Harm Reduction during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Strategies from the Field

WEBINAR PRESENTERS:

Hailey Ferguson, MSW is a master’s level social worker and a community organizer with vast experience collaborating with communities and organizations. Ms. Ferguson created Oklahoma’s first intensive case management program for uninsured Oklahomans with Hepatitis C, including an education program at David L Moss Criminal Justice Center. Ms. Ferguson is also the co-creator of Joyful Movement, North Tulsa and she is the Co-Director at the Oklahoma Harm Reduction Alliance. She is a passionate harm reductionist, content creator, writer, and community builder.

Andrea Haddox, MSW, LMSW is a licensed master’s social worker with a passion for macro level social work. Ms. Haddox co-founded Oklahoma’s first syringe service program, SHOTS Tulsa, while pursuing a master’s degree at the University of Oklahoma. Ms. Haddox is the founder and co-director of the Oklahoma Harm Reduction Alliance (OKHRA) and she is passionate about breaking the stigma associated with people who use drugs by educating communities throughout Oklahoma about harm reduction.

Luke Tomsha is the founder and director of The Perfectly Flawed Foundation, a community-based organization located in LaSalle, Illinois, 100 miles southwest of Chicago. Luke’s journey began in 2015 after over 14 years of chaotic heroin use. Luke was a familiar face in a small town who came forward with his addiction in 2015 to confront stigma in his community after his friend, Ryan, overdosed and died while Luke was away at rehab. After Ryan’s passing, Luke abandoned his career as a technology director in the pursuit of happiness and something that gave his life more meaningful purpose and value.

In 2017, Luke started The Perfectly Flawed Foundation to build a trusted entry point in his community for people looking to make positive lifestyle changes related to substance use. This past year The Perfectly Flawed Foundation launched a mobile wellness and support program that covers a rural region spanning...
over 2,000 square miles and includes syringe service, naloxone distribution, and connection to care when requested.

Hannah Warren (she/her/hers) is the HIV/STD Prevention Program Manager with the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium Wellness and Prevention team. She is an enrolled member of the Chevak Quissunamiut Tribe from the Yukon-Kuskokwim Census Area. Her maternal grandparents, Peter Friday Sr. and Helen Friday (Mathias) and her mother, Lorina Warren, (Friday) are originally from Chevak. Her paternal grandparents, Babe Warren and Gladys Warren (Kaur) and her father, David Warren, are from the Nebraska/Colorado area. A lifelong Alaskan, Hannah has been passionate about providing public health education to Alaskans from a young age.

Hannah graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) with her Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences in 2017, with minors in AK Native Studies and Psychology. In 2020, she graduated from UAA with a Master of Public Health (MPH) in Public Health Practice, focusing her studies on healthy relationships and sexual health and wellness education among the Circumpolar North. In addition to having a passion for healthy relationships and sexual health and wellness education, Hannah is an advocate for incorporating cultural competency and trauma-informed care into services for Alaskans.