

December 2, 2020 |
8 - 5 P.M

<https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/92599675130>

Eastern Sierra Substance Use Conference

All day conference with 6 speakers and 2 panel sessions (community and professional/community discussion). Substance use topics ranging from MAT, harm reduction, stigma, barriers to care, perinatal substance use, and hepatitis. Conference is open to all, no cost, no registration.

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Eastern Sierra Substance Use Project

Agenda

0800-0815 Welcome, blessing, honor song

0815-0900 Opening speaker

0900-1000 Dr. Vitka Eisen

1000-1100 Sarah Reese

1100-1230 Marlies Perez and Arlene Brown

1300-1400 Community panel, stigma, and
barriers to care discussion

1405-1500 Rachel McLean

1505-1600 Jessica Smith

1600-1700 Open discussion
Closing ceremony

Speakers		Bio
 <p data-bbox="185 695 334 737">9-10am</p>	<p data-bbox="472 176 764 470">Dr. Vitka Eisen, President & CEO of HealthRIGHT 360</p>	<p data-bbox="794 170 1542 772">Vitka Eisen is the President and Chief Executive Officer of HealthRIGHT 360, a network of Federally Qualified Health Centers and one of the largest providers of behavioral health services to marginalized Californians. With over 30 years of experience in human services, she has dedicated her career to supporting people and communities struggling with addiction and incarceration through the provision of integrated, compassionate, and relevant care. Since being appointed to her current role in 2010, Vitka has led HealthRIGHT 360 through a series of mergers, growing the organization to serve over 36,000 people annually. A frequent speaker on innovative clinical and business practices, Vitka serves on the board of directors of the National Council for Behavioral Health, the California Association of Drug and Alcohol Program Executives, and the California Council of Community Behavioral Health Agencies. Vitka earned a MSW from San Francisco State University and a Doctorate from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She is also a person in long term recovery from substance use disorder; having participated in treatment over 30 years ago at the agency she now leads.</p>
 <p data-bbox="175 1205 347 1247">10-11am</p>	<p data-bbox="472 827 724 1121">Sarah Reese, Assistant Professor at University of Montana</p>	<p data-bbox="794 821 1542 1234">Sarah Reese has over a decade of direct social work practice working with individuals and families impacted by poverty, oppression, and mental health and substance use disorders. This experience has informed her research interests – primarily, integrated health intervention to promote health and well-being during the perinatal period, with a particular focus on parental substance use disorder. Sarah embedded herself in a high-risk prenatal clinic specializing in substance use disorder treatment to complete her doctoral research, while supervising eight social work interns. As an assistant professor at the University of Montana, Sarah teaches in the graduate social work program and serves as principal investigator on a study evaluating a system-wide intervention to universal screen obstetric patients for substance use and connect them to needed services.</p>
	<p data-bbox="472 1283 740 1520">Marlies Perez and Arlene Brown (NIH/Inyo)</p>	<p data-bbox="794 1276 1542 1787">Marlies L. Perez is the Division Chief over the Community Service Division (CSD) within the Department of Health Care Services. The CSD is responsible for various behavioral health programs and services for adults, youth, and children. The CSD is charged with policy development, oversight, compliance, and monitoring of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP) and Children’s Therapeutic Care Programs. Additionally, CSD administers several grants through the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) including; the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG), Community Mental Health Services Block Grant. CSD is also responsible for the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis (Opioid STR) Grants and has funded the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Expansion Project. The MAT Expansion Project consists of three primary components which include the California Hub and Spoke System (CA H&SS), increasing the availability and utilization of MAT statewide,</p>

11am-12pm

and Tribal MAT Project. As part of grant oversight, CSD administers multiple contracts with counties and providers. Other programs CSD oversees are behavioral health prevention and family services and Proposition 64 youth Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Prevention funding. The CSD is also responsible for conducting data analysis and research activities to various programs that provide behavioral health services to individuals throughout California.

Ms. Perez has worked in the SUD treatment field for over seventeen years; since the inception of Proposition 36. SUD was also responsible for the federal opioid grants oversight, counselor certification and aspects of the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System 1115 waiver. Her other experience includes the California Conservation Corps, president of a non-profit service organization, VISTA Volunteer, and authoring fiction novels. Ms. Perez has a Bachelor's degree in International Relations and a Master's degree in Organizational Management.



Rachel McLean, MPH
(she/her)
Chief, Office of Viral Hepatitis Prevention STD Control Branch

Rachel McLean, MPH, leads the California Department of Public Health, Office of Viral Hepatitis Prevention. Previously, she worked on policies affecting incarcerated youth and their families at the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights in Oakland and on issues affecting people released from prisons and jails at the Council of State Governments Justice Center in New York. While completing her Master of Public Health degree at Johns Hopkins University, she conducted a needs assessment of women at the Baltimore City Detention Center. She served as outreach coordinator for a study of HIV and viral hepatitis among young people who inject drugs, tracking participants to ensure hepatitis A and hepatitis B vaccine adherence, and spent four years working with homeless youth in San Francisco. She also founded the Drug Overdose Prevention and Education (DOPE) Project.

Fatal Opioid Overdose, HIV, and Hepatitis C virus (HCV) Vulnerability

Rachel McLean, MPH, Chief, Office of Viral Hepatitis Prevention, California Department of Public Health (CDPH), will present information on an analysis CDPH conducted to assess county-level vulnerability in California to a rapid increase in fatal opioid overdoses, HIV, or hepatitis C infections related to injection drug use. This information can be used to inform

2-3pm



**Jessica Smith,
MA (she/her)
Community
Mobilization
Coordinator**

3-4pm

Jessica Smith joined National Harm Reduction Coalition in July 2020 as the Community Mobilization Coordinator. She works alongside the Capacity Building team to provide support to new and existing syringe service programs (SSP), specifically in rural communities throughout California. Her background is in direct services, working as an SSP coordinator, program manager and executive director at Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction (HACHR)-- a harm reduction drop-in center and syringe exchange in Eureka, CA. Jessica received her master's degree in Sociology from Humboldt State in 2018, is a state certified HIV test counselor, and is a co-founder of her local harm reduction coalition.

Harm reduction is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use. Harm Reduction is also a movement for social justice built on a belief in, and respect for, the rights of people who use drugs. This presentation will cover the six core principles of harm reduction, discussing harm reduction both as an approach and a movement. We will also touch on stigma and the ways it impacts the provision of services. Finally, we will discuss various harm reduction services and give practical action steps for implementing harm reduction in rural communities.