



# End the Stigma: Addressing Substance Abuse Disorder



ICAHN 2023 Opioid Conference  
Tuesday, June 27  
I-Hotel & Conference Center  
Champaign, IL

- 7:30 – 8 Light Breakfast – Chancellor Ballroom
- 8 – 8:10 Welcome
- 8:10 – 8:30 **Becoming a Peer Recovery Specialist**  
*Frankie Ward*, Recovery Specialist, Chestnut Health Systems  
Having struggled with an OUD, Frankie has personal experience with the court and justice system, child welfare, probation, and drug court. Her journey has included great loss and pain, but is now filled with hope, light, and freedom - and the opportunity to promote recovery, address stigma, empower people to live their best life and engage communities.
- 8:30 – 9:00 **Deflection and Pre-arrest Diversion: What It's About? Why It Matters? Why You Should Be Doing It!**  
*Koren Vander Weele*, BS, Deflection Administrator, TASC Center for Health and Justice  
As deflection administrator for TASC's (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities) Center for Health and Justice, Koren provides training and technical assistance (TTA) on the planning and implementation of deflection initiatives to jurisdictions in Illinois. Before joining TASC, she worked with PTACC (Police, Treatment, and Community Collaborative) to develop its deflection fellowship program.
- 9 – 10:00 **IL Learning Collaborative to Support MAR Implementation for Justice-Involved Populations**  
*Julie White*, Principal, HMA  
With more than 25 years of experience in comprehensive healthcare and justice-related service delivery, Julie White has developed policy, strategic plans and utilized implementation science to improve complex care operations, behavioral health programs, and streamline processes to improve quality and overall care delivery.
- 10 – 10:15 Break
- 10:15 – 11:30 **Building Communities of Recovery**  
*Mike Tyson*, Founder and Executive Director, Take Action Today  
Mike is a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist with over 22 years of experience recovering from mental health and substance use challenges. He is the founder and executive director of Take Action Today Inc, a 501c3 not-for-profit that operates a recovery community organization based in Franklin County, IL.
- 11:30 – 12:30 Lunch and Networking
- 12:30 – 1:30 **Reducing Substance Use Stigma: What Works to Create Positive Change**  
*Rachael Cooper*, MFS, Senior Director, Stigma for ShatterProof  
Rachael has devoted her career to addressing the overdose crisis, including providing direct services to people with substance use disorders, facilitating harm reduction work, providing thought leadership, and working in public policy, both in the U.S. and abroad.
- 1:30 – 3:00 **Panel Discussion**  
*Mike Tyson, Zach George, Leann Courson*
- 3:00 Wrap-up and closing