



## **Substance Use Disorder in Child Protective Cases**

**When:** December 1, 2023 from 8:55AM-4:00PM

**Where:** Zoom

**Cost:** Free

**Summary:** This training will cover various topics related to substance use disorder (SUD) informed by medical and legal perspectives. Participants will learn about treatment options, levels of care, Family Treatment Recovery Courts, and how to advocate for clients who have SUD, and how to effectively work with DHHS to reunify families where SUD is present.

**Eligibility:** This training is *only* open to attorneys who are currently eligible to receive MCILS case assignments.

**Registration:** Register [here](#).

**CLE Credit:** This training has been approved for 5.75 hours of MCILS CLE credit. Maine Board of Overseers CLE credit pending.



## **Substance Use Disorder in Child Protective Cases**

December 1, 2023

8:55AM-9:00AM	<b>Introduction</b>
9:00AM-11:00AM	<b>Treating Substance Use Disorder with the Medical Model, Levels of Care, &amp; Treatment Options</b> <i>Dr. Alane O'Connor</i>
11:00AM-11:15AM	<u>Break</u>
11:15AM-12:15PM	<b>The Role of Recovery Housing</b> <i>Dr. Ronald Springel</i>
12:15PM-1:00PM	<u>Lunch Break</u>
1:00PM-2:15PM	<b>Family Treatment Recovery Courts</b> <i>Chelsea Peters, Jessica Staples, &amp; Julian Richter</i>
2:15PM-2:30PM	<u>Break</u>
2:30PM-4:00PM	<b>Working with Clients in Treatment</b> <i>Taylor Kilgore, Chelsea Peters, &amp; Julian Richter</i>

## **Course Summary:**

### **Treating Substance Use Disorder with the medical model, Levels of Care and Treatment options with Dr. Alane O'Connor**

The presentation will:

- Define the basics of substance use disorder, including neurobiological responses to substances, epidemiology particularly as it pertains to justice-involved individuals, and common comorbidities.
- Describe several brief, simple, validated screening tools that can identify risky behaviors and substance use disorder.
- Discuss the medical management of opioid, stimulant, and alcohol use disorders and benefits of integrated care models.
- Explain potential benefits and limitations of toxicology testing.
- Summarize important harm reduction strategies that help to mitigate complications of ongoing substance use.
- Include a discussion on person-first language and how stigmatizing terms impact attitudes among individuals and society.

### **The Role of Recovery Housing- Ronald Springel, MD**

This presentation will provide an overview of what a recovery residence is, what certification means, and the model of social recovery (also called the Social-Experiential Recovery Paradigm). There will be a discussion about what part a recovery residence can play in rehabilitation and family reunification. The presentation will also discuss the costs and process for finding a suitable residence.

### **Family Treatment Recovery Courts- Chelsea Peters, Jessica Staples, & Julian Richter**

This presentation will discuss the role and model of Family Treatment Drug Court (FTRC) in child protective cases. The discussion will include information about referring clients to FTRC, the requirements of FTRC, the risks and benefits of engaging in the program, and the differences in the FTRC programs that currently exist in Augusta and Lewiston.

### **Working With Clients in Treatment – Taylor Kilgore, Chelsea Peters, & Julian Richter**

This presentation will focus on effective strategies to work with clients who have active or past substance use issues and open child protective involvement with the Department of Health and Human Services. The discussion will center on when and how to refer clients to the appropriate services, how the Americans with Disabilities Act applies to substance use disorders, how to manage clients with various substance use issues, and how to work with the Department to effectively reunify families with these issues present.

## **Faculty Bios:**

### **Dr. Alane O'Connor, DNP**

Dr. Alane O'Connor, DNP, spent more than 15 years leading MaineGeneral Medical Center's efforts to expand access to substance use treatment including rapid access buprenorphine in the ED, implementing the high-acuity step down program, Outpatient Plus, expanding access in primary care and developing an inpatient substance use disorder consult service. During that time, Dr. O'Connor was faculty at Maine Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency, educating more than 100 resident physicians, and led several grant-funded projects in substance use disorder prevention, treatment and harm reduction. She has a particular interest in caring for pregnant women with substance use disorders and has published numerous peer-reviewed articles both here and abroad on maternal and infant outcomes following buprenorphine exposure during pregnancy. In May of 2020, Dr. O'Connor became the medical advisor of the Maine Maternal Opioid Misuse (MaineMOM) Initiative, a 5-year, \$5 million federal grant to expand access to substance use treatment services for pregnant and postpartum women in each of Maine's 16 counties. She now serves as the first director of perinatal addiction medicine at Maine Medical Center and trains both resident physicians and addiction medicine fellows. Dr. O'Connor also works to expand access to treatment in the correctional system and is leading a grant funded effort at the Somerset County Jail in Skowhegan. Finally, Dr. O'Connor co-chairs Maine's Opioid Response Clinical Advisory Committee, which advises the Governor's opioid response director on clinical and public policy issues.

### **Dr. Ronald Springel**

Dr. Ron Springel is a retired physician who now serves as the Executive Director of the Maine Association of Recovery Residences (MARR). Before coming to MARR, Ron was a board member and volunteer for the organization. His medical practice was in the field of addiction and emergency medicine. He serves on the Maine Accidental Overdose Death Review Panel. He has lived experience in recovery and recovery housing.

### **Jessica Staples**

Jessica Staples has been the Kennebec County Family Treatment Recovery Court case manager since April 2021. She has a bachelor's degree in linguistics from Brigham Young University and a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from University of Maine Augusta. She is continuing her education at University of Maine Augusta in the Mental Health and Human Services program. She is a big advocate for treatment and the importance of being a positive support for people struggling with substance use.

### **Julian Richter, Esq.**

Julian Richter is a practicing attorney, with an office in Bath. He specializes in child protective cases and complex family matter litigation. Julian is a graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa University of Maine School of Law. He is currently the President of the Maine Parental Rights Attorneys Association (MePRAA) and serves as the central office resource counsel for child protective cases. He also serves in the parent defense role for the Augusta FTTC and is a member of the Maine Child Welfare Advisory Panel (MCWAP).

**Chelsea Peters, Esq.**

Chelsea Peters has been a solo practitioner attorney and guardian ad litem in the Lewiston/Auburn area since 2010. She specializes in GAL work, parent representation in child protection cases, juvenile defense, and emancipation cases. Chelsea has been the Maine State Coordinator for the National Association of Counsel for Children (NACC) since 2021. She also sits on the Maine Child Welfare Advisory Panel. Chelsea is the attorney liaison for the Lewiston District Court's Family Recovery Court program. She graduated from Bowdoin College in 2004 and the University of Washington School of Law in 2009. She lives in Portland with her husband and two young boys and runs marathons in her free time.

**Taylor Kilgore, Esq.**

Taylor runs a small firm, Kilgore Law, PLLC, based in Turner, Maine. Her focus is around child protection matters (both as a parent attorney and as a Guardian ad litem) and as a Guardian ad litem in family matters cases. She is a graduate of University of Maine at Augusta and the University of Maine School of Law. Prior to law school, she worked in the mental health field with adults with serious and persistent mental illnesses. She is the vice president and secretary of MEPRAA and is Resource Counsel for Protective Custody matters with MCILS. Taylor serves on various boards and committees, including the CASA Advisory Panel and the Maine Child Welfare Advisory Panel. Taylor lives in Turner with her husband, Rob (who does all things non-lawyer at the law firm), and their three children, Wyatt, Milo, and Paige.