In this workshop, APS professionals will gain foundational information in substance use and misuse, substance use related disorders experienced by older adults and explore what recovery can mean to this population. This workshop promises to summarize various substances that are most likely to be used by older adults and consider the impact they have on older adults. Participants will use the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) working definition of recovery and guiding principles, as they explore risk factors specific to older adults. They will also work within that definition to review assessments that APS can use in order to create collaborative service plans that include interventions that mitigate risk, empowering clients to live a life of recovery.

Learning Objectives

Upon completion of this training participants will be able to:

- Define Substance Related Disorders
- Identify substances older adults are most susceptible to becoming dependent on
- Identify three risk factors of substance use disorders as seen in older adults and explain how those risk factors may impact the person
- Summarize SAMSHA’s 10 principles of recovery as they apply to working with those served by APS
- Explain three interventions that can be used to create a collaborative service plan with someone experiencing a substance use disorder

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**Meet the Trainer**

Alice Joy Kirk is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who has a Bachelor’s degree in Psychology and a Masters of Social Work, both from California State University, San Bernardino. She has been providing clinical services to vulnerable and underserved populations for 17 years. Five of those years have been spent working with older adults with severe mental health issues and co-occurring disorders where she gained knowledge and experience in the challenges facing the older adult population and began to focus on the severe impact that a lack of affordable housing creates.

Alice is currently a Clinic Supervisor over the ARISE program in San Bernardino County. She also provides supervision for Children and Family Services, San Bernardino.

Alice has presented on ageism, mental health, quality of life, and the rapidly growing problem of homelessness in older adulthood. She believes that all interventions should be addressed from a whole-person perspective and shaped to encourage resilience, build empowerment, strengthen autonomy, and encourage creativity and purpose.

**Virtual Training Protocol**

- Download or update the most recent version of Zoom
- Always use a headset, microphone, and have camera on when possible
- Use "Computer Audio" for optimal experience
- Consider logging in 10 minutes early to troubleshoot tech challenges
- Limit distractions, prepare your workspace, find comfortable seating

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