Opioid Settlement Planning & Fatal Overdoses: Looking Forward

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Board of Commissioners Briefing
May 16, 2023
Outline

• Opioid Settlement
  • Strategic Planning Overview
  • Community Perspectives
  • Steering Committee Findings
  • Recommendations: A Dual Approach

• Fatal Overdose Emergency Response
  • Purpose & Structure
  • Enhance Data Collection & Reporting
  • Communication & Equity
  • Operational Strategies

• Discussion
Strategic Planning Overview

- **September 2022**
  - **Steering Committee Launch**
    - ~ 45 stakeholder participants
    - Multidisciplinary advisory body
  - **Imagining our desired future state**
    - Strategic Visioning

- **October**
  - **Root Cause Analysis**
    - Research into factors increasing likelihood of substance use and related harm
  - **Engaging Diverse Stakeholders**
    - Provider & stakeholder engagement sessions
    - Community surveys
    - Media outreach
  - **Population-level data to assess progress toward our strategic vision**
    - Identifying Key Indicators

- **November**
  - **Engaging those with Lived Experience**
    - Surveying folks in active use and/or treatment
    - Survey incarcerated individuals in BCDF

- **December**
  - **Monitoring & Evaluation Planning**
    - Identifying specific measures within each key indicator
  - **Identifying Key Indicators**
    - Provider & stakeholder engagement sessions
    - Community surveys
    - Media outreach

- **January 2023**
  - **Monitoring & Evaluation Planning**
    - Identifying specific measures within each key indicator
  - **Engaging those with Lived Experience**
    - Surveying folks in active use and/or treatment
    - Survey incarcerated individuals in BCDF

- **February**
  - **Identifying Goals & Strategies for Change**
    - Establishing community priorities
    - Alignment with MOA-Authorized funding activities
    - Recommendations

- **March**
  - **Steering Committee Wrap-up**
    - Final Report & Public Event per MOA

- **May**
  - **Strategic Prioritization**
    - Identify funding priorities through analysis of steering committee & community input
Community Perspectives

What’s concerning?

• Visibility of substance use and homelessness
• Insufficient treatment slots and options for SUD recovery
• Increasing prevalence of use and lethality of substances

What’s in the Way?

• Cost of care and/or lack of insurance
• Insufficient treatment slots and options
• Stigma – fear of judgement, consequences when seeking care (e.g. job loss)

What can help?

• Housing & shelter options
• Harm Reduction & education/awareness raising
• Employment Resources
• Healthcare Access
## Steering Committee Findings

### Root Cause of Substance Use and Related Harm

- Adverse Childhood Experiences/Trauma
- Social isolation
- Geographic isolation
- Systemic marginalization
- Disrupted, limited, or incomplete education opportunities
- Poverty
- Criminal justice involvement
- Housing insecurity and homelessness

### Key Indicators

- Overdose deaths
- Overdose-related Emergency Department visits
- Families involved with CPS associated with substance use
- Criminal justice data related to substance use and/or distribution
- Social Determinants of Health
  - Economic stability
  - Education access
  - Healthcare access
  - Neighborhood and built environment
  - Social and community context
## Recommendations: A Dual Approach

### Prioritize life-saving and harm-reducing measures today

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fatal Overdose Emergency Response</th>
<th>MAT Expansion</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Collaborative goal setting, objective identification, &amp; prioritization</td>
<td>• Expand access to MAT in high impact areas</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Real-time information sharing</td>
<td>• Streamline data across County MAT programs</td>
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### Invest in prevention and longer-term planning to address root causes of substance use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Early Intervention</th>
<th>Employment-Related Services</th>
<th>Recovery Housing</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Invest in youth voice and leadership</td>
<td>• Holistic care models support job readiness in treatment/shelter settings</td>
<td>• Support housing providers in meeting best-practice quality benchmarks</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Education &amp; awareness-raising</td>
<td>• Employer collaboration to promote hiring &amp; recovery-friendly workplaces</td>
<td>• Create opportunities to expand evidence-based housing options</td>
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<td>• Community-based resources (e.g. youth peer support programs)</td>
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### Acute Response Resources

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Fund <strong>Recovery Support Services</strong> to address Social Determinants of Health</th>
<th>Fund <strong>Naloxone Distribution</strong> &amp; Community Education</th>
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**BUNCOMBE COUNTY**
Fatal Overdose Emergency Response

• Purpose:
  • Utilize incident command structure to quickly respond and execute effective measures; based on real-time information
  • Increase public awareness and safety by ensuring direct, consistent and intentional messaging of substance use-related public safety threats and resources
  • Coordinate care across services & organizations to increase access to substance use recovery and resources for all
  • Deploy resources and information in the most equitable manner

• Scope:
  • Establish goals, objectives and priorities for eliminating overdose deaths
  • Identify taskforce activation criteria and procedures
  • Consolidate information sharing and access to real-time data to better understand substance use-related public safety threats
Fatal Overdose Emergency Response

Unified Command

Joint Information Center
Common Messaging/Public Awareness

Operations
Action Plan Implementation

Planning
Action Plan Development

Logistics

Finance

Equity

Situation/Data Unit
Data Collection & Monitoring
Improving Use of Data to Inform Response

Defining what information we need to know, collect and/or monitor in order to:

• Prevent overdoses
• Respond quickly in the event of an overdose
• Avoid loss of life in the event of an overdose
• Channel resources efficiently to achieve the above 3 points
Community Awareness & Education

• Collaborate with network of community outreach efforts to inform and to disseminate information.

• Continue to build relationships and trust through outreach, listening, and responding.

• Sharing stories to reduce stigma and increase knowledge & access to supports.
Fatal Overdose Emergency Response

**Equity Building Approaches**

- Changing Program Entrance Criteria
- Partner with BIPOC-led Organizations
- Recruit, Hire, and Retain BIPOC
- Intentional Outreach and Education
- Centering Program from BIPOC Perspective
- Reduce Barriers to Access Services
MAT Expansion

Expanding Bridges to Care

Building partnership with high touch, high impact locations for Community Paramedic MAT program to be the bridge for induction or sustainment of MAT until connected with an OUD clinic.

- Mission Hospital Emergency Department (ED)
- Buncombe County Detention Facility
- Housing Authority Communities
- Social Services
- Crisis Response
Enhanced Crisis Response

A whole-community approach equals a safer approach.

Crisis Response Team
MCOT and Law Enforcement are dispatched to a call. This may include mental health clinician support.

Community Outreach/De-Escalation
Mobile Community Outreach Team (MCOT) in partnership with community partners already collaborating in the field around outreach work and de-escalation. This may include mental health clinician support.

Enhanced Mental Health & Substance Use Services
Recovery Support Services

- Utilize Peer Supports to help educate, share community resources and be a support.
- Increase access to supports that address Social Determinants of Health
  - Accessing treatment, i.e. cost, transportation, medical care, lost wages, childcare
  - Housing support
  - Job training and transportation
  - Legal issues

Naloxone Education & Distribution

- Build community awareness around risks and resources.
- Expand education and access to Naloxone in communities not traditionally visiting harm reduction providers and hard to reach places.
- Create a culture of responding to an overdose emergency as we do for heart emergencies.
Financial Considerations & Impacts
Opioid Settlement Funds – Wave 1 Only

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FY</th>
<th>Wave 1 Allocation</th>
<th>Obligated</th>
<th>Surplus/Gap</th>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2023</td>
<td>$1,187,799</td>
<td>$458,500</td>
<td>$1,729,299</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2024</td>
<td>$1,304,566</td>
<td>$2,717,400</td>
<td>$1,304,566</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2025</td>
<td>$1,342,986</td>
<td>$4,021,966</td>
<td>$1,342,986</td>
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<tr>
<td>FY 2026</td>
<td>$832,833</td>
<td>$5,364,952</td>
<td>$1,304,566</td>
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BUNCOMBE COUNTY
Maintaining Current Support Services

- County Manager and Strategy & Innovation $242k
  - Behavioral Health Manager and Behavioral Health & Justice Analyst Positions (starting 1/1/24)
- Emergency Services – Community Paramedicine Post Overdose Response/MAT Teams $426k
  - Peer Coordinator Position $91k
  - Contract for Licensed Therapist $125k (starting 10/1/23) & Peers Support Specialists $210k (1 starting 10/1/23)
- Public Health – Health Promotions $346k
  - Substance Use Services Coordinator Position $111k (starting 10/1/23)
  - Wrap around services / support – Services or support to improve health and well-being $185k
  - Naloxone Distribution $50k
- Justice Services – Community Re-Entry Team $330k (including wrap around services)
  - Contract for Program Manager $96k & Case Managers $194k

Full Year Total = $1,344,000
FY24 Total = $1,183,367
(currently in FY24 recommended budget)
Expanding Services & Support

Expanded Bridges to Care
• Community Paramedicine – Expand to an additional Team of 3 & 3 Supervisor Positions = $943,980
  • Evidenced Based Addiction Treatment – Fill gaps and overcome current funding barriers = $60k
  • Wrap around services / support – Services or support to improve health and well-being = $90k

Data Informed Responses
• Medical Substance Use Professional/Epidemiologist – Provide in depth analysis and reports to guide response = $100k
• Nurse Navigation/Call Diversion (Data collection, analysis, and feasibility report) = $25k (one-time cost)

Enhanced Equitable Communication & Outreach
• Inclusive Engagement Specialist Position = $92k
• Media & Engagement Materials = $30k
• Naloxone Distribution = $25k

Estimated Total = $1,365,980 FY24
The Plan, as presented, is to maintain and expand services to address fatal overdoses only & does not include consideration for system level changes.

These recommendations would benefit from even minimal funding this first year to begin supporting efforts and to further evaluate future spending recommendations.
Proposed Next Steps

• Obtain guidance from the board on items to expand using Opioid Settlement funds.

• Budget Appropriation Consideration & Revision
  • Maintain current programs – included in FY24 Recommended Budget - $1,183,367
  • Revise FY24 Recommended budget to include Expansion strategies - $1,365,980

• FY24 Budget Adoption – June 20, 2023

• Move into full implementation of Fatal Overdose Response / Opioid strategies Expansion – July 1, 2023
Discussion