

## AMERSA's COMMITMENT STATEMENT

The Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance Use and Addiction ([AMERSA](#)) is pleased to join the National Academy of Medicine's *Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic*. Founded in 1976, AMERSA is a non-profit professional organization. Its mission to improve health and well-being through interdisciplinary leadership in substance use education, research, clinical care and policy is closely aligned with the mission of the Action Collaborative to develop, curate, and disseminate multi-sector solutions designed to reduce opioid misuse, and improve outcomes for individuals, families, and communities affected by the opioid crisis. AMERSA's goals are to:

- Improve education and clinical practice in the identification and management of substance-related problems by promoting leadership, mentorship and collaboration among multiple health professions including, but not limited to, physicians, nurses, social workers, psychologists, dentists, pharmacists, and public health professionals.
- Build a network of experts who can advise local, regional, national, and international organizations on best practices for health professional education across the span of at-risk substance use to substance use disorder.
- Generate and disseminate state-of-the-art scientific information about substance use research, education, clinical care, and policy at its annual [national conference](#) and through the organization's quarterly peer-reviewed journal ([SAj](#)) <https://amersa.org/journal/about-the-journal/> which offers wide-ranging coverage for healthcare professionals, addiction specialists and others.
- Promote cultural competence and inclusiveness among health professionals in their work with individuals affected by substance-related problems.
- Provide an active forum and community for discussion and debate of health policy topics related to substance use.

For more than 40 years, AMERSA has been committed to innovation, leadership, and advocacy for interdisciplinary education and training in substance use. As a network organization, AMERSA is committed to the collaborative work of reversing the U.S. opioid epidemic by:

1. Providing an interdisciplinary academic "home" for health professionals with interest and expertise in advancing evidence-based care for persons with substance-related problems.
2. Convening an annual conference to create opportunities for networking, mentorship, and collaboration. The meeting will deliver hands-on skills building workshops, encourage scientifically-informed debate on controversial topics, and promote peer-reviewed presentations on recent substance use-related research and education innovations.

3. Promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the field by supporting the participation of early career health professionals from minority and underrepresented demographic groups and professions to attend the conference, serve in leadership positions, and receive one-on-one mentorship at the conference and long after.
4. Recognizing individuals for their outstanding service and contributions to substance use education, research, and recovery through annual awards. Honorees include early stage investigators, mentors, teachers, and other leaders committed to clinical practice, research, policy development, and/or education related to substance use disorders
5. Supporting legislative and policy initiatives that advance the field and save lives.