions, with an emphasis on motivational interviewing-focused approaches. In addition to her clinical work, she is committed to interdisciplinary education and teaching medical students and residents, as well as to addiction-focused quality improvement, research, and policy and guideline development to strengthen addiction care at a system-wide level.

About Our Presenters

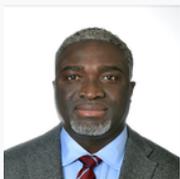


Tiffany Lu, MD, MS

Tiffany Lu, MD, MS, FASAM is Associate Medical Director of Addiction Services at New York City Health & Hospitals/Jacobi, where she oversees the safety net hospital's addiction consult service and outpatient addiction clinic, with an integrated opioid treatment program underway. She is also Associate Professor of Medicine and Psychiatry at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine, where she leads addiction related education for medical students, residents, and fellows. Dr Lu is currently Education Chair and President-Elect for the New York Chapter of ASAM and member of the ASAM Quality Improvement Council.

Prior to joining Jacobi, Dr Lu was the Medical Director of Montefiore Medical Center's Buprenorphine Treatment Network, where she led the implementation of office-based addiction treatment across 7 community health centers and expanded clinical training for medical trainees in addiction medicine.

Dr. Lu graduated from UCSF School of Medicine and completed her Internal Medicine Primary Care Residency at Massachusetts General Hospital. She holds a Masters of Science in Clinical Research Methods from Albert Einstein College of Medicine.



Tolani Ajagbe, MD

Dr. Ajagbe is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry who serves as the Program Director of the Addiction Psychiatry Fellowship and the OASAS Interdisciplinary SUD Fellowship Program at SUNY Upstate Medical University. He also serves as the Chair of Psychiatry and Medical Director of Addiction Treatment Services at Crouse Health. Dr. Ajagbe earned his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He completed his residency training in Psychiatry and clinical fellowship in Addiction Psychiatry at SUNY Upstate Medical University. Dr. Ajagbe is board certified in General Psychiatry, Addiction Psychiatry and Addiction Medicine. He is a member of the American Psychiatric Association, American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, and a Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine. Dr. Ajagbe serves on the Crouse Health Foundation Board and the Onondaga County Drug Task Force.

About Our Presenters



Un Jung Lee

Dr. Un Jung Lee is an associate biostatistician at the Biostatistics Unit of Northwell Health. She has an academic background in mathematics and statistics and has broad research experience promoting public health. Her academic research experience has provided her with the opportunity to have expertise on statistical analysis methods and collaborate with various researchers. For her postdoctoral training, she focused on developing a statistical model to suggest more efficient clinical trial design, targeting precision medicine, and providing statistical consultation to support other researchers. After joining the Biostatistics team of Northwell Health, she carried out the statistical consultation for grant applications, research proposals, and papers. Furthermore, she has contributed to developing research proposals and writing papers by performing clinical data and survey data analysis.



Vanessa Mareno, DDS, MPH

Dr. Vanessa Mareno is the Chief Dental Public Health Resident in the Department of Dentistry and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery at Jacobi Medical Center in the Bronx, New York. She earned a Doctorate of Dental Surgery (DDS) from the University at Buffalo School of Dental Medicine in 2023 and completed two years of postdoctoral general practice residency training at Jacobi Medical Center during which time she earned a Master of Public Health (MPH) from the City University of New York. Dr. Mareno's clinical and research focus is the oral health of individuals with substance use disorders. She initiated a dental screening and referral program within Jacobi's outpatient addiction treatment center with the goal of integrating oral health into addiction care frameworks. Dr. Mareno will continue this work in the NYC Health + Hospitals' Clinical Leadership Fellowship Program in 2026-2027, drawing on research and clinical experience to support integrated, patient-centered care.



Yar Zar Min Han, MD

Born in Yangon, Myanmar, Dr. Yar Zar Min Han earned his medical degree from the University of Medicine 1, Yangon. He is currently a PGY-2 Internal Medicine resident at the Woodhull Hospital Internal Medicine Residency Program (NYC Health + Hospitals/Woodhull) in Brooklyn, New York, where he resides. Passionate about patient care and personal growth, Dr. Han enjoys cooking, exploring nature, and traveling in his free time.

About Our Presenters



Yash Bhambhani, PhD

Yash Bhambhani PhD is a clinical psychologist working at Montefiore Medical Center, as the Assistant Director in the Substance Abuse Treatment Program. Yash is from and grew up in India, and has lived in the US in Scranton, PA, Oxford, MS, and New York, NY for the last 12 years. Yash's expertise is in using Acceptance and Commitment Therapy to treat a variety of presenting problems. He serves as an investigator on the NIDA funded HEAL initiative at Montefiore-Einstein that is evaluating ACT for treatment of chronic pain and opioid use. Yash is passionate about bringing evidence based treatment to individuals and communities.



Yonina Mar, MBBS

Dr. Yonina Mar is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Psychiatry and Internal Medicine at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She is the medical director at Gouverneur clinic, one of the Mount Sinai opioid treatment programs. She has recently been appointed Medical Director of all seven Mount Sinai opioid treatment programs. She is also a primary care physician at REACH, a harm reduction primary care clinic in the Mount Sinai Health System that provides comprehensive medical care for patients that use substances. She sits on the New York State substance use guideline committee and she developed guidelines for the treatment of alcohol use disorder as part of the New York State Department of Health AIDS Institute Clinical Guidelines Program. She has a particular interest in improving patient access to methadone and is involved in several health system initiatives, including the Transitional Opioid Management Support (TOMS) Initiative, to help improve hospitalized patient access to methadone.



Zenovia Gonzalez

Zenovia Gonzalez is a second-year medical student at SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University with interests in emergency medicine, addiction medicine, and health equity. She is particularly interested in caring for patients affected by substance use and learning about the role of emergency medicine physicians in this setting. Her research focuses on the emergence of xylazine in the illicit drug supply, with an emphasis on challenges in detection and overdose response and how these findings may play a role in improving patient care.

About Our Presenters



Zina Huxley-Reicher, MD

Zina Huxley-Reicher is currently a primary care and addiction medicine provider at NYC Health+Hospitals/Woodhull in Brooklyn NY. Prior to joining Health + Hospitals, she completed her Addiction Medicine Fellowship at Montefiore Medical Center and her Internal Medicine and Primary Care residency at Yale New Haven Health. Prior to medical school the Icahn School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, she worked for the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene on overdose prevention and naloxone distribution projects which was her introduction to caring for folks who use substances. Over the years her work has focused on providing care to those who use substances in a large variety of settings. She is passionate about improving access to substance use care, improving policies at all levels to allow our systems to better care for those individuals and partnering with communities to include and empower patients in their own care.



Zoe Adams, MD, MA

Zoe Adams, MD, MA is an addiction medicine fellow at NYU Langone Health. She completed her residency in internal medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard Medical School in 2025 and received her MD from Yale School of Medicine in 2022. While in medical school, she obtained an MA from Yale in the History of Science and Medicine, where she focused on the history of methadone treatment in the U.S. Her writing on addiction has been published in The Washington Post, Scientific American, and The Nation, among other outlets.