



# OPIOID USE DISORDER IN SOUTHWEST MICHIGAN

## AT A GLANCE

The opioid epidemic is one of the largest health problems in America. In one Southwest Michigan county, opioid overdose deaths increased from 36 deaths in 2008 to 104 deaths in 2017. In the same county, stigma was identified as the highest-ranked reason people do not seek opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment.

## OBJECTIVES

1. Review the NASW Code of Ethics to determine how this problem links with our principles and as ethics as social workers.
2. Identify the DSM-V criteria for an opioid use disorder.
3. Increase understanding of how opioid use disorders begin from both historical and recent timeframes.
4. Increase understanding of how the opioid epidemic began from a macro, mezzo, and micro viewpoint.
5. Develop an understanding of the different forms of stigma and how medical providers can inadvertently increase stigma.
6. Identify strategies to increase acceptance of people who struggle with opioid use disorders and other substance use disorders.

## INSTRUCTOR

**Kathy Carruthers, DSW, LMSW, CAADC, BCN** began her social work profession while completing GVSU's MSW program. Upon completion of her degree, she worked with several populations: chronically and persistently mentally ill, deaf and hard of hearing, people with substance use disorders (SUDs), children, and families. Her passion grew to become people who struggle SUD, and this is the passion that led her through her dissertation "Stigma Toward People With Opioid Use Disorder in Southwest Michigan" that she completed in 2022. While on her journey, she began to understand how trauma is the root cause for many people with struggle with SUD, and she changed directions again. Currently, her focus is trauma and how trauma from the youngest years can impact a person into their elderly years. She is an integrative therapist who uses multiple modalities in her private practice setting: MI, CBT, DBT, SFT, EMDR, and neurofeedback.

**COURSE LEVEL: Beginner**

**COST: \$109**

**CE CREDITS: 6.0**



Friday, October 18, 2024  
9:00 am - 3:30 pm



GVSU – Bicycle Factory  
201 Front Ave SW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

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