

# Harm Reduction Retreat

*Presented by Prevent Overdose Naloxone Intervention & RI Drug User  
Advisory Board*

**Breakfast 9-10:00 am**

**Key Note 1: What is Harm Reduction? 10-11:00 am**

**Presented by Ashley Perry (She/ Her)** ; Ashley is a local harm reduction advocate who currently serves as the Deputy Director at Project Weber/ Renew. Additionally she is currently working as a consultant with PONI to lead our state's first drug user advisory board. Ashley is very passionate about this project as she believes that people who use drugs and those with substance use disorder have the right to have their voices heard and centered in all of our collected efforts to end the epidemic of overdose deaths.

**Workshop # 1: Anti- Stigma 11-12:00 pm**

**Presented by Dr. Jon Soske (He/ Him)** ; Jon Soske is a person in long-term recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. He is also an award-winning educator and researcher who utilizes ethnography and community-engaged research strategies to understand the unfolding institutional crisis in the fields of mental health and substance use treatment. From 2019-2021, he was Director of Advocacy, Education, and Research for a harm reduction and recovery advocacy organization, RICARES. From 2020 to May 2022, he served as director of research for the Rhode Island Transitions Clinic, which is part of a national network of primary care clinics that support formerly incarcerated patients. He has delivered trainings on stigma, harm reduction, peer recovery support, qualitative research methods, and recovery science for the Rutgers Summer School of Addiction Studies, New England Addiction Technology Transfer Center, New England Addiction Summer School, and the City of Providence, among others. Additionally, he consults on community-engaged and participatory research projects for the COBRE on Opioids and Overdoses and is a member of the monthly bulletin team of the Recovery Research Institute at Harvard/Massachusetts General Hospital.

**Lunch 12- 1:00pm: please visit our harm reduction booths**

**Workshop # 2: Safe Use 101 1- 1:50 pm**

**Presented by Thomas Walsh (He/ him):** Tom is a current drug user and expert advisor of the drug user advisory board. He additionally currently serves as the community outreach specialist with the community use testing study aka cuts in conjunction with PONI and Lifespan. Tom has years of experience navigating harm reduction and helping others in his community stay safe by passing on his knowledge of harm reduction.

**Break 1:50- 2:00 pm**

**Workshop # 3: Wound Care 101 2- 3:00 pm**

**Presented by Dr. Matt Perry (they/ them):** Dr. Perry is a family doctor who recently started working for Providence Community Health Center's Crossroads clinic. Before med school, they worked as a community health educator at an HIV clinic for young people in New York City. They trained at Brown for medical school and family medicine residency. While in medical training they spent time community organizing around local issues involving racism, policing and incarceration, and immigrant justice. They have been doing street-based medicine since medical school and are partnering with Project Weber/ Renew to create an outreach program for PCHC.

**Key note 2: Where are we now? 3- 4:30 pm**