

# AHN SAINT VINCENT

## Creating Educational Opportunities on Caring for Families with Addiction

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### Problem Statement

Stigma surrounding addiction in pregnancy still exists among healthcare workers which can negatively impact the care patients who experience addiction in pregnancy receive

### Status

**Successfully Implemented**

**March 18, 2025**



### Key Interventions

- Collaborate with the interdisciplinary team and key community stakeholders from Gaudenzia House of Healing to develop presentation content
- Obtain meeting space for educational presentations
- Collaborate with House of Healing director and presenters to coordinate dates for presentations
- Create handouts to be used as job aides
- Create an evaluation form for attendees
- Obtain approval for PSNA CEUs for attendees
- Advertise the presentations and encourage attendance across multiple disciplines in the hospital

### Focus Area

**Determine if providing addiction education which includes patient voice may reduce stigma among healthcare team members**

### Measures

**Written evaluation to be completed by attendees after the completion of the presentation which provided anecdotal information**

### Results

Four educational sessions scheduled in 2025 for March 18<sup>th</sup>, June 17<sup>th</sup>, September 16<sup>th</sup> and December 16<sup>th</sup>

Educational session was attended by 22 members of the healthcare team including staff nurses, nursing management, social workers and educators

Overarching themes in post evaluations and how these will impact their practice in caring for patients included:

- Healthcare team members need to be aware of their own biases regarding addiction
- Use person-first language when caring for patients; place emphasis on the person not their disease
- Adverse Childhood Events (ACE) may have played a role in their disease of addiction
- The answer for addiction is connection
- Show empathy and respect. Everyone has a story