

Law Enforcement's Role in Addressing Substance Use Disorder Overview

Welcome to the five-part series about Law Enforcement's Role in Addressing Substance Use. These videos are designed to be used as stand-alone roll-call training resources.

As a whole, the videos seek to acquaint law enforcement officers and public safety officials with current insights into drug use and how they can use this information professionally and personally.

It is recommended that the videos be shown during roll call training on a regular schedule (daily or weekly). They should also be shown in order although some have suggested that Block 5: Ripple of Change be shown as the first video. Each video is approximately 10 minutes.

This training was provided in conjunction with the National Sheriffs' Association and Elevyst.

The following provides a link to each video and a description that can be used to introduce the material.

Before Showing the Videos

The presenter should explain that:

- Most people have deeply held beliefs about drug use.
- This video series will challenge some of the beliefs that participants may hold.
- Each viewer also has had different experiences with drug use – some may have had their own personal experiences with it; others may have had family members who use drugs or have been diagnosed with a substance use disorder (SUD); while others may have only encountered people who use drugs (PWUD) or with SUD in their professional role.
- Viewers are asked to think about the impact of the current overdose epidemic and question how they can be part of the solution, what this series is ultimately about.

The presenter should review these points and an overview of each individual video (below) before each video showing.

Video Links and A Synopsis of Each

Block 1: Substance Use Disorder [8:37]



Block 1 provides an overview of substance use disorder and how it affects others. It will answer the following:

- What is Addiction and How Does it Affect the Brain?
- What Causes Someone to Have Substance Use Disorder?
- What Strategies Can Be Used to Address SUD?
- How Will Having an Understanding of SUD Benefit You?

It is presented by Tom Maioli, M.Ed, a law enforcement professional with more than 40 years of experience in various roles.

Block 2: Stigma [11:34]



Block 2 discusses how stigma negatively affects PWUD and individuals with SUD and its impact on our systems. It answers the following:

- What Exactly Is Stigma?
- What Does Stigma Look Like (For the Individual and In Our Systems)?
- What Impact Does Stigma Have (On Systems, Individuals, and Policies/Practices)?
- What Are Some Evidence-Based Solutions?

This block is presented by Sean Fogler, MD, a physician in long-term recovery who has also been affected by the criminal justice system.

Block 3: Language [7:03]



While it's easy to dismiss using appropriate language as being “politically correct,” this video shows the impact of language on PWUD and those with SUD. It will cover:

- What is the Importance of Word Choice?
- How Does Language Affect Those in Recovery?
- How Does Language Use Relate to Stigma?
- Why Should We Change Our Language?

This perspective is offered by Linda Beck, M.Ed, a communications professional with more than 30 years of experience in helping others communicate more effectively.

Block 4: Harm Reduction [8:52]



We all use harm reduction principles in our daily lives. This video will explain how harm reduction efforts can help those with SUD. Specifically, it will discuss:

- What is Harm Reduction?
- Why is Harm Reduction Important?
- How Can Harm Reduction Help Improve Community Health and Safety?

Mr. Maioli and Dr. Fogler provide answers to these questions.

Block 5: Ripple of Change [9:32]



This video focuses on the critical role of law enforcement in helping PWUD and those with SUD and how their actions can have a big payoff. It will cover:

- What Role Does Law Enforcement Play as Change Agents for Civilians?
- How Can Law Enforcement Manage Perceptions About Them and Their Actions?

It is presented by Samantha Osterlof, MS, a person in long-term recovery who works professionally as an outreach specialist and college instructor.

For Further Information

If you have any questions about this video series, please contact Tom Maioli at tom@elevyst.com

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