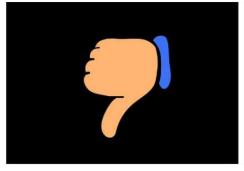
Language Matters

Language is powerful. Positive language increases access to recovery.

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

When discussing substance use disorders:







Addiction is a failure of morals or willpower

Substance abuse

Addict, junkie, substance abuser

Recovering addict

Relapse is to be expected

Recovery = abstinence

Person is hopeless, has not hit rock bottom, has burned all bridges

Medication is a crutch, a person on medication is not really sober/clean

Self-help

Substance use disorder is a health condition

Substance misuse, addiction

Person using drugs

Person working on their recovery

Return to use may or may not be part of a recovery process

Harm reduction meets people where they are at without leaving them there

Person has not found their own pathway to recovery yet

Medication is a tool for initiating recovery

Recovery fellowship, peersupport Substance use disorder is a treatable health condition and recovery is possible

Substance use disorder, person with addiction

Person living with addiction or substance use disorder

Person in recovery

Recovery is not linear

Harm reduction is a recovery pathway

There are multiple pathways to recovery, there is always hope

Medication is one of multiple pathways of recovery

Recovery community

