

## Webinar: Whole-Person Care for People Experiencing Homelessness and Opioid Use Disorder: Introduction to the Toolkit

August 25, 3:00-4:30pm ET

Opioid use disorder (OUD) is a complex brain disease that may be present alongside or contribute to additional mental and physical health conditions and a host of social, legal, and other challenges including racism, isolation, and homelessness. Impacted individuals may be unable to access or obtain housing, health and/or behavioral health care, and recovery support services. Join us as we introduce the *Whole-Person Care for People Experiencing Homelessness and Opioid Use Disorder Toolkit*, a new resource to support and assist people experiencing homelessness and OUD with a whole-person care approach that supports and facilitates the recovery journey and a fulfilling life in their communities.

### Speakers:

1. **Steven Samra**, Senior Associate, C4 Innovations,
2. **Ken Kraybill**, MSW, Senior Trainer, C4 Innovations
3. **Joel “JC” Smith**, CPRS, VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System
4. **Racquel Garcia**, CEO, HardBeauty

### Learning Objectives

1. Discuss the new *Whole-Person Care for People Experiencing Homelessness and Opioid Use Disorder Toolkit, Part I*
2. Describe key principles of whole-person care, including trauma-informed care and person-centered techniques to engage people experiencing homelessness with an OUD
3. Identify practical strategies to incorporate in your work to help improve health and housing outcomes for people experiencing homelessness with an OUD.

### Presenter Bios

#### Steven Samra, MPA

**Steven Samra**, MPA, Senior Associate and MAT/R Recovery Specialist, brings expertise in a wide array of peer services and supports. His expertise includes harm reduction approaches; substance use and mental health recovery, peer training, integration, and leadership; criminal justice/reentry; medications to treat opioid use disorder; peer mentoring/coaching; strategic planning and capacity building; and promotion of lived experience as critical experiential knowledge.

Steven served nine years as Deputy Director for SAMHSA's Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy and has held leadership positions with SAMHSA' Housing and Homelessness Resource Network, Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness, and Services in Supportive Housing. He has dedicated his career to assist, support and advocate for marginalized, disenfranchised populations. He lives in Nashville, Tennessee, where he co-

founded *The Contributor*, a street newspaper addressing the complexities of homelessness, and served as a commissioner on the Nashville Metropolitan Homelessness Commission. Steven also served on the Nashville/Davidson County Metropolitan Strategic Planning Committee to end homelessness in Nashville. He has a master's degree in Public Administration from California State University, Chico and has enjoyed recovery since 2000.

### Ken Kraybill, MSW

**Ken Kraybill, MSW** has worked in healthcare, behavioral health, homelessness, and housing for more than 35 years. Ken has 18 years of experience working as a behavioral health practitioner in homeless services. For the past two decades, he has been developing curricula and facilitating in-person and online training nationally on topics including motivational interviewing, trauma-informed care, outreach and engagement, case management, critical time intervention, and supervision. He also has experience facilitating strategic planning processes and providing staff retreats focused on finding resiliency and renewal for care providers. Ken is a member of the international Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT). He has an MSW degree from the University of Washington.

### Joel "JC" Smith, CPRS

**Joel "JC" Smith, CPRS** is a native of Nashville, TN., as well as a United States Army Veteran serving in the Vietnam era. JC has been sober since October 10, 1994. Additionally, he responded to a calling to help Veterans in 2004 working with Operation Stand Down Nashville. Since beginning his work at Operation Stand Down Nashville, he's held various positions throughout his time there, such as Facility/Case Management (Transitional Housing Program), Job Development, Veterans Outreach, A&D Counselor, and Grant Manager for (HPRP/HUD) Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-housing. Mr. Smith has served as a Commissioner on the Nashville Metropolitan Homelessness Commission and worked as a Facilitator, Anger Management/Domestic Violence for Metropolitan General Sessions Court and Instructor of the D.U.I. School, Davidson County Sheriff's Office in Nashville, TN. Today he serves Veterans at the VA Gulf Coast Healthcare System, Mobile, AL. as a Peer Recovery Specialist/Counselor.

### Racquel E. Garcia

**Racquel Garcias's** story is one of survival and recovery from multiple traumatic events through her childhood, especially as a teenager and into her adult life. She barely graduated high school before becoming a teenage bride. "The fact that I survived is a miracle," she says. But she didn't just survive, she thrived and continues to help people recover through her still-growing coaching business, *Hardbeauty*. She got sober in 2010 at the age of 32 and has maintained her sobriety ever since.

In 2013 Racquel graduated from ICDC college with a degree in addiction counseling. ACCSC, via Mike Rowe, awarded her the Outstanding Graduate of the Year. After college, she created *Helping Everyone Recover (H.E.R.)*, and formed *Operation P.J. H.E.R.*, a recovery and item collecting non-profit. H.E.R. is now *HardBeauty Foundation*.

Racquel graduated from YCI (Youth Coaching Institute) in July 2019 receiving her coaching and mentoring certification for youth with an emphasis on those who are considered high-risk and have suffered trauma. She works with women and men and specializes in Youth ages (14-24).

Racquel studied coaching, motivational interviewing, counseling, and various forms of treatment – as well as receiving her own coaching and doing her own work – for ten years. She has learned so much from her clients and has honed her skillset, making her one of the most sought-after youth coaches in the state of Colorado and possibly the country.

She is passionate about her belief in God, family, helping youth, and loves tattoos and knitting. She and her husband Chris have been married for more than 24 years and have four children ranging from ages 10-19. She has fostered 3 other teenagers and mentored dozens many more.

Racquel will challenge your thinking, encourage healing, and inspire you to make your next chapter your best chapter. It is through her company, HardBeauty, that she rebuilt herself, and she brings her passion and commitment to everyone she works with.