

IN-PERSON  
EVENT  
REGISTER  
EARLY

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

12:30-3:00 p.m.

Registration/Refreshments • 12:30-1:00 p.m.

Presentations • 1:00-3:00 p.m.

FEEL FREE  
TO BRING  
A BAG  
LUNCH!

FREE 2-CEU EVENT

### Helping the Brain Recover: Collaboration in Addiction Treatment

This presentation will take a neurologically informed approach, interpreting addictive behaviors as brain-based impairments that can improve. Jim Anton and Tom Beckers will present on a collaborative effort between the U of M's Medical Discovery Team on Addiction and Vinland Center to educate and provide insights that can be generalized to settings where patients with co-occurring cognitive impairments receive health care services.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1) Understand the neurocognitive mechanisms involved in substance use vulnerability.
- 2) Understand targeted interventions to strengthen resiliency in the brain.
- 3) Practice brief cognitive resets to support practitioner resiliency.

### The Unseen Barrier: Ethical Considerations When Cognitive Deficits Complicate Substance Use Treatment

This presentation explores the ethical implications of working with individuals who have cognitive deficits or disabilities within SUD treatment settings. Participants will examine how missed cognitive impairments can lead to misinterpretations of client behavior as resistance, lack of motivation, or noncompliance. Participants will also explore practical strategies clinicians and programs can implement to improve ethical practice.

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- 1) Identify common cognitive conditions such as traumatic brain injury, fetal alcohol spectrum disorders, and developmental disabilities that may impact engagement in SUD treatment.
- 2) Describe ethical considerations related to informed consent, treatment expectations, and equitable access to care when working with individuals who have cognitive impairments.
- 3) Apply practical strategies for screening, treatment adaptation, and documentation that improve clinical responsiveness to clients with cognitive deficits.



**Seating is limited—Reserve your free seat today!**

*This complimentary presentation is made possible by Vinland National Center.*

This activity has been approved for 2 clock hours by MNBBHT, NAADAC and MN Board of Social Work.

**Scan the QR code to register**

**Questions? Contact [mollyg@vinlandcenter.org](mailto:mollyg@vinlandcenter.org)**



See back for more information.

## Speakers:



*Thomas G. Beckers,  
BS, LADC, CBIS*

**Thomas G. Beckers** has worked in the field of chemical health/SUD treatment for 24 years; 22 of those years were with adults at Vinland National Center, a 61-bed SUD treatment program located in Loretto, Minnesota in Hennepin County, specifically serving those suffering from substance use and cognitive deficits.

He has provided professional and community-based trainings on topics related to the field of SUD

and brain injury, partnering with the University of Minnesota and the Brain Injury Alliance of Minnesota. He has co-authored a curriculum that adapts mindfulness practices for people with cognitive deficits and is cited as a co-contributor on a published research study that examines the effects a mindfulness practice has on people who are suffering from cognitive deficits/TBI and SUD. Tom is an in-demand speaker due to his ability to engage and entertain audiences, while providing essential information to help professionals in the field identify, relate, and ultimately advocate for those with cognitive deficits.

**Carmichael Finn** is the Executive Director of Recovering Hope Treatment Center in Mora, Minnesota, where he oversees residential and outpatient SUD programs serving women and families. He is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor with extensive experience in co-occurring disorders, trauma-informed care, and program development within behavioral health systems.



*Carmichael Finn, MA,  
LMFT, LADC, AADCR-MN*

In addition to his clinical leadership, Carmichael teaches in behavioral health and addiction counseling programs at the college level and regularly provides trainings on ethics, clinical supervision, and evidence-informed treatment practices. His work focuses on improving treatment accessibility and outcomes for individuals navigating complex behavioral health needs, including those with trauma histories, neurocognitive challenges, and systemic barriers to care.

**James “Jim” Anton** is a Certified Functional Medicine Health Coach, Certified Peer Recovery Specialist (CPRS), research professional, and award-winning musician with a lifelong commitment to recovery. Through his work with the University of Minnesota’s Minnesota Innovations in Recovery Network (MIREN) and Medical Discovery Team on Addiction (MDTA), Jim has developed deep expertise in the subject of Neurocognitive Mechanisms of Substance Use Vulnerability, regularly sharing this knowledge with recovery communities across Minnesota.

Blending science, lived experience, and a holistic health approach, Jim supports individuals in recovery by addressing the interconnected physical, mental, and emotional aspects of wellness. His 45-year music career includes collaborations with renowned artists such as Jonny Lang, Lizzo, Chastity Brown, Jesse Johnson, Paul Westerberg, and Greazy Meal—experiences that bring creativity, discipline, and resilience to his work.

Jim is passionate about advancing recovery through education, advocacy, and compassionate care, offering a message of hope grounded in both science and real-world experience.

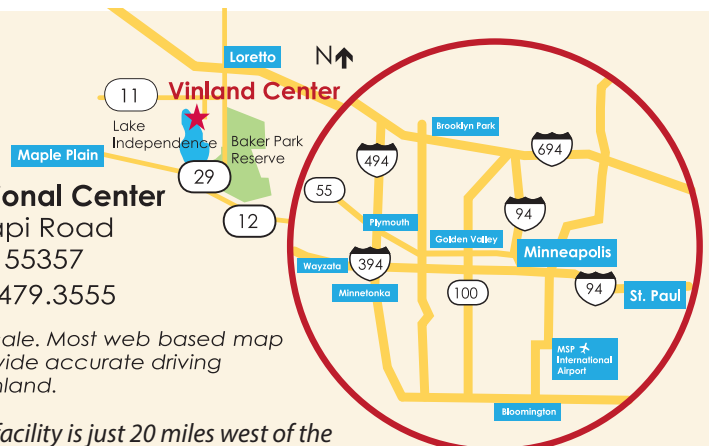


*Jim Anton, Certified Functional  
Medicine Health Coach, CPRS*



*Following the presentations,  
tours of Vinland are  
being offered including  
a meditative walk  
to the lake and  
pontoon boat ride  
if weather permits.*

*If interested, please  
bring walking shoes.*



**Vinland National Center**  
3675 Ihduhapi Road  
Loretto, MN 55357  
Phone: 763.479.3555

*Map is not to scale. Most web based map  
generators provide accurate driving  
directions to Vinland.*

*Our residential facility is just 20 miles west of the  
Twin Cities on Lake Independence. Free parking is available.*



# Full lives for people with disabilities

**For additional information call 763.479.3555 or visit [vinlandcenter.org](http://vinlandcenter.org)**