

6 maart 2026

Time to Recover: Bridging Health, Justice and Community in Addiction care.

Conference

Een samenwerkingsverband tussen:



Addiction has many faces, and so does addiction care. Long-term, community-based addiction programs complement the medical-psychiatric model, yet they differ from it in significant ways. At this conference, we will explore the strengths and the role of community-based addiction treatment.

How can we improve cooperation with stakeholders in the workfield, the justice system, and mental healthcare? We will take a closer look at the challenging search for suitable employment that supports recovery.

Addiction and crime are often closely related. What role does the justice system play – both inside and outside prison – in addiction treatment? How does judicial pressure influence the referral process? And how do we address the harm that detention can cause to the treatment process?

We will also examine neurodiversity, as addiction rarely occurs in isolation. Integrated care takes shape within group treatment, offering support and containment. But what are the limits of comorbidity within a community-based model?

This conference invites dialogue, reflection, and collaboration. Together, we are building a care network that recognises complexity, vulnerability, and recovery.

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Community in Addiction care.

Tour & Taxi Brussel Noord Auditorium Bel

6 March 2026

Coffee from 9.00

Start at 9.30 and ends at 16.30

You can [register via this link](#)

Registration fee €80

Sandwich lunch provided.



Katrijn Compernelle & Lieve Krobea

Introduction from the Department of Care, Flemish Government

Beleidsmedewerkers, team geestelijke gezondheid en psychosociale revalidatie, Departement Zorg



David W. Best

Recovery as lifestyle reconstruction: The role of treatment and community support



PH.D. Professor of addiction Leeds Trinity University, David currently leads a multi-site collaboration on recovery pathways from Therapeutic Communities in Australia, and is the Principal Investigator on a European project on recovery models and philosophies in the UK, Belgium and the Netherlands

prof. dr. Charlotte Colman

From Justice to Community: the interplay between Social, Societal and Justicial capital in Recovery



Professor Drug Policy & Criminology
National Drug Coordinator-
President of the General Drug
Policy Cell

Detlef Vanhove

Back to work, sober but not yet hired



Ervaringsdeskundige,
zelfstandig consultant HR

Bieke Dobbelaere

Bridging treatment and work



Director Group Weerwerk -
Social Economy Company

Etienne Davio

The necessary collaboration between the judicial field and the therapeutic field



Judge, Treatment and Addiction
Chamber

Michelle Christiaens

Good practices inside and outside prison



Coordinator of the Drug & Detention
Project De Kiem

Patrick Vloemans

A holistic approach within community-based treatment taking neurodiversity into account



General Practitioner, former expert
for addiction Domus Medica,
current addiction doctor in 't Kader
in Geel