

The addiction program in the University of Louisville Department of Psychiatry has been in existence for over 10 years. Our approach to addiction treatment is scientifically based. We follow the guidelines of the American Society of Addiction Medicine and the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry. Medication assisted treatment (suboxone, naltrexone, vivitrol) is available when requested by the patient and deemed appropriate by the psychiatrist.

Each patient is carefully evaluated by our staff, and treatment is tailored to the patient's needs. Some patients may benefit from medication; others primarily need counseling. The clinic has CADAC certified counselors as well as board certified psychiatrists. Many patients suffering from the disease of addiction also have psychiatric needs. Our psychiatrists and counselors are very familiar with treating dual diagnosis patients. We do accept referrals from inpatient or residential programs.

Our current staff:

Erika Ruth, MD: Dr. Ruth is the Director of the Addictions Program in the Department of Psychiatry. She is board certified in addiction psychiatry by the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry as well as being board certified in adult psychiatry. She is involved in treating pregnant women at Freedom House. She directs the addiction psychiatry fellowship program at the University of Louisville. She has a wide range of experience with both addiction psychiatry and general psychiatry. She is a member of the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry and the American Society of Addiction Medicine.

Colleen Ryan, MD: Dr. Ryan is board certified in adult psychiatry and is certified to prescribe suboxone. She is a member of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry, and the Kentucky Society of Addiction Medicine. She has had extensive experience with inpatient and outpatient general psychiatry, has worked on an inpatient detox unit in the past, and enjoys working with patients with addiction and psychiatric issues. She is the secretary of the Ky. Society of Addiction Medicine.

Tracy Fitzpatrick, LCADC: Ms. Fitzpatrick has been a member of our addictions program for 8 years. She has many years of experience in addiction counseling, having worked with all types of treatment settings and with various populations. She is trained in abstinence based treatment, and she is very knowledgeable and passionate about the benefits of medication assisted treatment. She approaches recovery from a "whole person" perspective and has an extensive knowledge of community resources available to our patients.

Linda Webster, LCADC: Ms. Webster has over 30 years of experience in the field of mental health and addiction treatment. She has had experience in both inpatient and outpatient treatments in mental health and addiction settings over the years. She is quite comfortable working with dual diagnosis patients. She is supportive of medication assisted treatment as well as a more traditional abstinence based approach. She tailors the treatment to the needs of the patient. She is quite familiar with community resources that aid in recovery.

Our addiction clinic is currently accepting patients. If you are interested in treatment, please call 502-588-4450 and push option #5. Leave your name and phone number, and you will receive a call back from one of our staff members who will gather more information and explain the program in further detail. We accept most forms of insurance including Medicaid.