



Power of Hope Conference 2023 Schedule

Check-in begins at 7:00 a.m. in the Chapel; programming begins at 8:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Center. Breakfast and lunch are included.

- 7:00 a.m.-8:00 a.m.** Registration / Networking / Exhibitor time
Exhibits open at 7:30 a.m. and will open during breaks and at lunch
- 8:00 a.m.-8:45 a.m.** **Where Are We and What Do We Know?**
Dr. Nora Volkow will provide new research and/or breakthroughs around this drug crisis and how drug addiction is a brain disorder. Listen to Dr. Volkow's video message as she highlights the importance of the family who suffer along with their loved ones and how we can work together to make a difference. (Main Stage)
- 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.** **Breakout Sessions** (choose 1 to attend)
- Breaking Chains: Transforming Addiction into an Opportunity for Growth**
Ron Paterik and Dave Otto will team up to talk about what can happen to families that are devastated when they find out their loved one has gone down this path. Dave will share insights into the importance of the response from a practical financial perspective and Ron will share how families can see this as an opportunity and not a disaster. Ron will talk about how people can, and do not only survive, but they can grow and become better and stronger through this experience. The choice of "trying to just survive" or "survive and thrive" is real and can be your focus. (Upper Chapel)
- Shattering Misinformation: Unveiling Truths on Drug Use and Empowering Action**
The Parent Action Network's (PAN) goal is to share the voices of experience regarding marijuana risks and mobilize parents and other family members to share and warn about marijuana issues in our communities. **Crissy Groenewegen** will emphasize that fighting the misinformation that is so prevalent is critical and having organizations like PAN can help parents and families navigate this issue and know where to find accurate and reliable information and ways they can get involved to help. (Lower Chapel)
- Rising from the Ashes: Our Journey of Recovery and the Hope Within**
Witness the triumph of hope by hearing from three individuals who not only conquered their personal battles but emerged as an inspiration to others through their recovery. These authentic voices will not only share their remarkable journeys but also offer invaluable insights from the frontlines of recovery. Let their experiences illuminate the path to redemption and reveal the profound importance of key factors in their remarkable turnaround. (Main Stage)
- 10:15 a.m.-11:00 a.m.** **PART 1: Save A Life, Save a Family. Save A Family, Save a Life**
Dr. Kevin Leman will speak on the impact families have and their influence on their loved one suffering from substance use disorder (SUD). His insight into family dynamics and marriage will highlight the opportunity families have to work together when this issue impacts them. There is hope and together families can survive and thrive. (Main Stage)

- 11:10 a.m. –12:00 p.m.** **We Started This – How Can We End This?**
Dr. Holly Geyer author of Ending the Crisis, Mayo Clinic’s Guide to Opioid Addiction and Safe Opioid Use, will share on the latest standards of care, the need for a holistic approach to treatment and an overall approach to the drug crisis. She will share her insights on what is being done to turn the focus from what went wrong to what we can and should be doing. (Main Stage)
- 12:00 p.m.-12:45 p.m.** Lunch / Networking / Exhibitor time
- 12:45 p.m.-1:15 p.m.** **Treatment is Personal: Unveiling Hope for Families in This Crisis**
As a medical physician at Claudia Black Center in Wickenburg, and a full-time advocate for expanding recovery opportunities nationwide, **Dr. Don Middleton** will share his experience and understanding connecting treatment and recovery. This will be a physicians look into twelve step recovery. He'll give knowledge and hope to one of the most terrifying challenges a family can face. (Main Stage)
- 1:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.** **Breakout Sessions** (choose 1 to attend)
- Sacred Haven: Churches as Beacons of Hope for Families Navigating Addiction**
Churches can and should be a place for people to find hope and restoration. Many times, they are on the front line for those in crisis and feel overwhelmed and unsure how best to respond. They also may not be aware of the prevalence of this issue, not only within the people that attend, but those in their surrounding community. **Pastor Dan Steffen and Brenda Cochran** will share how churches can respond in positive and meaningful ways and be a non-judgmental place of hope and comfort for those suffering with this disorder. (Upper Chapel)
- Navigating the Standards: Upholding Ethical Excellence in Recovery and Beyond**
After working in the field of addiction and recovery, **Martin LaRoche** saw the need to help fight the problems that had crept in with substandard treatment and lack of oversight. As a consultant in this area, he will share not only the need for ethical standards of care, but also the importance of building trust in treatment and recovery. This will not only be helpful to those in the treatment world, going beyond accreditation, but for those seeking programs and what to look for. (Lower Chapel)
- Rising from the Ashes: Our Journey of Recovery and the Hope Within**
Witness the triumph of hope by hearing from three individuals who not only conquered their personal battles but emerged as an inspiration to others through their recovery. These authentic voices will not only share their remarkable journeys but also offer invaluable insights from the frontlines of recovery. Let their experiences illuminate the path to redemption and reveal the profound importance of key factors in their remarkable turnaround. (Main Stage)
- 2:45 p.m.–3:45 p.m.** **PART 2: Save A Life, Save a Family. Save A Family, Save a Life (Focus on Marriage)**
Dr. Kevin Leman will speak on the impact families have and their influence on their loved one suffering from substance use disorder (SUD). His insight into family dynamics and marriage will highlight the opportunity families have to work together when this issue impacts them. There is hope and together families can survive and thrive. (Main Stage)
- 3:45 p.m.–4:30 p.m.** **Where do we go from here?**
Dr. Holly Geyer and Kim Humphrey will speak about where we go from here and provide attendees with a call to action along with steps and support to get there. (Main Stage)

Featured Speakers



Dr. Holly Geyer

Holly Geyer, M.D., is an Associate Professor and consultant in the Division of Hospital Internal Medicine at Mayo Clinic. She is dual board certified in Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine and serves as chair of the Opioid Stewardship Program at Mayo Clinic in Arizona as well as serving as Medical Director of Occupational Health.

She is a national speaker on the topics of opioids and addiction and has authored more than 120 journal articles, book chapters, and abstracts related to opioids, quality of life and cancer. She is the author of *Ending the Crisis: Mayo Clinic's Guide to Opioid Addiction and Safe Opioid Use* which offers tangible information on pain, use of opioids, and management of opioid-related complications.

Dr. Geyer serves as a reviewer for prominent scientific publications and is actively involved in public advocacy efforts as well as legislation addressing the opioid crisis. She has held positions with the Arizona Medical Association Legislative Committee and assisted with state law development on opioids. She also works with the Arizona Department of Health and partners with the American Hospital Association, the American Society of Hematology, and the Society of Hospital Medicine.

Dr. Geyer resides in Arizona with her husband and three girls.



Dr. Kevin Leman

Internationally known Christian psychologist, award-winning author and New York Times bestselling author of *Have a New Kid by Friday*, radio and television personality, and speaker, Dr. Kevin Leman has taught and entertained audiences worldwide with his wit and common-sense psychology.

Dr. Kevin Leman has made house calls for hundreds of radio and television programs and he is a former consulting psychologist to *Good Morning America*.

Dr. Leman is the founder and chairman of the board of LEMAN ACADEMY OF EXCELLENCE and author of over 60 books.

Dr. Leman is the recipient of the University of Arizona's Alumni Achievement Award and North Park University's Distinguished Alumnus Award (1993). Dr. Leman's professional affiliations include the American Psychological Association, American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, and the North American Society of Adlerian Psychology.

Dr. Leman attended North Park University and received his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Arizona, where he later earned his master's and Doctorate degrees. Originally from Williamsville, New York, he and his wife, Sande, live in Tucson. They have five children and four grandchildren.

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Dr. Don Middleton

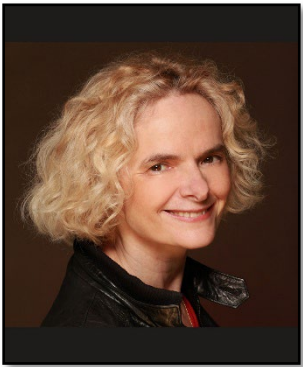
Don Middleton, is a board-certified family physician who worked for over 20 years in private practice. He started and directed the family practice clinic at Midwestern University where he also served as co-division director and was appointed to assistant professor.

Dr. Middleton currently works in addiction medicine at the internationally renowned Meadows Behavioral Health in Wickenburg, Arizona, and is medical director at a series of men's health clinics called Vital 4 Men.

He authored the book *The Dunamis Effect: When Jesus is your higher power*, a Christian 12-step addiction recovery book and workbook and is director of the supporting non-profit organization.

Dr. Middleton serves on the Arizona Osteopathic Board of Trustees, on the board of directors for Crossroads Rehabilitation of Arizona, and as medical director of medical missions at Christ Church of the Valley.

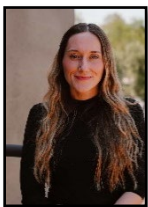
Dr. Middleton has lived most of his life in the Valley. He has been married to Dr. Tracy Middleton for over 30 years and they have four children and two amazing grandchildren.



Dr. Nora Volkow

Nora Volkow, M.D., is Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) at the National Institutes of Health. NIDA is the world's largest funder of research on the health aspects of drug use and addiction. Dr. Volkow's work has been instrumental in demonstrating that drug addiction is a brain disorder. As a research psychiatrist, Dr. Volkow pioneered the use of brain imaging to investigate how substance use affects brain functions. In particular, her studies have documented that changes in the dopamine system affect the functions of frontal brain regions involved with reward and self-control in addiction. She has also made important contributions to the neurobiology of obesity, ADHD, and aging.

Breakout Session Speakers



Ashley Banderet's five-year dedication to healthcare has been a multifaceted journey that began as a behavioral health technician. This role ignited her passion for helping others struggling with substance abuse and mental health. Now part of a Clinical Outreach Team, she ensures individuals receive comprehensive care. Outside work, she enjoys being a mother, sports, traveling, and spending time with family. Drawing from her own recovery through 12-step programs and therapy, Ashley dedicates her free time to supporting others on similar journeys.



Over his tenure as a behavioral health professional, **Gene Braxton** has developed a comprehensive skill set through his positions in billing, peer support, admissions, and most recently marketing and clinical outreach. Gene stands behind a strong philosophy that through willingness and seeking help, anyone suffering from addiction can get well. Gene is a former professional soccer player. He participates in 12 step recovery and enjoys hiking, working out, and spending time with loved ones.



Brenda Cochran has over 21 years of experience working with issues related to addiction, trauma, and mental illness. She has walked alongside Christian families who have loved ones struggling with substance use issues. Brenda developed and facilitated a whole-person trauma focused intensive outpatient addiction curriculum helping her to better understand the relationship that childhood stress, trauma and life circumstances have on substance use. Brenda is in full-time private practice, launching Zoe Integrated Health concentrating on a whole-person trauma-focused perspective.



Crissy Groenewegen, Director of the Parent Action Network, boasts a background in counseling, education, and prevention and has spent the last five years as a community prevention educator, coalition coordinator and nonprofit director. Her current role stems from deep respect for SAM's advocacy and she shares their mission to empower families to share stories, educate lawmakers, and advocate for safe policies on legalized marijuana. A mother of three, Crissy resides in NY with her husband, two dogs, and two cats.



For nearly a decade, **Sean Humphrey** has passionately served as a behavioral health professional excelling in direct patient care, peer support, admissions, case management, discharge planning, utilization review, and marketing and business development. He firmly believes that anyone can recover and finds joy and purpose in helping others. Outside of work, Sean enjoys the outdoors, video games, music, movies, and spending time with his wife and their two children.



Martin LaRoche is the CEO and Founder of MVP Consulting Group. Martin's background includes over 15 years of multi-system hospital administration, regulatory compliance, fiscal management, risk management, staff capacity building and client experience optimization to various healthcare facilities. Martin has a master's degree in Mental Health Counseling. Throughout his career, Martin has provided counseling and coaching services in various settings and populations allowing him to understand the complex needs of individuals suffering from substance use disorders.



Dave Otto is a retired lead attorney with the Internal Revenue Service and a certified public accountant. He has served on numerous not-for-profit boards giving his time and expertise on financial matters and nonprofit leadership. He currently serves on the Executive Committee for Parents of Addicted Loved Ones' board of directors. He has a passion for helping people and brings many years of experience in assisting families navigate difficult situations.



Ron Paterik, MA, LISAC is a therapist specializing in individual, couples, children, and adolescent counseling. Ron maintains a private practice and is a leadership coach and organizational consultant. Extensive experience as a private practice clinical psychotherapist and WholeLife mentor allows Ron to form meaningful relationships that produce deep and profound transformation in the lives of others. Ron earned a B.A. in Religious Studies at Grand Canyon University and an M.A. in Counseling Psychology from Denver Seminary.



Dan Steffen has served in ministry since 1988 being ordained in 1995. He joined the Pure Heart staff in 2000 and has been the Senior Pastor since 2005. Dan is the co-founder of School Connect which serves over 1,000 public schools in 6 different states and the co-founder of the Resilient Church Conference, equipping churches to be trauma informed. He also serves as the chairman of the Better Together Family of Churches uniting churches across the valley. Dan and his wife of 25 years have four children.