

## Listening Session Regarding Involuntary Civil Commitment for Alcohol and Other Drugs | June 24, 2020

### Participant Chat

**Eric Moran** | there problem with this issue is everyone has a good point and all the perspectives are correct.

**Michelle Lennon** | Benefits: If the resources were there to connect to... mandated treatment centers separate from those of voluntary treatment could allow for detoxification but executive functioning doesn't come back sometimes for months, but could lead to opportunity for an individual to get clear enough to want recovery. What if they don't have insurance for long term care? It could also lead to overdose if recovery supports beyond treatment are not in place, tolerance drops and use occurs... or if someone is not wanting recovery and works to get out of commitment to pick up use again. Education around harm reduction should be part of treatment and recovery. As a family member I could not FORCE a solution, but could preserve health and life. Narcan training (THANKS DONNA & RYAN) saved my family. Had I not had that, life would be very different. Through healthcare support is also key. Length of stay... 28 days is often not enough, and lack of housing supports is also a major issue. Use interrupted, its not recovery.

**Eric Moran** | I think the bottom line is we need to find a way to help and house those that are seeking recovery and as soon as it's easier to willingly seek recovery more people will want it.

**Dawna Jones** | I think that talking with the heads of the ACT teams at the CMHCs in the state is crucial before moving forward as well. Especially with Manchester and Concord as they have had ACT teams the longest and understand the benefits and weaknesses of IEA and CDs. This would help ensure that if we do move forward we plan as best as possible to make sure we have all the knowledge necessary to make it successful.

**Kevin Keefe** | If ICC for substance use becomes a reality in NH, I am hoping that ICC would also consider outpatient treatment and not just inpatient.

**Heather Smith** | Thank you Dawna for pointing this out. I do want to remind that Greater Nashua Mental Health and their ACT team that they too have a great deal of experience with SUD and the ACT model who would greatly like to be a part of that conversation you mention.

**Amanda Lampron** | I work at the Family Resource Center and I am a CRSW! I have been in recovery from opioids and anxiety medication for 4 1/2 years now! There are many times I had wished someone would have committed me but then I stop and think what good that would have done!! It wouldn't have done any good because unless I was ready, truly ready at that time, I would have been doing it for someone else and not myself!! It's so very important that people realize we cannot fix or change people with substance use disorder or mental health issues!! only they can do that! I think this could work for some, yes, absolutely!! But for most, they will feel pressured and angered that someone is committing them so I truly believe they won't take it as serious as if they were to go into recovery themselves! Everyone has a line, but what that line is is different for each individual! I have some mixed feelings on this!!

**Michelle Lennon** | Maybe two tracks... if someone wants recovery, move in that direction. If some one doesn't want recovery, teach about the effects on the brain and harm reduction strategies and resources to remain safe when using.

**Michelle Lennon** | Just thinking, this really contradicts SAMSHA Recovery Core Values.

**Michelle Lennon** | Unless we really separate out intervention...

**Amanda Lampron** | agreed Michelle

**Jeffrey Stewart** | THANK YOU to EVERYONE for speaking and listening in!!! THANK YOU to the HOSTS for doing this - really informative and thought provoking!!!!

**Lynn Fuller** | Thank you everyone..GREAT JOB to all involved

**Michelle Lennon** | Family education on the stages of Recovery.

**Sarah Shanahan** | Thank you all.

**Donna Marston** | Thank you, this was a great conversation

**Michelle Lennon** | Thank you! :)

**Amanda Lampron** | thank you!!!

**Heather Smith** | Thank you!