

# Introduction to Harm Reduction

Wednesday - September 1, 2021

Start time: 12:00 PM EDT End time: 2:30 PM EDT

Instructors: Andrew Spiers, LSW & Jeffrey Jackson, MA

Wednesday, September 1st is the first day of National Recovery Month. Get off to a great start by learning about harm reduction best practices alongside our Housing First University experts. This webinar will provide an overview of the harm reduction philosophy and practical strategies for implementing this approach with individuals experiencing homelessness, mental health challenges, substance use, and other bio psychosocial stressors. Attendees will explore harm reduction as an evidenced-based intervention that minimizes the potential impact of high-risk behaviors through practical and effective solutions. Presenters will emphasize the person-centered aspects of this model, which prioritize the independence and autonomy of clients, with particular focus on individuals using opioids. By the end of this session, attendees will be able to connect their passion for the helping others with the responsibility to reduce stigma and help clients take ownership of their own health and safety. Ample time will be allotted for Q&A.

### Learning objectives:

**When attendees return to the workplace, they will be able to:**

- Define stigma and explain its impact on people who use drugs or engage in other risky behaviors
- Name three strategies to help individuals decrease drug-related harm
- Identify three high-risk transition points and appropriate overdose prevention strategies for each

**Target Audience:** Social service providers and helping professionals with direct client contact, clinical supervisors, agency administrators, and policy-makers.

**Social Work Practice level:** This course is appropriate for beginner and intermediate BSW/MSW learners

**Content level:** This course covers beginner and intermediate level material

**Course delivery format:** Live webinar

**Interactivity:** This course will offer 15 minutes of Q&A time, as well as real-time polling, and group discussion prompts.

**Credit hours offered:** 2\*

**Fees:** \$20 general registration; additional \$5 for registration with LSW/LCSW CE credit

*Registration includes access to the live event and recording, PDF of slides, and relevant training tip sheets/resources.*

**To register, please visit:** <http://bit.ly/3CGAI71> - Information for accessing the live webinar session will be emailed to participants upon receipt of payment.

**Registration deadline:** Individuals may register up until the start time of the event.

**Course completion requirements:** Attendees must attend the entirety of the virtual sessions with system video and audio enabled to participate, and respond to all poll questions and activities. Certificates will be distributed to participants via email and/or DropBox link within two weeks of the course's conclusion. Attendees must complete a course evaluation via Google Forms to receive a certificate. Course evaluation links will be distributed during the session and via email immediately following the training.

**System requirements:** Webinar participants must have access to a computer, tablet, or smart phone with high speed Internet, microphone, speakers, and a Zoom video conferencing account.

To request an **accessibility accommodation**, please email: [training@pathwaystohousingpa.org](mailto:training@pathwaystohousingpa.org)

## Session Facilitators



**Jeffrey Jackson, MA**, joined Pathways to Housing PA in 2017. After helping to establish best practices for the agency's first clinical team dedicated to serving individuals with opioid use disorder, Jeffrey became a Senior Team Leader and has been a vital asset in expanding our substance-focused clinical services. Jeffrey has 20+ years of clinical and supervisory experience in the behavioral health field. He received a Master of Arts from Alvernia University in 2005, where he concentrated in Counseling and Addiction Studies.



**Andrew Spiers, LSW**, is the Director of Training and Technical Assistance for Housing First University, the education and training initiative of Pathways to Housing PA. Andrew joined Pathways in early 2018 and served in a clinical leadership role before launching Housing First University in October 2019. Andrew holds a Master's of Social Service from Bryn Mawr College's Graduate School of Social Work and Social Research, where he concentrated in Community Practice, Policy, & Advocacy.

## Session Agenda

12:00-12:15 pm	Virtual training room opens
12:15-12:25 pm	Welcome, introductions, & check-in activity
12:25-12:40 pm	Unpacking stigma and its impact on PWUD
12:40-1:20 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overview of the harm reduction philosophy</li><li>• Everyday applications of harm reduction</li><li>• Goals, limitations, and outcomes in harm reduction</li></ul>
1:20-1:35 pm	Break
1:35-2:10 pm	Clinical harm reduction strategies
2:10-2:30 pm	Review & closing remarks Q&A

\* Eastern Daylight Time

For questions, concerns, or accessibility accommodations, please contact:

**Andrew Spiers, LSW**

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Housing First University: a program of Pathways to Housing PA, Provider number 1759, is approved to offer social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB) Approved Continuing Education (ACE) program. Organizations, not individual courses, are approved as ACE providers. State and provincial regulatory boards have the final authority to determine whether an individual course may be accepted for continuing education credit. Housing First University: a program of Pathways to Housing PA maintains responsibility for this course. ACE provider approval period: 1/12/2021-1/12/2022. Social workers completing this course receive 2 continuing education credits.