Virtual Tuerk Conference on Mental Health & Addiction Treatment

Purpose and Objectives: 2020 Vision: Working Together During Challenging Times

Conference Chairman, Robert White, LCPC, Director of External Affairs and Business Development, University of Maryland, Department of Psychiatry

The purpose of the conference is to increase the participant’s understanding of current issues in the field of mental health and substance use disorders. This includes: social determinants of recovery, the opioid epidemic, the stages of change model, the latest addiction research and its implications for clinical practice, sexual health in recovery, updates on medical cannabis in Maryland, problem gambling, police reform, decriminalization, economic downturns, racial inequities, trends and other treatment related issues, including COVID-19.

The annual Tuerk Conference continues to be the premier conference in the region for providers, administrators, counselors and advocates to learn the latest information on events and changes that will affect them. It is vitally important for professionals in this field to stay informed about these changes and their impact on patient care.

Other topics that will be covered include: Vaping and addiction, promoting employment in recovery, adverse childhood experiences and addiction, online gaming disorder, addiction treatment during the pandemic of COVID-19, decriminalization of drug use and related topics.

Upon completion participants will be able to:

1. Describe the impact of social determinants (such as housing, medical care and food security) on a person’s chances for recovery.
2. Explain the causes and development of the opioid epidemic in the US.
3. Identify resources in Maryland for mental health and addiction treatment.
4. Describe the current status for medical cannabis in Maryland.
5. Explain the need for harm reduction strategies in helping drug addicted persons.
6. Describe the Maryland Opioid Command Center response to the current opioid crisis.
7. Explain how recent research developments will impact the addiction treatment field.