Journey Together Conference 2025

A Conference for Addiction Professionals

Presented by Middle Tennessee Association for Addiction Professionals



Franklin Marriott Cool Springs 700 Cool Springs Blvd Franklin, TN 37067 (615) 261-6100 (800) 228-9290

September 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 2025

Conference begins Monday, September 1st with Workshops beginning at 4:00

Conference General Information Program Description and Objectives

The overall goal of the conference is to bring together professionals working with addictions, substance use disorders, prevention and treatment. Participants will explore a variety of topics related to the medical, psychological, and familial aspects of the disease of addiction and share knowledge, expertise, and resource networking.

Participants who attend this conference will:

• explore the impact of substance use on adolescent, adult and justice-involved adult clients and family systems;

• be introduced to the latest research and clinical interventions in addressing the relationship between alcohol and other drug use, mental disorders, abuse, other addictions and the newest treatment modalities;

• understand and practice creative and unique treatment approaches, identifying other addictions, treatment issues when working with adolescents and adults, addressing relapse prevention, ethics, self-care and other professional issues.

Welcome to the Journey Together Conference! The conference committee would like to thank each of you for your support and participation.

Hospitality Suite in Appaloosa Room hours: Tuesday - Thursday, open 7:30am - 6:00pm Closed during lunch from 12:00 noon -2:00pm everyday Coffee is available during morning and afternoon

breaks in the lobby.

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- Please join and "like" us on Facebook at
- MTAADAC and Go to www.TAADAC.org
- for updates regarding educational
- opportunities, meeting updates,
- Conference registration and more.

Continuing Education, LADAC Licensure and License Renewal Hours, and Social Work CE credits

This conference has been planned and implemented in accordance with the credentialing standards of the licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor standards and provides **26.5** possible CE credits total. Credit hours will be broken into primary functions for those individuals pursuing licensure. This program was approved by the National Association of Social Workers – Tennessee Chapter (Provider Number: (NASW-TN 2025 – 0066) for **26.5** continuing education units.

Conference Etiquette: Participants are asked to silence cell phones when attending sessions. Please step outside the room when responding to a call.

Conference Credits: Each participant is responsible for recording his or her attendance at workshops and should claim only those hours of credit actually spent in educational activities. Please take a picture of your verification form for your records before submitting it.

Breakout Sessions: Plenaries and some workshops are in the Champion Ballroom, Salons 6-10. Workshop designations will be posted at the registration table and by meeting room doors.

Conference Registration

Registration is located in the Morgan Room throughout the conference. It may be closed during workshops so everyone has the opportunity to attend sessions.

Printing of Workshop Handouts

Please print handouts for your workshops prior to the conference. Handouts that have been submitted by presenters can be accessed in the week prior to the conference and downloaded at:

www.TAADAC.org/conferences/Presentations

Stay Warm! Remember to bring a sweater or jacket as we cannot control the temperature in the training rooms.

Registration begins at 3:00 pm Monday, September 1st in The Morgan Room

Welcome to our Journey Together Conference! To begin your experience, visit our registration staff in the Morgan Room to sign in, receive your name badge and conference materials. During your three and a half day journey be sure to visit the exhibitor tables and hospitality suite, network with colleagues from across the state and participate in a variety of workshops. If this is your first conference journey, we suggest you attend "Journey Together Conference -Mapping out a Successful Experience" workshop on Monday afternoon to enhance your experience.

PLENARY SESSIONS-KEYNOTE SPEAKERS Tuesday, September 2nd Thomas "Tommy" Farmer, TBI Special Agent "The State of Drugs in Tennessee"

Special Agent Farmer brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to share during this plenary session. He will provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of the emerging drug trends impacting our children, families, and communities. The discussion will cover the prevalence and dangers of various substances, including fentanyl, heroin, methamphetamine, vaping products, THC, Delta variants and other evolving drug trends.

Wednesday, September 3rd Chip Dodd, PhD "Dodd's Paradigm of Recovery: Understanding and Treating the Origins and Effects of Addiction "

During this plenary, participants will learn how to identify and understand the relational origins of addiction through the Paradigm of Recovery. Dr. Dodd will examine interventional opportunities for the recovery of the client, related to the client's feelings, needs, desires, longings and hope. Participants will learn questions to ask that illicit resonance from the client for the potential advancement of recovery.

Thursday, September 4th James Campbell, LPC, LAC, MAC, AADC "Surviving the Intersections: Where Morals, Values, and Ethics Collide "

This session will provide a brief definition of ethics, morals, and values. Some of the primary pitfalls related to ethics will be addressed. Illustrations of areas where personal morals and values often conflict with the code of ethics will be discussed along with examples of each given. Primary modes of instruction will be lecture, case presentations, and didactic discussion. The words morals, values, and ethics are often used interchangeably in our culture, but these words are not synonymous. In fact, they are at times in conflict with one another. James will distinguish between the three and take an honest look at some of the challenges we face as we seek to be ethical in our practice as clinical professionals. These differences and tensions will also be explored through practical application among participants.

Monday, September, 1st M1 and M2 Evening Session 4:00-5:25 M3 Evening Session 5:35-6:55 M4 Evening Session 7:05-8:30

M1 Susan Cunningham, LCSW, LADAC II Jane Taylor, BSW, LADAC II

"Journey Together Conference - Mapping out a Successful Experience"

You've read the brochure but still have questions. Possibly, you attended last year and hope this year you get more out of the three and half days. Regardless of how often you've attended, this workshop will help you get the most from your experience. Our goal is to map out the journey from start to finish and make this an awesome experience where you learn and earn credits, make new professional relationships and the seed is planted for you to return every year.

Charles Harper, LADAC II M2 "Ethics Related to Self-Care"

Finding Balance - Learning how to keep from pouring from an empty cup. This presentation will explore the Code of Ethics and how self care is an obligation for all who are seeking to obtain license or continue in this field. We will look at the pros and cons to being effective in this field, what burnout looks like and how to avoid it. Topics will include a worksheet on emotional withdrawals and deposits and a worksheet called Leisure Interest Checklist, to look at hobbies and interests.

Jerry Jenkins, M.Ed., LADAC, MAC **M3** "A Primer on the NAADAC/NCC AP Code of Ethics"

This workshop is an introduction to the 2025 NAADAC/NCC AP Code of Ethics. Participants will get an update on the major changes resulting from the ever-evolving challenges of practicing in a rapidly developing environment. Changes address scientific and technological advancements and their impact across the spectrum of care for all individuals and organizations involved.

Josh Nordean, M.S. LPC-MHSP **M4 Tonia McDermott, MBA** "Innovating Recovery: Expanding Access to MOUD for Underserved and Justice-Involved Populations"

This workshop explores innovative approaches to expanding access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), with a focus on underserved and justice-involved populations. Participants will examine telehealth models, group-based care, and the integration of tobacco cessation strategies to enhance recovery outcomes. Through case studies and interactive discussions, we will explore barriers to treatment, innovative technology solutions, and equitable, evidence-based strategies that align with industry standards - ensuring high-quality care for those who need it most.

Jon Buffington, LCSW, LADAC II M5 "Recognizing Akathesia with Clients Suffering from Benzodiazepine Dependence and How to Advocate for Them"

This workshop will dive deep into the often misunderstood or downright denial of Akathesia in benzodiazepine dependent individuals, how to recognize it and how to advocate for your client.

M6

Janice Johnson Dowd, LMSW

"Overcoming the Struggles of Family Reunification in Early Sobriety"

We all recognize the impact of addiction on the family, but what about the influence of the family on the recovering individual? The family is often overlooked as a resource for helping to establish a foundation of sobriety and prevent relapse. This workshop will explore the best family treatment modalities and offer specific tools for assisting recovering individuals in repairing their relationships with their families.

T1

PRESENTERS AND WORKSHOPS

Frank Iovine, Life Consultant & Mindfulness Expert "The Mediterranean Lifestyle:

A Path to Recovery, Resilience and Well-Being"

During this workshop Frank will explore how Mediterranean foods-rich in essential nutrients and dopamine-boosting compounds-can support brain chemistry and aid in healing. Discussion will include the philosophy behind this lifestyle, revealing its surprising connections to Stoicism, that teaches self-discipline, resilience, and emotional balance. We will uncover how the Mediterranean way of life offers not just nourishment, but also a path to recovery, mental clarity, and inner peace.

Kathrvn Benson, LADAC II, NCAC II **T2** Frances Patterson, PhD, LADAC II, MAC, DAC "Ethical Challenges in Clinical Supervision" Part 1

As supervisors, those we supervise will "listen" to our behaviors and professionalism much more than our words. When we agree to be a supervisor, we are agreeing to be held to the highest standards of ethics and professionalism. Frances and Kathy will utilize discussion, activities, role plays and multimedia to enhance learning of ethical issues for supervisors and skills in creating a safe and ethical supervision environment.

Jerry Jenkins, M.Ed., LADAC, MAC **T3**

"Preparing to Take the Challenge of Behavioral Health Leadership" This fast-paced workshop is a primer for those interested in being future behavioral health leaders. It will include overviews of leadership and management styles and their impact on team building, effective communications as well as organizing in the rapidly changing environment. The approaches and tools presented will provide insight for developing mentoring and further education in preparation for assuming management or leadership roles.

Deborah Driggs, PhD, LPCMHSP, ACS, LADAC-II **T4** "Advancing Healing: Intermediate Applications of the Internal Family Systems Model (IFS) "

Deepen your Internal Family Systems (IFS) skills in this intermediate workshop. Explore advanced techniques for navigating complex internal systems, including polarized parts, legacy burdens, and resistant protectors. Through case studies, role-plays, and guided exercises, learn to integrate IFS with co-occurring disorders and trauma-informed care. Enhance your ability to facilitate self-led healing in diverse clinical scenarios, leaving with practical tools to elevate your therapeutic practice.

Trish Caldwell, MFT, LPC, CAADC, CCDP-D, CCTP **T5** "ADHD as a Super Power—Unveiling Its Complex Relationship with Substance Use and Young Adults"

Trish will examine the complex relationship between ADHD and SUD in young adults, highlighting key risk factors such as impulsivity, self-medication, and neurobiological differences. A high percentage of individuals with ADHD experience co-occurring mental conditions. Effective management requires a comprehensive approach. Practical strategies to address these challenges will be explored to reduce stigma and improving outcomes for young adults navigating ADHD and SUD.

Joel Jakubowski, PhD, LADAC II, CIP **T6** "Leading Our Clients...Wisely:

A Practical Leadership and Team Enhancement for Clinicians"

This workshop will explore the dual role of counselors as both caregivers and leaders, addressing the challenges of balancing therapeutic guidance with structured accountability. Discussion will include self-awareness, leadership dynamics, and practical strategies for fostering a safe and supportive environment. Topics include leadership strengths and pitfalls, managing problematic behaviors, and setting goals to improve client outcomes.

T7

Kathryn Benson, LADAC II, NCAC II, QCS Frances Patterson, PhD, LADAC II, MAC, DAC, QCS

"Ethical Challenges in Clinical Supervision" Part 2

This session is continued from T2 session. You do not have to attend T2 to participate in T7.

T8

Kenneth Davis, LADAC I Christin Warren, MA LPC-MHSP

"Effectiveness of Adolescence-Specific Interventions"

This presentation explores the effectiveness of adolescent-specific interventions and will enhance understanding of targeted strategies in Substance Abuse and Mental Health treatment. Attendees will gain practical insights into fostering resilience among adolescents, ultimately promoting better mental health and recovery outcomes while informing future practices.

Karen Moran, LADAC II, QCS

T9 "Trauma Identification & Intervention within LADAC Scope of Practice"

This workshop will offer participants the opportunity to access a thorough and easily understandable common language for trauma identification, which will enhance client insight in pursuit of relief and healing. It will offer intervention tools that fall within our scope of practice to increase treatment effectiveness and outcomes, utilizing the Trauma Egg, as well as Polyvagal exercises for emotional regulation, resulting in a reduction in the intensity of trauma symptoms.

Charles Harper, LADAC II

"Can't You understand the Words Coming Out of My Mouth:" T10

overcoming personal bias to meet people and clients where they are; without the frustrations for where we think they should be. This presentation will explore how to recognize personal bias and keep it from impacting our clients or others. We will explore cultural diversity, emotional maturity levels and look at the topics of Window of Tolerance and Relational Window of Tolerance, to help see where we and others are at that moment and how to manage situations in a healthier way.

T11

Peter Hodes, MBA Guy Freeman, LADAC II "Introduction to Tai Chi"

Stand up and follow us for this Introduction to Tai Chi. These simple movements are safe for all and bring enormous health benefits - both physically and mentally. We will learn a variety of movements that can be done by anyone no matter the current conditions. Learn Tai Chi and Feel BETTER! Beginners always welcome!

Kathryn Benson, LADAC II, NCAC II Frances Patterson, PhD, LADAC II, MAC T12 "Ethical Challenges in Clinical Supervision" Part 3

This session is continued from T7 session. You do not have to attend T2 and T7 to participate in T12.

Will Taylor, LADAC I, CPRS

"Addressing Substance Abuse in Suicide Prevention"

T13 facing substance abuse issues, particularly those who work with veterans. The workshop includes case scenarios and practice exercises that focus on reducing suicide risk among veterans and others. It features Level 1 Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Gatekeeper Training for Suicide Prevention, along with an approved, brief edition of the Counseling on Access to Lethal Means (CALM) best practice training program. Additionally, the workshop covers the following topics: Prevalence of suicide, along with risk and protective factors; In-depth coverage of addictions and suicide; Basic helping skills for patients at risk of suicide; Effective communication techniques for engaging with suicidal individuals, attempt survivors, and those who have lost loved ones to suicide.

W1

W7

Chip Dodd, PhD

"The Wheel of Functioning: Feelings and the Origins of Codependency"

During this workshop participants will gain an understanding of the impact of inborn emotional states and their influence on thoughts. Dr. Dodd will identify methods to assist clients in identifying feeling states. He will discuss how to intervene on denial, a primary defense of the addiction processes.

Karen Moran, LADAC II, QCS **W2** "Licensure Preparation: So You Want to Be a LADAC"

The journey to licensure as an alcohol and drug counselor can seem like a daunting process. It is a marathon, not a sprint, but can be a professional growth experience that turns one into an exceptional counselor. Karen, who has guided many counselors on this path, will discuss each step of the process from beginning to receiving that license. She will answer questions and help to allay fears.

Anne Young, LADAC II, QCS **W3** "Suicide Prevention Assessment & Safety Planning"

This presentation will provide participants with a comprehensive understanding of key tools for suicide risk assessment and safety planning. Through interactive discussions and practical demonstrations, attendees will learn how to effectively use the Columbia Protocol to identify and assess suicide risk, and how to implement the Stanley and Brown Safety Plan to support individuals in crisis. By the end of the workshop, participants will have increased knowledge and skills necessary to enhance safety and provide critical support to those in need.

Kristen Robinson, LADAC II, NCAC II, QCS **W4** "Ethical Foundations of Empowering Recovery"

This interactive presentation explores the ethical principles of beneficence, nonmaleficence, autonomy, and justice in addiction recovery. It emphasizes the responsibility of addiction professionals to ensure client safety and welfare while fostering respect, dignity, and compassion. Key topics include enforcing boundaries, non-discrimination, and addressing grief, mental health, and loss during recovery. Participants will engage in various activities designed to deepen understanding of ethical decision-making, encourage authentic storytelling, and promote empowerment in the recovery process.

Janice Johnson Dowd, LMSW **W5** "Parenting Skills for Recovering Parents"

Do your clients express feeling ineffective as parents, having lost their children's trust and respect, or lacking fundamental parenting skills? This workshop will cover vital parenting techniques, the specific needs of the recovering parent, and provide resources for building trust. Janice will also explore the implications of this early preventative approach for the children of our clients, aiming to avert generational dysfunction.

Chip Dodd, PhD

W6 "The Victim Triangle: Breaking Free of the Fear that Binds Us"

Dr. Dodd will discuss and enhance understanding of the victim position as a state of perceived helplessness. Participants will be able to grasp methods of escaping the victim state disposition. During this workshop, participants will experience the core issue that blocks change from survival to thriving.

Charles Winton, Jr., LPC "Trauma, My Story, My Behavior"

During this workshop, Charles will discuss how trauma affects individuals who suffer from residue of their trauma through addictions. Often times traumatic clients are told to get over it, however, when the pain and hurt is so deep, they find it difficult to just, "Get over it". This causes the victim to feel guilt and shame because they then think; "I should be over it by now". This thought provoking, intense educational workshop on trauma will help participants empathize with their clients and be present with them in order to offer healing and restoration.

W8 Frank Iovine, Life Consultant & Mindfulness Expert "Stoic Philosophy: A Guide to Recovery"

Recovery is about reclaiming control over your mind, emotions, and actions—and that's exactly what, at it's core, Stoicism teaches. During this workshop, Frank will discuss the principles which teaches one to focus on what we can control, accept what we cannot, and cultivate the discipline to make better choices, align deeply with the challenges of addiction and recovery, offering a timeless blueprint for overcoming cravings, managing emotions, and finding lasting peace.

W9

Ross Sparboe, LADAC II, LMSW "Collegiate Recovery—A Perspective on a Special Population"

This presentation will explore the 4 major domains of collegiate recovery, health, home, purpose, and community. Special emphasis will be placed on available community resources for this domain. Ross will discuss the past, present and future of the community aspect of recovery during this presentation. Participants will be able to identify community resources within the state of Tennessee and a list of recovery resources will be provided.

W10

Trish Caldwell, MFT, LPC, CAADC, CCDP-D, CCTP "Evidenced-based Practice in Addressing Suicidality in Behavioral Health"

Individuals with substance use disorders (SUDs) are particularly susceptible to suicide and suicide attempts as suicide is a leading cause of death among people who misuse alcohol and drugs. Trish will discuss warning signs, risk factors, and evidence-based strategies for intervention. Participants will explore how to identify and support individuals at risk, helping to break the silence and improve outcomes in behavioral health settings.

W11 Ross Lester, Founder of Everybody Drum Some "Drumming for Life"

Ross and Everybody Drum Some will conduct a low-stress, enjoyable drum circle for all interested conference attendees. Participants will experience collaborative music making in a relaxed environment and will leave feeling refreshed, energized, and encouraged. No experience or skills required.

W12 Erica Jennett, LPC Hannah Heinze, LADAC II

"Affirmation Art: Using Positive Affirmations to Strengthen Recovery"

Discover the power of art and affirmations in recovery! This interactive workshop will explore creative methods for reinforcing positive self-beliefs through affirmation-based art activities. Participants will create their own "I Am" Collage and Affirmation Matchboxes —personalized, visual tools to support self-empowerment. This session is ideal for professionals, peer support specialists, and individuals in recovery seeking innovative ways to build confidence, resilience, and hope.

W13

Julie Bradley, NCAC II, LADAC II "Wellness in Recovery"

Nutrition, exercise and movement are critical to recovery from addiction. How we fuel our bodies directly influences how we feel physically, mentally, and emotionally. In this interactive workshop, we will delve into the intricate relationship between nutrition, exercise, neurotransmitters, and recovery. Participants will engage in experiential activities, from energizing yoga to rhythmic drumming and active relaxation, aimed at increasing dopamine levels and promoting a sense of well-being. this training will offer a holistic approach to overall wellness in recovery. Comfortable clothing and a yoga mat/ towel are recommended, as well as the ability to sit on the floor. Leave feeling energized, empowered, and inspired!

TH1

TH5

James Campbell, LPC, LAC, MAC, AADC "Worlds Apart—What Works with Adolescents and Why"

Sometimes adolescents seem as though they come from an entirely different world, and in some regards they do! There has been a wealth of recent discoveries about adolescent development and learning. Unfortunately, there is frequently a disconnect between what we know works best with adolescents and the treatment modalities we use when working with them. This session reviews recent research and discoveries and explores how to best apply that knowledge to effectively treat adolescents.

TH2 Joel Jakubowski, PhD, CADC II, CIP "We Didn't Raise Them This Way: Empowering Clinicians to Help Families Navigate the Challenges of Addiction"

This dynamic training will equip participants with fresh insights, practical communication tools, and user-friendly concepts to deepen engagement with the families and loved ones of those struggling with addiction. Participants will be taken "backstage" into the mind, heart, and daily reality of both the addicted individual and those closest to them. With a high-energy, no-nonsense approach infused with humor, hard truths, and hope, topics include the "career cycle" of addiction, common myths, effective vs. ineffective intervention techniques, how families themselves become "addicted," and the journey to wellness.

TH3 Robert Chapman MSSW, LMSW, LADAC "To Encounter Recovery 1—Experiential Techniques"

This session will explore innovative ways to facilitate learning and internalize key recovery principles by leveraging experiential counseling and therapeutic inventory processes. Focus will also be turned toward the value of metaphors and experiential therapy in promoting deeper self-awareness, reducing shame, and fostering the healing process in clients. Major themes include theoretical value of inventory and disclosure, experiential options with inventory, use of experiential empty chair with addiction issues, and the healing and therapeutic effect of "separating self from the disease." Participants are invited (but not required) to be an active participant and perhaps their own "learning through experience".

TH4 Jimmy Cook, LADAC II Sherry Neeld, CPRS "Belief Systems"

The workshop, based on Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy, will help participants better understand how emotions and feelings are intertwined and are influenced by our belief systems, which are formed by our values and life experiences. It will be an example of a group exercise designed to motivate clients to make changes in their belief systems to improve their quality of life. Interactive games, worksheets, & discussion will be utilized.

Lene' Brown, LADAC II "The Group Therapy From the Eyes of the Client"

Are you a group facilitator? Are you interested in learning more about the group therapy experience from the clients perspective? In this workshop you will be a participant in a structured group experience. Learning about challenges clients may face when engaging in group and how to over come some of these hurdles. Learning ways to engage ambivalent clients and how to meet clients were they are. Group structure and etiquette will be discussed.

TH6

James Campbell, LPC, LAC, MAC, AADC "Addressing Spirituality in Treatment and Recovery"

For many, recovery from addiction and substance use disorders is seen as a spiritual process. Those engaged in twelve-step recovery often speak of working "a spiritual program of recovery" as well. Clinically, how can we explore the spirituality of those we serve without fostering shame, soliciting reactionary responses, or evangelizing? This session is a respectful look at many of the facts related to religiosity, substance use, and recovery with practical suggestions and tools for addressing spirituality clinically when appropriate

TH7 Kathy Ward, BS, LADAC II Candidate Cassidy Berry OTR/L

"Counseling and Occupational Therapy in Recovery"

This presentation highlights the essential collaboration between Occupational Therapists and Addiction Therapists in the recovery process. It explores how their combined expertise supports individuals in regaining functional independence and emotional stability. Key topics include coordinated goal setting, integrating behavioral therapy with practical skill-building, and fostering long-term relapse prevention. Through real-life case studies and evidence-based strategies, presenters will emphasize how interdisciplinary teamwork enhances treatment success and overall well-being for clients on their recovery journey.

TH8 Robert Chapman MŠSW, LMSW, LADAC "To Encounter Recovery 11—Multiple Addictions"

This session will examine creative and versatile ways to facilitate therapeutic experiences for our clients connected to comorbidity, multiple addictions and addiction interaction. Internalization of the basic principles of inventory and introspection will be emphasized. Experiential counseling and facilitation of therapeutic inventory processes connected to multiple process addictions in personal histories will be addressed as well as modeled in this session. Experiential techniques will also be presented and modeled to assist with "working" this issue with clients. This issue also has important connections to relapse prevention work, as comorbidity and process. Participants are invited (but not required) to be active participants and perhaps their own "learning through experience".

TH9 Jon Buffington, LCSW, LADAC II "Self-Care for Substance Abuse Therapists: Minimum Burnout and Maximum Effectiveness"

This topic will explore issues that create burnout and empathy reduction in addictions treatment. We will explore issues surrounding counter-transference, secondary trauma, emotional fatigue, personal mental health awareness and needs, physical health needs, social needs and spiritual needs. The ultimate goal is to validate our unique needs, manage those needs and to flourish in this profession to be of maximum benefit to our clients we serve.

Certificates will be available in the Morgan room at the end of Thursday afternoon workshops

The Journey Together Conference Welcomes all attendees to YOUR conference this year!

TAADAC mission:

As an association for addiction professionals we educate, advocate, and promote healthy communities for an addiction free Tennessee.

Our special thanks to The Davidson County Sheriff's Office Color Guard

The color guard will open the Conference with the presentation of the Flags Pledge of Allegiance led by Barry Paquet National Anthem led by James Nihan

Thank you to those who offer the morning meditations: Kathryn Benson Kevin Hill James Nihan

The Middle Tennessee Association for Addiction Professionals would like to offer our special thanks and acknowledge the following benefactors of our conference:

TAADAS

Memphis and Shelby County Addiction and Behavioral Health Treatment Consortium

TN DEPT OF MH AND SA SERVICES These generous donors enable us to provide scholarships to our conference and conference handouts for our participants. Our thanks to all of our conference sponsors.

Door Prizes

Thanks to all who donated door prizes. Please enter for door prize drawings at the registration desk. Only one entry per conference participant.

Silent Auction

This year we will again have this fun event. Beginning on Tuesday we have a silent auction to benefit the scholarship program for the 2026 conference.

Auction opens Tues. at 1:30 and closes Thurs. at 1:30 Auction items can be picked up after being paid for in the registration room on Thursday afternoon.

Conference Planning Committee Toby Abrams, LADAC II, Conference Chair Phone # 615-386-3333 x103 Frances Patterson - Conference Co-chair 615-289-4905

Cassie Gray - Exhibitor Chair Susan Cunningham - LCSW Liaison/Presenters Heather Loveland - Registration Chair/Communications Mike Coupe - Exhibitors Janet Watson - AV/General Duties Jane Taylor - Auction Chair/Door prizes/Registration James Nihan - AV/Auction Darleen McClung - Hospitality Room Luke Gray—Hospitality Adjunct committee members: Floyd Patterson - Badges/Certificates/Webmaster Clifford Fiedler - Computers

In Honor of Phil Guinsburg, PhD, LADAC II, MAC

In honor of Phil Guinsburg now and in the future, MTAADAC has named the yearly conference registration given away as the Grand door prize "The Phil Guinsburg Memorial Conference Scholarship".

Exhibitors

We encourage you to visit exhibitors in the exhibit areas. Exhibitors at the Journey Together Conference are not necessarily endorsed by MTAADAC or the conference. Remember to visit the Saddlebred Room where TAADAS is providing books for sale during the conference and vendors will be selling gift items.

NAADAC/TAADAC Membership

Are you a member of NAADAC, your professional association? Pick up membership benefits information and an application in the exhibit area. If you join as a new member during the conference you will receive a \$50 certificate towards your Journey Together 2026 registration fee.

PLENARY PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES

Thomas Farmer, TBI Special Agent in Charge Tuesday Plenary Speaker

Thomas N. Farmer is a seasoned law enforcement professional with 35 years of local and state experience as a Special Agent and Investigator. He holds a BS in Criminal Justice and has completed extensive specialized training in advanced investigations, drug enforcement, chemical and pharmaceutical diversion, clandestine drug labs, and substance abuse and mental health. Currently, He serves as Special Agent in Charge with the TN Bureau of Investigation (TBI) and as Director of both the Governor's Task Force on Marijuana Eradication (GTFME) and the Statewide Dangerous Drugs Task Force (TDDTF). He leads a dedicated team of government and retired law enforcement personnel across the state, which includes providing strategic direction, administrative and financial support, and fostering collaboration among over 1,000 law enforcement personnel statewide. He helped develop and oversees programs such as the TN Alliance for Drug Endangered Children and the Handle with Care initiative. A sought after speaker on drug trends, Thomas frequently presents on topics such as methamphetamine, diverted pharmaceuticals, cannabis, fentanyl, and synthetic drugs. Throughout his career, he has contributed to numerous national and state advisory boards and initiatives, including serving as an advisory member for the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Tennessee Governor's Methamphetamine Drug Task Force.

Chip Dodd, PhD Wednesday Plenary Speaker

Dr. Dodd has spent his career guiding thousands of professionals and their families through the struggles of their lives and into the lives they were created to have. In 1996, he founded The Center for Professional Excellence (CPE) in Nashville, and spent the next 22 years serving as its Executive Director. CPE was a powerfully effective treatment center that helped thousands get recovery of their hearts. Since selling CPE in 2017, Dr. Dodd has worked in private practice doing consulting, mentoring, speaking, counseling, as well as writing. He began Chip Dodd Resources in 2019. In 1991, Dr. Dodd developed The Spiritual Root System (SRS). It is a simple and effective way of seeing how we are made, and integrating how we are made into the lives we desire. The SRS's foundational essence is based on the awareness that we are created as emotional and spiritual creatures, created to live fully through relationship with ourselves, others, and God. His first book, The Voice of the Heart was published in 2001. Dr. Dodd attained an M.A. in English from the University of Mississippi in 1985. In 1990, he completed his Ph.D. in Counseling at the University of North Texas. While living in Texas, he co-founded Bent Tree Counseling Center in Dallas and served as its Clinical Director before relocating to the Nashville area. He married his high school sweetheart in 1983. They have two grown sons and two precious daughters-in-law. They currently live in Middle Tennessee.

James Campbell, LPC, LAC, MAC, AADC Thursday Plenary Speaker

James has worked professionally in the human services field for over twenty-nine years in a wide range of clinical settings, currently serving as the Associate Director for the Southeast Addiction Technology Transfer Center (SEAATC). His passion is equipping providers to support individual and family wellness effectively and build on the strengths they possess and equipping the next generation of addiction professionals to serve those in their care effectively. He's a member of both NAADAC and ACA and is a nationally recognized author and speaker.

WORKSHOP PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES Cassidy Berry, OTR/L

Cassidy is a licensed and registered Occupational Therapist currently working as a community based OT at Mind the Gap, LLC. She serves as the OT for Rutherford County Mental Health Court and at Viable Impact, a non-profit connecting trafficking survivors to meaningful employment. In her role as an occupational therapist, she works with individuals with a history of incarceration and addiction, assisting them with building the foundational skills needed for reintegration into the community.

Kathryn Benson, LADAC II, NCAC II, QSAP, QCS

Kathy has worked in the counseling field since 1972 with an initial emphasis on domestic violence, intervention, and re-parenting of abusive parents. She has specialized in addiction issues since 1978. She maintains a clinical consulting practice in Nashville, TN where she provides therapeutic services, clinical program development, professional education and clinical competency services and clinical supervision services.

Julie Bradley, NCAC II, LADAC II

Julie is the founder of Wellness and Recovery Group. She is in private practice and has experience in both residential and IOP settings. With a background in yoga, personal training, and nutritional coaching, she understands the value of a holistic approach to recovery. She is passionate about the benefits of incorporating wellness into her counseling practice through "Walk and Talk" therapy, drum therapy, and yoga.

Lene Brown, LADAC II

Lene' has been working in the field of addiction treatment for over 14 years. Her experience includes non-profit agencies, for-profit agencies, specialty court programs, and the criminal justice system. Lene' has managed and directed programs, served as a counselor, group facilitator, business development rep, and both developed and conducted training.

Jon Buffington, LCSW, LADAC II

Jon is currently in Private Practice in Sewanee, TN. He has worked in Addictions and Mental Health treatment for the past 17 years, coming from a completely different professional background. Jon is a former clinical director of an Outpatient A&D program, former Outpatient and Inpatient Substance Abuse Counselor and family therapist. Jon currently lives in Manchester, TN with his wife Tammy, his dog and 2 cats.

Trish Caldwell, MFT, LPC, CAADC, CCDP-D, CCTP

Trish is currently Senior VP of Clinical Operations at Promises Behavioral Health. She has over 27 years in behavioral health and 17 years as an adjunct professor, currently teaching in Drexel University's MFT program. She specializes in program development, evidence-based practices, and trauma-informed care. Trish created Delaware County's first Young Offenders Treatment Program and has served as a SAMHSA field reviewer. A licensed clinician and national speaker, she holds certifications in co-occurring disorders and trauma.

Robert Chapman MSSW, LMSW, LADAC

Robert has 40 + years of experience in the recovery field. He specializes in trauma work, relapse prevention, and adventure therapy. Robert has provided extensive training services throughout the country for a number of years. He has been on the faculty of CENAPS Intensive School of Relapse Prevention Specialists and has been published in Addictions and Recovery Magazine as well as other recovery-related publications. Robert has worked in residential and outpatient settings.

Jimmy Cook, LADAC II

Jimmy holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. He is a native Nashvillian and currently resides in Gallatin, TN. He is the Intensive Outpatient Coordinator for the Recovery Court of Sumner County Inc. He has worked in the treatment field for over 12 years. He has three children & two grandchildren who he loves to spend time with. He is also a person in long term recovery and believes that is one of the best things he has ever done for himself.

WORKSHOP PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES Susan Cunningham, LCSW, LADAC II, MAC, QCS

Ms. Cunningham is a past member of the board of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselors. She holds national certifications as a Globalcerti Career Development Facilitator with an emphasis in Offender Workforce Development Instructor and Trainer for NIC's Thinking for A Change cognitive behavioral program. She has over 30 years working in a range of settings including hospitals, transitional housing, government and non-profit agencies.

Kenneth Davis, LADAC I

Kenneth has been a vital force in the addiction treatment field since 2017, with nearly eight years of experience at Cumberland Heights, with four years as the Adventure Therapy Coordinator and Primary Counselor at ARCH Academy. He is dedicated to guiding adolescents on their journey to recovery, inspiring them to embrace fulfilling and happy lives. Kenneth believes in the transformative power of adventure therapy, helping young people discover their potential and achieve lasting change.

Deborah Driggs, PhD, LPCMHSP, ACS, LADAC-II

Deborah is a distinguished Clinical Psychotherapist and the Founder of DePriest Center, with a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision. She specializes in Co-Occurring treatment, trauma, grief, self-concept, and spiritual struggle. She is a Neurofeedback and EMDR Practitioner. She is committed to teaching evidence-based treatment and skills necessary in creating a therapeutic environment and relationship for individuals to achieve healing and optimum quality of life.

Guy Freeman, LADAC II

Guy has worked in the mental health and addiction recovery industry for decades. He met Peter Hodes at the Journey Together 2021 conference and began practicing Tai Chi regularly. He is a daily student at Tai Chi River School.

Charles Harper {Charlz}, LADAC II

Charlz has over 22 years in recovery from substances and has 8 years of recovery from mental health disorders. He has been working in the treatment field since 2008 and earned his LADAC in 2016. Charlz feels that almost everyone is in recovery from something and can build a supportive network through the available resources if they know where to look.

Hannah Heinze, LADAC II, CPRS

Hannah is a Case Manager for Sumner County Recovery Court. She has a Master's in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and a Bachelor's in Human Services. Currently pursuing LPC-MHSP licensure, Hannah integrates creative therapeutic approaches into substance use and mental health treatment. She specializes in strength-based recovery strategies, including affirmation-based interventions, to empower individuals in recovery.

Erica Jennett, LPC

Erica is the Program Coordinator for Sumner County Behavioral Health Court. She ensures participants receive appropriate mental health treatment and support. She holds a master's in forensic psychology, and completed her licensure certificate in 2024. Currently pursuing her LPC-MHSP, Erica has extensive experience using therapeutic interventions to foster self-awareness, resilience, and personal growth in justice-involved individuals.

Janice V. Johnson Dowd, LMSW

Janice is a social worker, author, speaker, mother, and recovering alcoholic with more than 20 years of experience, specializing in teens, addiction, and family therapy. She authored the book "Rebuilding Relationships in Recovery" and the highly successful recovery blog "Finding Serenity in Sobriety." Janice is a sought-after speaker who has presented at numerous conferences and workshops and has been a guest on over 30 podcasts.

Joel Jakubowski, PhD, CADC II, CIP

Joel is the Primary Therapist at Core Civic and Supervisor of Virtual Programming and at Bold Steps Behavioral Health. He received his MA in Organizational Leadership from Clarks Summit U., and PhD in Behavioral Health Org Leadership at Grand Canyon U. He is the author of, "We Didn't Raise Them This Way!" –a handbook to assist families in managing their response to addictive behaviors. Joel has been traveling the country for over 15 years providing a variety of behavioral health and leadership presentations.

WORKSHOP PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES Jerry A. Jenkins, M.Ed., LADAC, MAC

Jerry has over 42 years of experience in treating SUD and mental illness or leading organizations that do. He is currently an Alaska-based behavioral healthcare consultant following fifteen years as CEO of Anchorage /Fairbanks Community Mental Health Services and four years as the COO of the Alaska Behavioral Health Association. He is the immediate past Treasurer for NAADAC and serves on the NAADAC Ethics Committee.

Peter Hodes, MBA

Peter has always been interested in Asian culture. After completing a B.A. in Asian Studies and studying abroad in Japan, he began practicing Tai Chi in 1990 on a beach in Thailand. While pursuing an international M.B.A degree, Peter learned the Professor Cheng's 37-Posture Form. Peter now teaches at various locations in Nashville and live on ZOOM. At this point, Peter has been practicing Tai Chi continuously for 34 years.

Ross Lester, Founder, Everybody Drum Some

Ross is founder of Everybody Drum Some. His mission is to communicate the wonders of rhythm and drums with others and to make the way easy for people to make a joyful song together. For over 10 years, Ross has worked in various settings throughout middle TN with youth groups, recovery groups, at-risk kids, military veterans, churches, schools, and businesses, as well as everyday folks who are drawn to the drum.

Frank Iovine: Life Consultant, Mindfulness Expert and Public Speaker

Frank brings over two decades of experience advocating for mental well-being. Following a career in the New York City Police Department, where he implemented outreach programs and supported community initiatives, Frank transitioned to sharing the transformative power of Stoic philosophy and mindfulness. Trained as a Suicide Support Officer and certified breath coach, Frank combines ancient wisdom with contemporary practices to inspire individuals to navigate life's challenges with resilience and purpose.

Karen Moran, LADAC II, NCAC II, QCS

Karen is a clinician and consultant in Nashville, TN, and has actively promoted wellness, recovery, and professionalism in the treatment community for over thirty years. Recognized for her specialized skills and expertise with substance use disorders, Karen has also provided clinical supervision to over 100 clinicians, spanning over 25 agencies, as well as co-facilitates 8 Domain training with Pleiades Clinical Consulting.

Tonia McDermott, MBA

Tonia is a Partnership Development Manager at Groups, leveraging a long tenure in higher education to bring a fresh perspective to addiction treatment. Focused on expanding access to MOUD through telehealth and group therapy, she develops strategic partnerships to support recovery. Passionate about innovation in addiction care, she is dedicated to breaking barriers and improving outcomes for individuals with opioid use disorder. She

lives in Nashville with her husband and two children.

Sherry Neeld, CPRS

Sherry earned CPRS certification in 2017. She is the Assistant Coordinator in the Intensive Outpatient Program for the Sumner County Recovery Court. She has worked in the substance abuse treatment field for 10 years. She enjoys spending time with her husband, children and grandchildren. She also loves looking for geodes and watching true crime documentaries.

Joshua Nordean, M.S., LPC-MHSP

Joshua is the Clinical Director at Groups Recover Together, bringing over 20 years of experience working with individuals and families facing addiction and co-occurring disorders. He has provided direct care as well as led clinical teams, focusing on trauma, attachment, and harm reduction. A champion for client-centered care, Josh is dedicated to building a community of healing and shaping the next generation of clinicians to advance treatment in the addiction recovery field.

WORKSHOP PRESENTER BIOGRAPHIES Frances Patterson, PhD, LADAC II, MAC, DAC, SAP, QCS

Frances has worked in the addictions field for over 35 years as a counselor, supervisor, program manager and professional trainer. She owns Footprints Consulting Services, LLC, providing professional training, client education, clinical supervision and program consultation and development. She works part time for the DePriest Center managing the Life in Recovery addiction programs. She is a past NAADAC SE Regional Vice President. In 2006 she was honored to receive NAADAC's Professional of the Year award. She has self -published her book, *The Addiction Supervisor's Toolbox*.

Kristen Robinson, LADAC II, NCAC II, QCS

Kristen works as the Recovery Services Therapist at a residential treatment center in Knoxville, Tennessee, specializing in helping individuals use their challenges to fuel recovery. With 16 years of experience working with adolescents, Kristen has received several awards, including the 2023 Recovery Services Award. She has presented nationally on addiction recovery and enjoys spending time with her husband.

Ross Sparboe, LADAC II, LMSW

Ross received his MSW degree from the University of South Carolina. While attending UNCW, Ross started an AA meeting on campus and was an intern at UNCW Crossroads Substance Abuse Program. Ross currently works as a social worker and substance abuse counselor at Generations Behavioral Health in Morrison TN.

Jane Taylor, BSW, LADAC II

Jane has worked as an A&D counselor since 1989 and received her LADAC in 2000. She worked for Koala Treatment Center before going to work in treatment in the jail system. She has been working in Family and Juvenile Recovery Courts in Davidson County since 2002 where she is currently the Recovery Court Coordinator. In 2019 she was awarded MTAADAC Counselor of the Year.

Will Taylor, LADAC I, BS, CPRS

With a strong background in building recovery ecosystems at the county and state levels, Will is the co-founder of Recovery Is The New High, a grassroots organization committed to creating positive change in behavioral health program design, financing, and government affairs. With 11 years of experience in the behavioral health field and a BS in psychology from TSU, Will brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to his work. In recent years, after his time as a clinical counselor in the non-profit treatment sector, Will has played a crucial role in various initiatives with the TDMHSAS.

Kristen Warren, M.S., LPC-MHSP

Kristen is a dedicated mental health professional with a MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling, graduating from Lipscomb University in 2020. Since entering the field in 2019, she has established a private practice focused on supporting clients. Kristen's passion for her work is evident in her commitment to empowering young individuals, stating, "I can't imagine doing anything else. Seeing hope rising in adolescents has been a huge part of my life."

Charles Winton, Jr., LPC

Charles is a speaker, therapist, author, and musician, whose passion is helping people navigate life's challenges. He holds an MS in Marriage and Family Therapy from Capella University. He is a certified EMDR-II trauma therapist. He currently serves as the Program Director of The Oaks of Lakeside Memphis and Jackson and is the owner of WellSprings Counseling. Charles has been awarded West TN Counseling Association Counselor of the Year.

Anne Young, LADAC II, QCS

Anne is the Director of Recovery Support Services at the Metro Drug Coalition in Knoxville, TN. She holds BS and MS degrees from the University of Tennessee and is a Licensed Alcohol and Drug Addiction Counselor. With a career spanning over 39 years, Anne is dedicated to addiction treatment and suicide prevention. She is Governor appointed to the Tennessee Suicide Prevention Network Advisory Council and has served in a variety of leadership roles at the state and regional levels.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
7:30-9:00 Registration	7:30-9:00 Registration	7:30-9:00 Registration
8:45 Opening Ceremonies: Color Guard	8:45 Announcements	8:45 Announcements
9:00 Plenary 1 Tommy Farmer	9:00 Plenary 2 Chip Dodd	9:00 Plenary 3 James Campbell
10:30 BREAK 10:50 Door Prizes	10:30 BREAK 10:50 Door Prizes	10:30 BREAK 10:50 Door Prizes
11:00 Plenary 1 Tommy Farmer	11:00 Plenary 2 Chip Dodd	11:00 Plenary 3 James Campbell
12:30 LUNCH NAADAC	12:30 LUNCH Regional Meetings	12:30 LUNCH TAADAC meeting and state awards
1:30 Silent Auction Opens	Breakout Sessions	1:30 Silent Auction ends
 2-3:30 T1: Frank Iovine T2: Benson/Patterson T3: Jerry Jenkins T4: Deborah Driggs T5: Trish Caldwell 3:30 BREAK 	2-3:30 W1: Chip Dodd W2: Karen Moran W3: Anne Young W4: Kristen Robinson W5: Janice Johnson Dowd 3:30 BREAK	2-3:30 TH1:James Campbell TH2: Joel Jakubowski TH3: Bobby Chapman TH4: Jimmy Cook TH5: Lene' Brown 3:30 BREAK
 4-5:30 T6: Joel Jakubowski T7: Benson/Patterson T8: Davis/Warren T9: Karen Moran T10: Charles Harper 6:00-8:00 	4-5:30 W6: Chip Dodd W7: Charles Winton W8: Frank Iovine W9: Ross Sparboe W10: Trish Caldwell 6:00-8:00	4-5:30 TH6:James Campbell TH7: Ward/Berry TH8: Bobby Chapman TH9: John Buffington 5:30 Certificates
T11: Peter Hodes T12: Benson/Patterson T13: Will Taylor	W11: Ross Lester W12: Jennett/Heinze W13: Julie Bradley	Distributed

Registration Form

Journey Together Conference September 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th

NAME:			
MAILING ADDRESS:			
CITY/STATE/ZIP:			
EMPLOYER:			
DAY PHONE: () CELL: ()			
E-MAIL ADDRESS:			
Indicate which workshops and lunches (included in conference registration fee) you plan to attend: Tuesday Lunch Wednesday Lunch Thursday Lunch Vegetarian meals? Yes No			
Please choose only one workshop for each time slot: Monday, September 1st Evening Sessions 4:00-5:25 M1 Cunningham/Taylor 5:35-6:55 M2 Charles Harper 7:05-8:30 M5 Jon Buffington M6 Janice Johnson Dowd			
2:00-3:30 T1 Iovine $4:00-5:30$ T6 Jakubowski T2 Benson/Patterson T7 Benson/Patterson T8 Davis/Warren T4 Driggs T9 Moran T5 Caldwell T10 Harper 6:00-8:00 T11 Hodes T12 Benson/Patterson T13 Taylor Wednesday, September 3rd			
2:00-3:30 W1 Dodd 4:00-5:30 W6 Dodd W2 Moran W3 Young W8 Iovine W4 Robinson W9 Sparboe W5 Johnson Dowd W10 Caldwell 6:00-8:00 W11 Lester W12 Jennett/Heinze W13 Bradley Thursday, September 4th			
2:00-3:30TH1Campbell4:00-5:30TH6CampbellTH2JakubowskiTH7Ward/BerryTH3ChapmanTH8ChapmanTH4CookTH9Buffington			

Fee and Payment for Conference

Registration: Early Bird Rate through August 25 \$295____ TAADAC Members: \$330 Non-Members: **Rates after August 25** TAADAC Members: \$315 \$360 Non-Members: **One Day Rate:** \$125 ____ \$150 ____ TAADAC Members: Non-Members: Committee member Presenter Payment: ____ Check/MO ____ Credit Card Visa/MC Total \$ For Credit Card Charges: Card Type: MasterCard Visa AmEx Discover Account Number Expiration Date (3 digit code on back of card or 4 digit code on front of AmEx) CVVS Billing address including zip code Signature of Card Holder: **Register online at WWW.TAADAC.org** Or Credit card registrations can be phoned in, faxed or mailed to **Toby Abrams** Phone: 615-386-3333 ext. 103 Fax: 615-386-3353 Organizational discount for 5 or more attendees. Partial scholarships are available and limited to the first 50 applicants. Please fax requests for organizational discounts and scholarships to Toby Abram or submit in writing to the address below.

> Submit completed registration form and payment to: MTAADAC 2505 21st Ave. S., Suite 410, Nashville, TN 37212

Location and Accommodations Marriott Cool Springs 700 Cool Springs Blvd, Franklin, TN 37067 (615) 261-6100 (800) 228-9290

Newly renovated Marriott Cool Springs is just 20 minutes south of Nashville. Unique among hotels in historic Franklin, TN, it is surrounded by upscale shopping, dining and history. Cool Springs Galleria Mall, Crescent Centre and Highwoods are within walking distance or just a short ride away from our Cool Springs hotel. They offer wireless Internet access at no charge and free shuttle service within a five-mile radius. Stave Regional Kitchen and Lounge offers a variety of dining and entertainment options to inspire productivity and interaction at Franklin Marriott Cool Springs. Ask for the Journey Together Conference room rate of \$147 per night (includes free internet), by 8/23/2025. Do not delay and miss this early bargain!

Directions

From the south: Follow I-65 north to Exit 68A (Cool Springs Blvd.). Follow signs for Cool Springs Blvd. East. Upon exiting, turn right at the bottom of ramp. Turn left on Carothers Pkwy. Hotel is on the right.

From the Airport: Take I-40 West from Nashville Int'l Airport to I-24 E, to I-440 West. Take I-65 South (to Huntsville). Follow approx. 17 miles. Take exit 68-A to Cool Springs Blvd. East. The hotel is located on the left corner at the first stop light.





2505 21st Avenue South - Suite 410 Nashville, Tennessee 37212

MIDDLE TN ASSOC. OF ALCOHOLISM

AND DRUG ABUSE COUNSELORS

ourney Together Conference

Return Service Requested