THE VIRTUE CENTER

The Virtue Center
in Partnership with The City of Norman
Presents

HEALING TOGETHER:

Hope Beyond Opioids

With Special Guest

Travis Rieder, PhD, Author of
In Pain: A Bioethicist's Personal Struggle with Opioids

June 12th, 2025

Luncheon for Community Partners, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 pm
Sarkeys Foundation, 530 E. Main Street, Norman

Evening Public Presentation, 5:45 p.m. – 7:30 pm
Adult Wellnes & Education Center, 602 Findlay Ave, Norman

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The use and abuse of Opioids in our nation, state and community has become a terrifying epidemic. We want to develop solutions to put an end to what has caused too many deaths

United States

Since 2000, overdose deaths **INCREASED**

6x

from 17,500 to **over 106,000** in 2021 from *any drug.*

Oklahoma

4,812

unintentional overdose deaths occurred statewide from 2018 to 2023.

Cleveland County

171

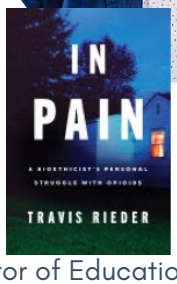
unintentional overdose deaths from 2018 to 2022

104

were opioid related, including **fentanyl.**



Joins us as we welcome Travis Rieder, PhD, author of - *In Pain: A Bioethicist's Personal Struggle with Opioids*



Travis will share his own painful experience with opioid use, dependence and withdrawal. He will illustrate how we tend to swing back and forth between unreflectively embracing opioids and being very afraid of them. Opioids are like many other drugs, which is that they can be useful but have risks. He will help us to understand both sides of the issue. **Travis will discuss harm reduction, why people oppose it and how we can move forward as a community.**

In addition to being an author, Travis is a bioethicist and serves as Director of Education Initiatives and Associate Research Professor at the Johns Hopkins Berman Institute of Bioethics. He combines his professional background and personal experience as a pain and opioid therapy patient with his expertise in philosophy and bioethics to identify, explain, and attempt to solve some of the most profound questions raised by pain and addiction medicine. ***In Pain*** **received significant positive attention, including reviews in Science, the New York Times, and the LA Review of Books, as well as an interview with Terry Gross on NPR's Fresh Air. It was named an NPR Favorite Book of 2019.**

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PRESENTING SPONSORS - $2,500

- ✓ VIP seating for six guests and exclusive opportunity to meet Travis
- ✓ Prominent logo placement on all event marketing materials
- ✓ Featured logo on The Virtue Center's website
- ✓ Highlight in press release and event media
- ✓ Tagged logo on all social media event promotions
- ✓ Premium booth space at both event sessions
- ✓ Verbal recognition during event

HELP SPONSORS - $1,000

- ✓ VIP seating for four guests and exclusive opportunity to meet Travis
- ✓ Logo on all event marketing materials
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- ✓ Tagged logo on all social media event promotions

HOPE SPONSORS - $500

- ✓ VIP seating for two guests and exclusive opportunity to meet Travis
- ✓ Logo or Name listed on event marketing
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COMMUNITY SPONSORS - $250

- ✓ Logo or Name listed on event materials
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- ☐ Presenting Sponsor - $2,500
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Payment Method

- ☐ Check enclosed (payable to The Virtue Center)
- ☐ Invoice Me (please add email)
- ☐ Pay online at www.thevirtuecenter.org/give-help

Please write your company name exactly how you'd like it to appear on signage, etc.

If your partnership package includes a logo option, please email your logo to tcollado@thevirtuecenter.org and aprewitt@thevirtuecenter.org. **Logos must be received by May 16th**.

Checks should be made payable to: The Virtue Center and mailed, along with this completed form to P.O. Box 730, Norman, OK 73070, or please email to: tcollado@thevirtuecenter.org and aprewitt@thevirtuecenter.org.

THE VIRTUE CENTER

CONTACT US

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The Virtue Center

THE VIRTUE CENTER

is a nonprofit outpatient treatment agency providing evidence-based treatment for substance use and mental health challenges. We serve individuals and families across central Oklahoma, offering support through prevention, treatment, and recovery services. In collaboration with the City of Norman, we are working together to create awareness around the opioid crisis and engage our community in finding solutions.

HEALING TOGETHER: HOPE BEYOND OPIOIDS

The Virtue Center in partnership with the City of Norman is hosting a special event on Thursday, June 12th at 11:30 a.m., Sarkeys Foundation and 5:45 p.m., Adult Wellness & Education Center in Norman, featuring Travis Rieder, PhD, a bioethicist, author, and nationally recognized speaker on the opioid crisis. The morning session welcomes healthcare professionals, behavioral health providers, and public health leaders for a deeper discussion on pain, opioids, and ethical care. The afternoon session opens the conversation to the broader community, focusing on understanding the opioid crisis, reducing stigma, and offering practical tools for action. Professionals are encouraged to attend both sessions to help strengthen the connection between care systems and the communities they serve.

TIMELINE

COMMUNITY PARTNER FORUM

11:30A.M.
Light Lunch

11:45A.M.
Introduction and Presentation by Travis Reider, PhD

12:45PM Q/A session

COMMUNITY FORUM

5:45P.M.
Light Dinner

6:15P.M.
Introduction and Presentation by Travis Reider , PhD

7:15P.M.
Q/A session