

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

2021 Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium

Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center*

219 Littleton Rd, Westford, MA 01886

Monday, December 10, 2021

8am-3pm

The Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium was designed to create an environment in which Merrimack Valley SU providers across the spectrum of engagement can meet, network, build relationships, and learn about specific community issues, local resources and best practices.

Since 2018, the Symposium has attracted close to 1,000 attendees, many of which provide direct care services in the substance use disorder field. The feedback has been overwhelming positive, and has really shown us how desperately this event is needed on an annual basis.

The 2021 MVSUDS planning partners are calling for workshop proposals that offer unique educational experiences for professionals in the fields of addiction, treatment, and behavioral health. Our goal is to facilitate an environment in which Merrimack Valley SUD providers across the spectrum of engagement learn about our communities' local resources, provide education on best practices and also for people to experience educational, informative, inspirational, professional development. Others will benefit from your experience while you make a valuable contribution to the profession.

In 2021, the Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium planning committee is seeking current and relevant information within these topics:

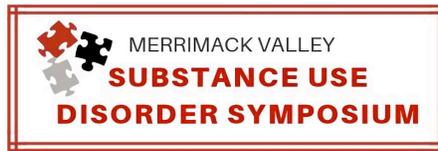
Integrating Technology, Co-Occurring Disorders, Clinical Skills, Recovery Support (Clinical) Education/INCASE, Peer Recovery (Non-Clinical), Psychopharmacology, Community justice, Provider self-care, Suicide awareness/prevention, prevention, Youth Services, School-based Diversion programs and Harm Reduction

Proposals for the 2021 Symposium must link presentation content and learning objectives to previously mentioned topic areas. Additionally, we are particularly interested in presentations which offer:

- Leading-edge information and emerging trends in the field substance use disorder;
- Practical strategies for improvement and innovative, non-traditional approaches;
- "How to" best practices and case studies, including tangible implementation tool(s) and
- Demonstration of measurable impact and use of effectiveness measures/metrics.

Proposal Submission Timeline:

Submissions for <i>Proposal Application</i> opens:	May 24, 2021
Submissions for <i>Proposal Application</i> Due/closes:	July 30, 2021, by 4pm
Notification of acceptance/rejection:	August 27, 2021
Submission of <i>Approved Speaker/Presenter Form</i> Due:	September 10, 2021
Conference presentation date:	December 10, 2021



Application Process

With growing interest of the MVSUDS and to ease the process of applying, the application is online. New for 2021, the Steering Committee has created a 2-part application process to streamline information. Part 1 of the application, *Call for Speakers/Presenters Application*, will be completed by every interested speaker/presenter. Part 2, *Approved Speakers/Presenters Form*, will only be completed upon formal approval to be a 2021 speaker/presenter status. Call for Speaker/Presenter Part 1 can be found here: <https://forms.gle/YBBw7YCSHqaTse2d6>. If have difficulties accessing our online application, please reach out to Amanda Clermont at amanda.clermont@greaterlowellhealthalliance.org

Benefits of Speaking

The Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium provides a powerful platform to network with 350+ professionals and to share knowledge, lessons learned, and best practices in the field of substance use disorder and behavioral health. As the fiscal sponsor and not-for-profit entity, the Greater Lowell Health Alliance does not provide speaking fees. Instead, we ask that presenters share their expertise in the spirit of furthering the professional development of their colleagues. In exchange, we offer presenters the following:

- Complimentary conference registration and exhibit table (confirmation required)
- Valuable experience presenting at the only Merrimack Valley Substance Use Disorder Symposium;
- Networking opportunities with and visibility to 400+ professionals;

In addition, we will be applying for continuing education credits for participants following your session. In the past we have received MaMHCA (LMHC), LADC (& assistants), MBSACC, NASW, and are applying for these licensures again with the addition of nursing for 2020.

Logistics

Each session will last **60** minutes. We encourage you to leave time at the end for questions.

The Symposium will max out at 350*. Because of space constraints, some sessions will be set in theater style (chairs only; no tables) for maximum occupancy as deemed by the facility and in accordance with local fire safety codes. Presenters should anticipate an audience size of approximately 30 to 120 people per session (more in some cases), and should design their presentation approaches with the facility logistics in mind. Please note that we are unable to modify or alter seating arrangements/set-ups for individual sessions. Rooms are equipped with standardized audio-visual: projection unit/screen and a microphone; any other A/V needs are arranged for by the presenter.

Location: Westford Regency Inn and Conference Center*
219 Littleton Rd, Westford, MA 01886

Date: Friday, December 10, 2021

Time: 8am-3pm

Who Will Be in Attendance?

- Public Safety Professionals
- Psychologists
- Therapists/Counselors
- Public Health Professionals
- Medical/Health Care Professionals
- Recovery Coaches
- Peer Professionals
- Social Workers
- Interventionists
- Executives
- Educators
- Others with cause commitment

**Per CDC guidelines and COVID-19 impact in December 2021, this is subject to change.*