



The Consortium on
Addiction Recovery
Science (CoARS)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADDICTION RECOVERY SCIENCE



September 23-24, 2026



Virtual

Full Agenda

Last Updated: 8/18/26



Register Here



RECOVERY
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INSTITUTE
RECOVERYANSWERS.ORG



NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADDICTION RECOVERY SCIENCE

Important Details

September 23 - 24, 2026

Virtual Conference

Themes

Defining and Measuring Recovery

Health Disparities

Medications for Substance Use and Recovery

Recovery Capital

Recovery Pathways/Phenotypes/Milestones

Recovery Services Workforce Development

Recovery Support Services

Services that Support Saving Lives and Recovery

Youth, Young Adults, and Family

Other topics focused on recovery are welcome

Overview of Presentation Types

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

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

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

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADDICTION RECOVERY SCIENCE

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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

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

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Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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

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

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Thursday, September 24, 2026

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

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

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

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Wednesday, September 23, 2026

General Session

Breakout 1

Breakout 2

Breakout 3

Breakout 4

10:00 -
11:00

Aligning Addiction
Recovery Science with the
US Policy Landscape

11:00 -
12:00

12:00 -
1:00

Recovery Principles as a
Tool to Translate Evidence
into Practice

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

Increasing Accessibility
and Acceptability of
Adolescent Substance Use
Disorder Treatment

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

1:00 -
2:00

Recovery Capital
Strengthening
Interventions for Loved
Ones

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

Disseminating Recovery
Research Beyond
Academia

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

2:00 -
3:00

Meet with Supporters

3:00 -
4:00

Implementation Science
Perspectives on MOUD
Across Recovery and
Healthcare Settings

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

Recovery Reimagined:
Evolving Definitions and
Metrics

Examining Recovery Support
Services Across Collegiate
and Community Recovery
Settings

4:00 -
5:00

Early Career Poster
Awards

5:00 -
6:00

Posters "Office Hours"

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General Session

Breakout 1

Breakout 2

Breakout 3

10:00 -
11:00

Welcome to Day 2!

11:00 -
12:00

Mentor/Mentee
Virtual Meet Up

12:00 -
1:00

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

Engaging Loved Ones to Support
Recovery Capital Development

Fueling Recovery Residences:
Workforce Wellbeing and
Sustainable Infrastructure

1:00 -
2:00

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

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

Understanding the Measurement
of Recovery Capital Over Time

2:00 -
3:00

Meet with Supporters

3:00 -
4:00

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

Perspectives on Using Community
Boards to Advance Recovery
Science

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

4:00 -
5:00

Enhancing the Policy and Public
Impact of Addiction Recovery
Science

5:00 -
6:00

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Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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

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Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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

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Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

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

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Poster Presentations | Wednesday, September 23, 2026

37	Six-Week Monitoring of Women's Cannabis Withdrawal Symptoms <i>Veronica B. Szpak, MS</i>	38	Addressing Challenges to Implementation of Attendance-Based CM for Tobacco Education <i>Christine Trevino, PhD</i>	39	The Hidden Relapse Trigger in Substance Use Recovery: Sexual Behavior Relapse Risk in LGBTQ Recovery <i>Anthony J. Williams</i>
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Poster Session Wednesday, 9/23 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM ET	4:30 - 5:00 PM ET Early Career Poster Awards
	5:00 - 6:00 PM ET Poster "Office Hours" - All poster presenters will be available in Zoom breakout rooms, so that attendees may visit the rooms of the presentations they would like to learn more about. <i>Due to the high volume of poster presentations, we will not feature all poster videos in a single session this year. Poster videos will instead be available on the Whova conference platform for several weeks before the conference, and live poster office hours will still be held during the conference. We strongly encourage attendees to review the videos in advance of the poster session so they can identify the presenters and posters they would most like to visit.</i>