

HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. to share insights on U.S. opioid epidemic at HMP Global's 2025 Rx Summit

Kennedy will address the most influential gathering that focuses on drug addiction and recovery, held April 21-24 in Nashville.

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Ending the crisis of opioid addiction will take all of us working together, and the variety of viewpoints at Rx Summit 2025 demonstrates the extent of this concerted effort."

Doug Edwards, Senior Vice President of HMP Education

and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy Jr. will share insights into the nation's opioid crisis during remarks at the 2025 Rx and Illicit Drug Summit, the nation's most influential gathering that focuses on drug addiction and recovery.

Rx Summit, under way now in Nashville, brings together stakeholders "from federal to family" to tackle the crisis head-on and chart a path forward for recovery. Kennedy will present during the 8:30 a.m. plenary session on Thursday, April 24.

Kennedy recently renewed the 2017 Opioid Public Health Emergency Declaration addressing the opioid crisis, prompting federal coordination and bringing more resources to fight addiction and pave a pathway to recovery.

Kennedy's presentation adds to the broad cross-section of stakeholders and thought leaders who share their insights at Rx and Illicit Drug Summit each year, said Doug Edwards, Senior Vice President of HMP Global Education. "More than a million lives have been lost to the opioid epidemic," he added. "Ending the crisis of opioid addiction will take all of us working together, and the variety of viewpoints at Rx Summit 2025 demonstrates the extent of this concerted effort."

Educational Program

Rx Summit will feature more than 65 sessions led by more than 100 expert speakers. This year's agenda spans seven focused tracks—Clinical, Public Safety, Prevention, Trending Topics, Advocacy, Illicit Drugs, and Recovery Supports—offering a wide range of educational and training

opportunities tailored to professionals on the front lines.

Among the expert speakers are:

- National Institutes of Health Director Jay Bhattacharya, MD, PhD
- National Institute on Drug Abuse Director Nora Volkow, MD
- U.S. Rep. Hal Rogers of Kentucky
- U.S. Sen. Marsha Blackburn of Tennessee

- U.S. Rep. Andrew Clyde of Georgia
- U.S. Rep. Tony Gonzales of Texas
- U.S. Rep. James Comer of Kentucky
- U.S. Rep. Brett Guthrie of Kentucky
- Eric Nation, Executive Director of the National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children

- Rolf Benirschke, former placekicker for the San Diego Chargers, NFL Man of the Year and Co-Founder, Legacy Health Strategies

- Billy Davis, linebackers coach for the Houston Texans and Co-Director of Healthcare Initiatives, NFL Alumni Association

- Kyle Richardson, former punter for multiple teams including the Baltimore Ravens; and Board Member, President of Chapters and Co-Director of Healthcare Initiatives, NFL Alumni Association

- Professional motorcycle athlete Dan Kruger, one of this year's Rx Summit Hope Ambassadors
- Award-winning country recording artist Jimmy Wayne, a former foster child who works in support of at-risk youth

- Debra Hembree Lambert, JD, Chief Justice, Kentucky Supreme Court

- Russell Coleman, Attorney General of Kentucky

- Lt. Col. Jonathon J. Wesely, Counterdrug Coordinator of the Kentucky Army National Guard

Attendees will also hear moving stories from 12 Hope Ambassadors—individuals sharing their personal recovery journeys and inspiring others struggling with addiction.

Rx Summit offers virtual attendance options and fulfills continuing medical education (CME) training requirements under the Medication Access and Training Expansion (MATE) Act. The annual event draws healthcare providers, counselors, first responders, treatment center staff, educators, legal professionals, public health officials, advocates, and individuals in recovery and their families.



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For more information, [visit the event website](#).

About HMP Global

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