



## WHO WE ARE

STOP STIGMA NOW (SSN) was formed in 2007 by professionals with years of experience in opioid use disorder treatment and research, people with lived experience and their families, now with representation from 22 US states and five countries. Some members of our Board have worked directly with Drs. Vincent Dole, Marie Nyswander, and Mary Jeanne Kreek who developed the first effective treatment for opioid use disorder – methadone – in the late 1960s.

## WHAT WE BELIEVE

We are dedicated to ending the pervasive misunderstanding of medication treatment for opioid use disorder, and discrimination toward people who may benefit from treatment. This misunderstanding has become the greatest barrier to saving lives and helping people achieve recovery. SSN believes that people seeking treatment should receive accurate information about which treatment options are more or less likely to meet their goals, and the relative risks of negative outcomes including the risk of potentially fatal overdose. SSN is respectful of individual preferences and autonomy to make informed choices among OUD treatment options, including the option of non-medical treatment.

## WHAT WE DO

SSN works to prevent unnecessary suffering and death by reducing the stigma, misunderstanding and discrimination that limits access to our most effective existing treatments: medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), especially the opioid agonist medications methadone and buprenorphine. SSN develops and assembles clear and accurate print, electronic and other resources about the established scientific consensus on the role of medication for OUD, and disseminates these through presentations, exhibits at professional conferences, advocacy, social media and open dialog with treatment and recovery providers, policy makers, health professionals, the criminal legal system and the public, including people who use opioids and their families. Ultimately, we work to remove pervasive barriers that prevent most people with OUD from understanding and accessing the most effective life-saving treatments available.

### **ALL MATERIALS AND SERVICES ARE FREE.**

SSN is a 501c3 not for profit organization with no paid staff.

### **PLEASE HELP US HELP YOU**

Become a member of SSN for a small donation or join as an agency.

**STOPSTIGMANOW.ORG**

**MEDICATION TREATMENT FOR OPIOID USE DISORDER SAVES LIVES**