

## Stigma Reducing Language

NARRATIVE	NARRATIVE
Methadone Mile Recovery Road	The Mile, Mass + Cass
Addict Person “Suffering” from/of Addiction	Person Who Uses Drugs OR Person With a Substance Use Disorder
Former / Reformed Addict / Alcoholic	Person in Recovery / Person in Long-Term Recovery
Abuse / Abuses	Used other than Prescribed
Opioid Epidemic	Overdose Crisis
Substance Abuse	Substance Use Disorder
Clean (as in drug test) Clean (non-toxicology)	Tested Negative Being in recovery OR Not actively using substances
Dirty (as in drug test) Dirty (non-toxicology)	Tested Positive Actively using substances
Relapse	Resumed / Returned to Using
Opioid Replacement, Methadone Maintenance	Medications for Addiction Treatment
Safe Injection Sites	Safe Consumption Sites (SCS) (changing injection to consumption is inclusive of people who smoke or consume substances in other ways)
Homeless	Unhoused Person / Community Member(s) OR Person / Community Member Experiencing Homeless

Changing the Narrative, a project of the Northeastern University Health in Justice Action Lab, is an excellent resource put together to help journalists and opinion leaders to provide accurate, humane and scientifically grounded information regarding drugs, people who use drugs, drug use and substance use disorder. Leo Beletsky is the Faculty Director and was on the Mass & Cass 2.0 hearing panel.