



Unseen, Unheard, Untreated: A Disconnected System's Call for the Medicine of Connection

Wednesday, April 22, 2026 @ 12:00 – 1:30 pm ET (11CT/10MT/9PT)

0:00–0:10 (10 min) – Opening & The Problem Beneath the Problem: Reframing addiction as a disease of disconnection (not just the brain)

0:10–0:30 (20 min) – Systemic Disconnection in Action Behavioral health silos: mental health vs. substance use vs. social determinants, also data gaps, eligibility barriers, “wrong door” policies

0:30–0:50 (20 min) – Emotional Disconnection & Cultural Blind Spots Clients left unseen in data and unheard in systems due to: Cultural mismatch, Racial/ethnic trauma, Language and trust barriers, Diagnostic overshadowing

0:50–1:10 (20 min) – Connection as a Clinical & Systems Intervention Clinical approaches such as emotional safety, lived experience in engagement, and peer roles. Also Systems strategies such as warm handoffs, cross-training, and integrated teams

1:10–1:25 (15 min) – Collaborative Recovery: A New Vision: The “Medicine of Connection” model: Individual → Relational → Structural

1:25–1:30 (5 min) – Closing & Reflections