# What Is Person-First Language?

Person-first language emphasizes the *person* and views the condition a person has as **only one part of the whole person**.

For example, *a person* with diabetes not a diabetic.



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The words we use can make a big difference in how someone feels. Being mindful of the words we use is the first step in changing the culture. Use this list to start a conversation around destigmatizing language with your friends, family, and care team.





#### **Examples**



### **Examples**





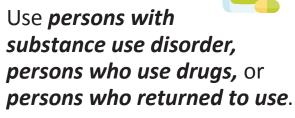
Use the treatment was not effective in the patient or the patient did not respond to treatment.

# Instead of homeless people...



Use *persons who* are unhoused, or persons without an address.

### Instead of addicts/drug abusers...



### Instead of caretaker...



Use *caregiver* or *care partner*.

## Instead of crazy, insane, mental defect...



Use persons with a mental illness, or persons with a diagnosis of mental health disorder.

### Instead of rural people...

Use residents of rural areas or persons who live in sparsely populated areas.



not your

conditions."



