

HELP REDUCE STIGMA Language Matters

SAY THIS

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NOT THIS

Person with opioid use disorder	Addict, user, druggie, junkie, abuser
Disease	Drug habit
Person living in recovery	Ex-addict
Person arrested for a drug violation	Drug offender
Substance dependent	Hooked
Medication is a treatment tool	Medication is a crutch
Had a setback	Relapsed
Maintained recovery; substance-free	Stayed clean
Negative drug screen	Clean
Positive drug screen	Dirty drug screen

National Council for Behavioral Health, "Language Matters" (2015)

Take the pledge to help reduce the stigma at

KnowTheOFacts.org

Addiction Hotline: 1-800-662-HELP Suicide Prevention: 1-800-273-8255

#KnowTheOFacts