

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Annie Wiest, Executive Director  
Association of Occupational Health  
Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)  
125 Warrendale Bayne Road, Suite 375  
Warrendale, PA 15086  
a.wiest@kamo-ms.com  
800.362.4347

## **Dr. Mel Pohl - Acclaimed Speaker, Addiction Specialist, and Expert in Chronic Pain Addiction Recovery - to Keynote AOHP's 2018 National Conference**

Mel Pohl, MD, DFASAM, Chief Medical Officer of Las Vegas Recovery Center (LVRC), will keynote the 2018 Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP) Annual National Conference, scheduled for September 5-8 at the Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa in Glendale, AZ. At the September 6 General Session, Dr. Pohl will deliver a thought-provoking presentation on *Chronic Pain and Addiction: How Have We Missed the Boat?*, focusing on issues that arise for people living with chronic pain, including the significant effects of emotions and thoughts that cause suffering. He will examine how opioid use disorder (addiction) complicates the course of treatment of chronic pain. Treatment methods, including facts about the use of opioids, will be discussed, along with the benefits of finding new solutions for recovery in the face of chronic pain to diminish suffering.

Dr. Pohl, a Board Certified Family Practitioner, was a major force in developing LVRC's Chronic Pain Recovery Program. He is certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine (ABAM), and is a Distinguished Fellow of the American Society of Addiction Medicine (DFASAM). He is the former Chair of ASAM's AIDS Committee, member of the Symposium Planning Committee, member of the planning committee for ASAM's annual "Common Threads, Pain, and Addiction" course, and Co-chair of ASAM's Pain and Addiction Workgroup. Dr. Pohl is a Fellow of the American Academy of Family Practice and a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Nevada School of Medicine. He was elected by his peers for inclusion in Best Doctors in America<sup>®</sup> from 2009 to the present.

A nationally known public speaker, Dr. Pohl is the author of *A Day without Pain* (Central Recovery Press, 2011), in addition to a number of other books about chronic illness and pain recovery that address the needs of individuals, as well as those of families and caregivers. His most recent book, with Kathy Ketcham, is *The Pain Antidote: The Proven Program to Help You Stop Suffering From Chronic Pain, Avoid Addiction to Painkillers – and Reclaim Your Life* (DaCapo 2015). He was featured in a program about chronic pain from PBS which aired nationally in 2016.

The 37th AOHP Annual National Conference addresses the association's mission to provide members with opportunities for professional growth through education. Nearly 250 occupational health professionals – representing approximately 25 percent of AOHP's membership – are expected to attend the 2018 conference. This preeminent event, one of the country's largest conferences for occupational health professionals in healthcare, features four days of dynamic educational programming and the exchange of successful research and innovative practices, in addition to an exhibition, opportunities for networking, and the ability for attendees to earn continuing education hours in a wide variety of content areas.

AOHP, the defining authority shaping healthcare worker health, safety and well-being, promotes health and safety for healthcare workers through: advocacy; occupational health education and networking opportunities; health and safety advancement through best practice and research; and partnering with other invested stakeholders.

Sponsorship and exhibit opportunities for the AOHP 2018 Annual National Conference are still available. Registration opens in early summer. Anyone interested in sponsorship opportunities or registration information should contact AOHP Headquarters at 800.362.4347 or [info@aohp.org](mailto:info@aohp.org).

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