

## Message from our CEO

As summer winds down and students prepare to head back to school, ACTS is also looking ahead to another exciting year of growth and service. July marked the beginning of our new fiscal year, providing an opportunity to reflect on all that we've accomplished together and the meaningful impact we've made in our community.

This month, we met with our Board of Directors to celebrate the successes of the past year and review the progress we've made during the first year of our two-year strategic plan. It is inspiring to see the momentum we've built as we continue expanding access to high-quality behavioral health and substance use treatment services.

We also celebrated an exciting construction milestone with the topping off ceremony at our new Outpatient Program, marking the completion of the building's structural framework. This new facility represents our ongoing commitment to meeting the growing behavioral health needs of our community and expanding access to integrated, person-centered care.

In August, members of our leadership team and program staff will attend the Florida Behavioral Health Association Annual Conference. If you'll be there, we invite you to stop by the ACTS booth to connect with our team and learn more about our expanding continuum of care.

This issue also recognizes International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31—a time to honor those we have lost, support individuals and families affected by overdose, and renew our commitment to prevention, treatment, and recovery.



**Asha Pererya**  
ACTS CEO

## International Overdose Awareness Day – August 31

Each year on August 31, communities around the world observe International Overdose Awareness Day to remember those who have lost their lives to overdose, support those who are grieving, and raise awareness about overdose prevention and recovery.

Overdose affects individuals, families, and communities from all walks of life. This day serves as a reminder that substance use disorder is a treatable medical condition – not a moral failing – and that reducing stigma can help more people seek the care they need.

At ACTS, we are committed to providing compassionate, evidence-based treatment and recovery services, including detoxification, residential and outpatient treatment, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), our Mobile MAT program that brings treatment directly into the community, recovery support services, and supportive housing.

You can make a difference by learning the signs of an overdose, carrying naloxone if it is available in your community, supporting those in recovery, and helping reduce the stigma surrounding substance use. Naloxone is available at all ACTS locations.

This International Overdose Awareness Day, let us honor those we have lost, support those who continue to grieve, and renew our commitment to ensuring that everyone knows treatment works, recovery is possible, and help is always available.



## Guiding the Mission: ACTS Board



On July 20, the ACTS Board of Directors and Senior Leadership Team came together to celebrate the accomplishments of the past fiscal year, review the progress achieved during the first year of our strategic plan, and look ahead to the opportunities and goals for the coming year. We are grateful for our Board's leadership, vision, and unwavering commitment to ACTS, whose guidance and support help us expand access to high-quality behavioral health services and strengthen the communities we are honored to serve.

## Topping Off Ceremony at Yukon



ACTS leadership recently joined our construction partners from JLL, Groh Architecture and Schaeffer Construction for a topping off ceremony at our new Outpatient Program. This longstanding construction tradition marks the completion of the building's structural framework with the placement of the final beam and recognizes the dedication and craftsmanship of everyone helping bring this important project to life.

## Spotlight on Mobile MAT

ACTS has expanded access to life-saving care through our Mobile Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program, bringing treatment directly to individuals in the community. By removing barriers such as transportation and access to care, the Mobile MAT unit helps connect people with the support they need to begin or continue their recovery journey.

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) is an evidence-based approach that combines FDA-approved medications with counseling and behavioral therapies to treat opioid and alcohol use disorders. MAT has been shown to reduce cravings and withdrawal symptoms, lower the risk of relapses and overdose, and support long-term recovery.

The Mobile MAT unit provides medication-assisted treatment, clinical assessments and screenings, harm reduction education, and referrals to additional ACTS treatment and recovery services.

Whether someone is taking the first step toward recovery or continuing their treatment, ACTS is committed to meeting people where they are - both physically and in their recovery journey.

To learn more about the ACTS Mobile MAT Program, visit <https://bit.ly/MobileMAT>.



## For More Information

ACTS, Agency for Community Treatment Services, is a non-profit serving the Tampa Bay area since 1978. As a comprehensive, community-based behavioral health organization, ACTS mission is to apply the best of contemporary physical and behavioral health interventions and social support services available to assist individuals and families to engage and succeed in recovery. Call us today to find out how we can help you - 813.246.4899 or visit us online at [www.actsfl.org](http://www.actsfl.org).

