

THE SUBSTANCE USE EPIDEMIC: ADDRESSING A COMPLEX PROBLEM WITH INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS

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OUTLINE

- The Problem
- The Solutions
 - Research – better understanding = better outcomes
 - Education – the next generation
 - Treatment – better to prevent but
 - Service – helping communities
 - Innovation – outside of the box



THE PROBLEM

- Always been here, worse now, still has not peaked
- WV Number #1 in the worse ways
- How we got to this point
- WVU is uniquely poised
- Factors that need to be addressed
 - Stigma – disease not a moral failing
 - Access – treatment saturation
 - Community – working together/state culture
 - Economics – hope



SOLUTIONS: RESEARCH

- Improving outcomes
- Personalized treatments – genetics and psychological (interaction with trauma)



RESEARCH INNOVATION

- Dr. Rezai's team –
 - Sensory-based predication of relapse in real time
 - Virtual Reality
 - Neuromodulation



SOLUTIONS: EDUCATION

- Training the next generation of providers
- Development of new training programs



EDUCATION: INNOVATIONS

- Accelerating knowledge and then care forward by training the next generation to be better than their teachers



SOLUTIONS: TREATMENT

- Evidenced based care
- High quality wrap-around care (biopsychosocial)
- Expansion of COAT (comprehensive outpatient addiction treatment)
- Add-ons (complimentary medicine)
- Address Pain (biopsychosocial)



TREATMENT: INNOVATIONS

- Use of TeleCOAT
- ECHO (Extending Community Health Outcomes, University of New Mexico)
- Job Training
- Housing
- Child care



SOLUTIONS: SERVICE

- WVU as a land grant institution
- Committed, impassioned faculty and staff who love what they do and do what they love



SERVICE: INNOVATION

- Giving back
- Tapping sense of community
- Service is peace

