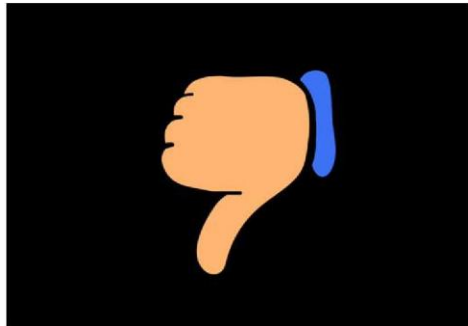


Language Matters

Language is powerful. Positive language increases access to recovery.

Recovery friendly language focuses on the person, not the disease.

When discussing substance use disorders:



<p>Addiction is a failure of morals or willpower</p> <p>Substance abuse</p> <p>Addict, junkie, substance abuser</p> <p>Recovering addict</p> <p>Relapse is to be expected</p> <p>Recovery = abstinence</p> <p>Person is hopeless, has not hit rock bottom, has burned all bridges</p> <p>Medication is a crutch, a person on medication is not really sober/clean</p> <p>Self-help</p>	<p>Substance use disorder is a health condition</p> <p>Substance misuse, addiction</p> <p>Person using drugs</p> <p>Person working on their recovery</p> <p>Return to use may or may not be part of a recovery process</p> <p>Harm reduction meets people where they are at without leaving them there</p> <p>Person has not found their own pathway to recovery yet</p> <p>Medication is a tool for initiating recovery</p> <p>Recovery fellowship, peer-support</p>	<p>Substance use disorder is a treatable health condition and recovery is possible</p> <p>Substance use disorder, person with addiction</p> <p>Person living with addiction or substance use disorder</p> <p>Person in recovery</p> <p>Recovery is not linear</p> <p>Harm reduction is a recovery pathway</p> <p>There are multiple pathways to recovery, there is always hope</p> <p>Medication is one of multiple pathways of recovery</p> <p>Recovery community</p>
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