

PPNA TOWN HALL RECAP

HARM REDUCTION

9/9/20

40
Participants

PURPOSE Build awareness of harm reduction as an approach to building safer, more livable communities.

SPEAKERS



CHRISTINA MELANDER
URBAN RESEARCH AND
OUTREACH-ENGAGEMENT CENTER



JOY FRIEDMAN
MINNESOTA INDIAN WOMEN'S
RESOURCE CENTER



DR. RYAN KELLY
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

HIGHLIGHTS

“[Harm reduction] is about seeing everyone as valuable and everyone as worthwhile. When we all feel that respect and value, then we are all safer.”

- **CHRISTINA MELANDER**

“Harm reduction must occur as part of culturally competent, trauma-informed care. Working with the Native community, ‘culturally, there are things that people have to take into consideration...you are dealing with the loss of language and culture...Families have been torn apart, children have been taken and given to strangers’.”

- **JOY FRIEDMAN**

"There is significant evidence that harm reduction approach results in fewer overdoses, better control of substance use, fewer instances of withdrawal, decreased crime, increase in safe syringe disposal."

- **DR. RYAN KELLY**

KEY THEMES & NEXT STEPS

HARM REDUCTION CAN TAKE MANY FORMS AND BE APPLIED IN MANY WAYS ranging from education, providing tangible resources, and the way we interact with each other. We can continue to learn more about harm reduction resources.

Harm reduction aims to make situations **SAFER FOR PEOPLE IN THE MOMENT** while **PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LONG-TERM RECOVERY.**

Harm reduction strategies have both **IMMEDIATE BENEFITS IN COMMUNITIES AND BENEFITS THAT TAKE A LONG TIME** to reach full impact.



WHAT ARE PPNA TOWN HALLS? PPNA produces town halls that connect community to experts on issues impacting everyday life in Powderhorn. PPNA is a non-partisan organization. Viewpoints expressed do not necessarily align with those of PPNA. We feel it's important to have open dialogue and continuous education together, as a community.

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