



# IN-PERSON TRAINING: BEST PRACTICES IN LANGUAGE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WORKING WITH PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS (PWUD)

**La Vida Project: 118 N MAIN ST., LAS CRUCES, NM 88001**

**July 9th, 2024 - 11:00AM-12:00PM (1 FREE CEU)**

This training is tailored for behavioral health professionals aimed at enhancing their effectiveness in communicating with and providing support to individuals who use drugs. The training will emphasize best practices in language usage, fostering empathy, reducing stigma, and promoting positive therapeutic relationships.

Behavioral health professionals frequently encounter individuals who use drugs in their practice. Effective communication and rapport-building are crucial in facilitating successful treatment outcomes and improving the overall well-being of this population. However, interactions with people who use drugs can present unique challenges, including stigma, mistrust, and language barriers. Therefore, equipping professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge is essential to provide optimal care and support.



**About the Trainer**  
**Athena Huckaby, MPH**  
**She, Her, Hers**

Currently based in New Mexico, Athena Huckaby holds a Master of Public Health degree in Health Policy and Management with a concentration in Maternal, Child, Sexual, and Reproductive Health from the City University of New York School of Public Health.

Athena's involvement with harm reduction began in 2004, first in the arena of sexual and reproductive health, and then moved into mental health and substance use disorders in 2012. Athena has a particular interest in working with people who use drugs, LGBTQAI individuals, youth, and sex workers. Her professional areas of interest are not incidental to her lived experience.

[www.athenahuckaby.com](http://www.athenahuckaby.com)

**RSVP FOR TRAINING HERE** [RSVP @ WWW.TINYURL.COM/LC3TRAININGS](http://WWW.TINYURL.COM/LC3TRAININGS)

## LC3'S VISION

To build a behavioral health system that is inclusive, organized, centered on the individual and family, and is committed to advocating for and providing comprehensive mental health and substance use disorder services for people across Doña Ana County, New Mexico.



**SCAN HERE!**



**CONTACT INFO:**  
**JAVIER GUERRERO**  
HE, HIM, HIS  
ICS COMMUNITY COORDINATOR, FYI+

**EMAIL: JGUERRERO@FYINM.ORG**  
 **OFFICE: 575-202-6987**



**CONTACT INFO:**  
**AMANDA VEGA**  
SHE, HER, HERS  
ICS COMMUNITY COORDINATOR, FYI+

**EMAIL: AVEGA@FYINM.ORG**  
 **OFFICE: 575-319-0978**