

Summary Webinar – Developing Gender-Sensitive Addiction Treatment

The roundtable gave a platform to four knowledgeable speakers, representing the four areas of prevention (*Diana Joseph*), harm-reduction (*Jorgelina di Iorio*), treatment (*Edward C. Carlson*), and rehabilitation (*Jane Mwangi*), have come together to discuss the necessity of developing gender-sensitive addiction treatment. They shared their knowledge and experience to other practitioners, highlighting their challenges but also the opportunities and the needs to ensure the limitation of barriers for women and the LGBTQ+ communities. Several discussion questions were asked by the moderator as well as by the audience.

Contact details/information from Speakers

Diana Joseph - Fourth Wave Foundation - <https://www.fourthwavefoundation.org/>

Jorgelina di Iorio – Intercambios - <https://www.intercambios.org.ar/>

Jane Mwangi - Willing Way Foundation - <https://willingwaywellnesscenter.org/>

Ed Carlson - Seeking Safety Curriculum <https://www.treatment-innovations.org/seeking-safety.html>

Video on OHL and Gender-Sensitive Programming:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ENsNkbw1VDA>

Questions Contact: Ed Carlson, Chief Executive Officer ecarlson@ohlinc.org

Rosa Thomason, Transitions and OHMEGA Program Manager rthomason@ohlinc.org

Main takeaways

- Stigma around women and LGBTQ+ communities need to be reduced and treatment for these communities needs to be made more accessible, affordable, and normalised.
- Increase gender-specific treatment protocols and separate treatment groups for women
- Empower women and educate them on their rights within their socio-cultural setting
- Decrease the cultural barriers
- More representation on women using substances and in treatment in data and research.
- Need to focus on and include trauma-related treatment
- Educate treatment centres, staff, and clients on women rights and issues
- Need for more advocacy from grassroots levels on governmental level
- Engage youth and communities in prevention measure programmes
- Strongly engage family in treatment
- Get together as a global community to work collect and share data on evidence-based treatment through experience.
- Approach the programme from a transversal basis with a strong link with Human Rights
- It is key to learn from other programmes with a gender perspective

Recordings

The webinar has been recorded in English and Spanish

Find the English recording [here](#)

Find the Spanish recording [here](#)