WORDS MATTER

Person first language helps create an inclusive environment that promotes treatment and respect.

Avoid	Use
Addict	Person with substance use disorder
Drug Abuser	
Alcoholic	Person with alcohol use disorder
Former/Reformed Addict/Alcoholic	Person in recovery
Drug problem, Drug Habit	Substance use disorder
Drug Abuse	Drug misuse
Clean	Abstinent, not actively using
Dirty	Actively using
A clean drug screen	Testing negative for substance use
A dirty drug screen	Testing positive for substance use
Detoxification	Withdrawal management

Opioid replacement, methadone maintenance, or medication assisted treatment

Medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD)



