

Thurston County Opioid Response Task Force Progress Update

MAY 2023

Thurston County Opioid Response

- Opioid Crisis Declaration from the Board of Health
- Thurston County Opioid Response Plan
 - SMART Objectives set through 2023
- Thurston County Opioid Response Task Force
 - 4 Work Groups in various action areas

Action Areas

Prevention

Treatment

Pregnant &
Parenting

Overdose

Equity

Priority Populations

BIPOC (Black, Indigenous,
and People of Color)

Youth age 12-17

Young adults age 18-25

Individuals whose primary
language is other than
English (or who have other
language access barriers)

Individuals experiencing
homelessness

Individuals at-risk for
homelessness

Individuals, both youth and
adults, who are involved in
the criminal and/or legal
systems

Individuals who are
experiencing grief, trauma
and adverse childhood
experiences connected to
overdose or substance use.

SMART Objectives

Prevention

By November 2023, work with local organizations to host a community forum on youth issues.

By October 2023, hold at least one community education forum targeting selected priority audience.

By October 2023, hold at least one youth focused fact-based drug education event working with partners in the community.

By August 2023, table with information about safe medication disposal options at 2 community events.

Prevention (continued)

By November 2023, increase access to written materials through language translation of safe disposal materials.

By December 2023, table with safe storage options for prescription medication, over-the-counter medicine, and other substances at 2 community events.

By November 2023, increase access to written materials on safe storage through language translation of safer medication storage practices.

Treatment

- By December 2023, facilitate 4 provider meetings with regional prescribers of MOUD and system partners.
- By October 2023, provide information about local MOUD resources to all emergency departments in Thurston County.
- By December 2023, distribute 1,000 flyers with local MOUD provider information.
- By July 2023, facilitate one educational session on the elimination of the DATA 2000 (X) waiver requirement and prescriber resources.
- By December 2023, present at five primary care clinics on the changes in buprenorphine prescribing rules and guidelines.

Treatment (continued)

- By December 2023, host 3 targeted community events providing information around MOUD.
- By December 2023, distribute 1,000 University of Washington Alcohol & Drug Abuse Institute (ADAI) MOUD educational brochures.
- By December 2023, provide 100 criminal-legal involved individuals with OUD with services (including education, planning, connection to treatment options, peer recovery support, and regular coordination of care).
- By December 2023, provide 4 trainings to law & justice staff (including law enforcement, corrections, attorneys, court staff, etc.) regarding the treatment continuum of care and available local services.
- By December 2023, facilitate a peer centered workgroup to network and identify opportunities for increased support of Peers and CHWs across the continuum of care.

Pregnant & Parenting

- By December 2023, outreach to local family planning agencies and create one resource detailing information on how and where to access family planning services.
- By December 2023, convene two breastfeeding/chest-feeding support group meetings targeted to people who use substances or who have a history of substance use.
- By November 2023, provide one targeted education session on stigma, safety planning, court involvement, treatment and recovery support, and other topics of interest to individuals who are parenting and/or pregnant who use substances or have a history of substance use.

Overdose

- By December 2023, develop two new access points for naloxone.
- By September 2023, host one public outreach event with naloxone distribution.
- By December 2023, develop one resource to follow-up with individuals following a non-fatal overdose to offer support and connect to additional services.
- By December 2023, provide overdose education and response training to 24 businesses, non-profits, and community agencies and provide naloxone kits for use in the event of an opioid overdose.
- By September 2023, develop one educational campaign encouraging earlier activation of 911 for EMS response during an overdose and promoting the protections from the Good Samaritan Law.

Overdose (continued)

- By December 2023, host one targeted educational event in the community on stimulant overdose.
- By December 2023, distribute 1,000 educational materials on stimulant overdoses from University of Washington's Addictions, Drug, & Alcohol Institute.
- By November 2023, develop one educational campaign targeted towards teens and young adults on fentanyl.
- By December 2023, host one targeted educational event in the community on fentanyl and increased overdose risk.

Overdose (continued)

- By September 2023, develop one in-service educational training for harm reduction oriented organizations and groups on the use and benefits of overdose prevention and drug checking approaches, including distribution of fentanyl test strips.
- By September 2023, develop one educational material to raise awareness of the standing order, over-the-counter naloxone, and how to utilize insurance benefits when accessing naloxone at a pharmacy.
- By September 2023, develop one public-facing data display using overdose data.
- By December 2023, develop a program for distributing naloxone to individuals at time of release from jail and/or detention.

Equity

- By December 2023, provide one targeted event on how systemic racism impacts the behavioral health continuum of care.
- By October 2023, provide one presentation to the Lived Experience Steering Committee and/or Regional Housing Council Homeless Advisory Board to gather input and discuss intersections between the Response Plan and the 5-Year Homeless Housing Plan.
- By October 2023, host one event targeted at local providers on the impact of stigma.
- By October 2023, host one targeted community event around stigma and the impact of trauma informed practices.

Equity (continued)

- By August 2023, develop one access point in the community for comprehensive drug checking services.
- By November 2023, develop one resource providing harm reduction education and resources targeted to youth.
- By November 2023, conduct one public event to provide education on diversion programs and opportunities within the community.

Upcoming Projects

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- Community education panel on types of Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)
- Increased training opportunities for overdose response and naloxone administration
- Educational outreach on safe disposal and storage of medication
- Campaign to encourage early activation 911 to dispatch EMS during an overdose
- Overdose Awareness Day – August 31st
- Expansion of services and education for youth
 - Treatment options, including MOUD
 - Access to naloxone

Questions/Discussion
