

STATEWIDE COUNCIL ON OPIOID ABATEMENT

MEETING PACKET



Combating the Opioid Epidemic

See how the State of Florida is serving communities by supporting prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts statewide.

September 19, 2024

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section	Tab Number
Agenda	1
Meeting Minutes	2
Data Overview	6
Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council Update	20
Recommendation Template	28





Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement

Meeting Agenda
September 19, 2024
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. EST

Microsoft Teams:
Meeting ID: 246 295 564 407
Passcode: aVaadP

Council Members

Attorney General Ashley Moody
Chair

Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma
Delegate Chair

Secretary Shevaun L. Harris
Vice Chair

Amy Ronshausen
Governor's Appointee

Major Todd M. Shear
Senate President's Appointee

Sheriff Robert A. Hardwick
Office of the Speaker's Appointee

Commissioner Chris Dougherty
Florida Association of Counties

Commissioner Lee Constantine
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Commissioner Kathleen Peters
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Vice Mayor Kimberly Glas-Castro
Florida League of Cities Appointee

Vice Mayor Jolien Caraballo
Florida League of Cities Appointee

2:00 – 2:05	Welcome and Roll Call Aaron Platt for Jeanette Cherubini, Executive Director for Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement
2:05 – 2:20	Call Meeting to Order Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma, Delegate Chair
2:20 – 2:25	Meeting Minutes Approval from August 1, 2024 Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma, Delegate Chair
2:25 – 2:45	Annual Legislative Report Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma, Delegate Chair
2:45 – 3:05	Data Overview Dr. Nikema St. Fleur, Department of Children and Families
3:05 – 3:25	Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council Update Jeff Cece, Department of Children and Families
3:25 – 3:45	Recommendation Template and Next Steps Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma, Delegate Chair
3:45 – 3:55	Public Comment
3:55 – 4:00	Closing Remarks Sheriff Dennis M. Lemma, Delegate Chair



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Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement

Meeting Minutes

August 1, 2024

2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. EST

2:00 P.M. - Welcome and Call to Order

Jeanette Cherubini welcomed all to the meeting. The meeting was called to order by Chair Designee Dennis Lemma. Roll call was taken by Jeanette Cherubini. Attendance Summary:

Amy Ronshausen
Major Todd Shear
Sheriff Robert Hardwick
Commissioner Chris Dougherty
Commissioner Kathleen Peters
Vice Mayor Kimberly Glas-Castro
Sheriff Dennis Lemma, Chair Delegate
Secretary Shevaun Harris
Commissioner Lee Constantine

1. Approve March 28, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes was approved by Council.

2. Overview on the Collaborative Efforts and New Initiatives in Combating Substance Use Disorder

Dennis Lemma, Seminole County Sheriff

Sheriff Lemma emphasized the urgency of addressing substance use disorder. He highlighted the growing number of successful programs in Florida that have gained national attention, stressing the importance of naloxone in preventing overdoses. With a positive shift towards citizens carrying naloxone and increased access to medical-based treatments through partnerships like Advent Health, new initiatives by Secretary Harris and the First Lady are focusing on prevention, especially given the rise in fentanyl-related incidents. While Florida has seen a 7% decrease in drug-related deaths, opioid-related deaths have increased by 11%. Lemma urged the promotion of best practices and widespread availability of naloxone, addressing the societal challenges posed by counterfeit fentanyl and the legacy of overprescription. He noted addiction's impact on mental health and the importance of viewing it as a disease affecting all demographics.

3. Overview for Counties, Cities, and the Public

John Guard, Chief Deputy Attorney General

Mr. Guard explained the creation of the council to address distrust between different government levels regarding the allocation and use of opioid settlement funds. Its role involves gathering and sharing data on effective interventions to ensure transparency and proper use of funds.

4. Overview of the State's Opioid Abatement Plan

Assistant Secretary Erica Floyd Thomas, Department of Children and Families
Ms. Thomas outlined the Department of Children and Families' role as the state's authority on substance abuse and mental health, responsible for services from prevention to crisis management and the licensure of facilities. The Department focuses on uninsured individuals, filling gaps in services through partnerships with contracted managing entities. She detailed the allocation of state funds, highlighting efforts to maximize resources and build infrastructure to enhance service delivery.

5. Titusville's Opioid Abatement Plan

Stanley Brizz, Executive Director Brevard Prevention Coalition

Brevard County aims to enhance education for staff at various levels on effectively handling behavioral and mental health issues. Recognizing a lack of knowledge in



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Virtual Meeting Minutes

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2:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. EST

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treating these individuals, the county emphasizes the importance of a Peer Support Program, which connects those in need with individuals who have experienced similar challenges. Rather than creating new solutions, the county plans to leverage existing community services to address these gaps. The county advocates for comprehensive approaches that include counseling alongside medical treatment to address these root causes effectively.

6. Seminole County's Opioid Abatement Plan

Kelly Welch, Community Health Division Manager - Seminole County
Seminole County has implemented effective programs, resulting in decreased numbers of substance use disorder through collaboration with partners like Advent Health and Central Florida, and partnering with six out of seven cities to secure more funding for services. Their healing centers and EMS program, launched two years ago, have been highly effective, particularly in providing care for individuals discharged from emergency hospitals. The county has also increased penalties for drug dealers, especially around sensitive areas like churches, playgrounds, and treatment centers, and investigates overdose deaths as homicides to hold responsible parties accountable.

7. Floor was open for public comment.

8. Closing Remarks

Council Chair Lemma provided closing remarks. Meeting adjourned at 4:00PM.



DATA OVERVIEW



Roles And Responsibilities

- The Department of Children and Families is the State Opioid Treatment Authority, and as such oversees statewide prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts utilizing the settlement funds.
- The Department also serves as the administrative arm of the Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement.
- The Florida Opioid Allocation and Statewide Response Agreement and Florida Statutes requires that counties, cities, and municipalities provide:
 - Information to the Department about how they intend to expend opioid funds;
 - Information regarding financial expenditures for the previous fiscal year;
 - Any written agreements for the comingling of funds; and
 - Required audits.
- The Taskforce or Council can also set other data sets that need to be reported to DCF to demonstrate the effectiveness of expenditures on Approved Purposes.



What are Stakeholders Required to Report?

- **By July 1, 2024** - Counties, cities, and municipalities were required to provide information to the Department about how they intend to expend opioid funds in the upcoming fiscal year (FY 24-25). The state fiscal year runs from July 1-June 30.
- **By August 31, 2024** - Counties, cities, and municipalities were required to provide the Department with reporting of financial expenditures for the previous fiscal year (FY 23-24).
- **Annual Audits** - Each stakeholder are required to submit their audits as soon as they are completed and made available for publishing.



Opioid Data Management System (ODMS)

The Opioid Data Management System (ODMS) was developed by the Florida Department of Children and Families to store data required to be submitted by counties, municipalities, service providers, and any other entity receiving Opioid Settlement funding. The data system consists of applications that receive provider electronic data and serve as a platform to upload implementation plans, enter financial information, and upload any other required documentation.



Ease of Use

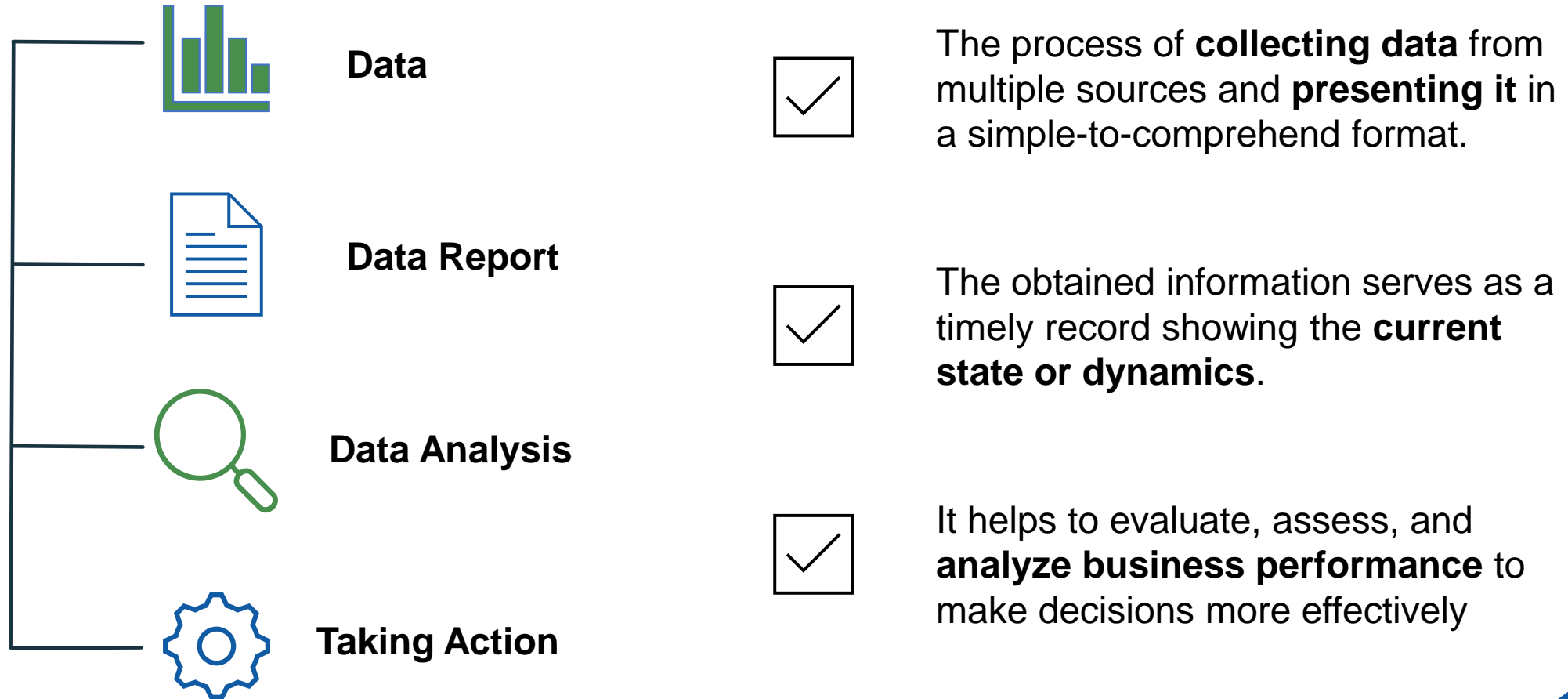
Data Reporting System with No Additional Costs

Low Administrative Burden

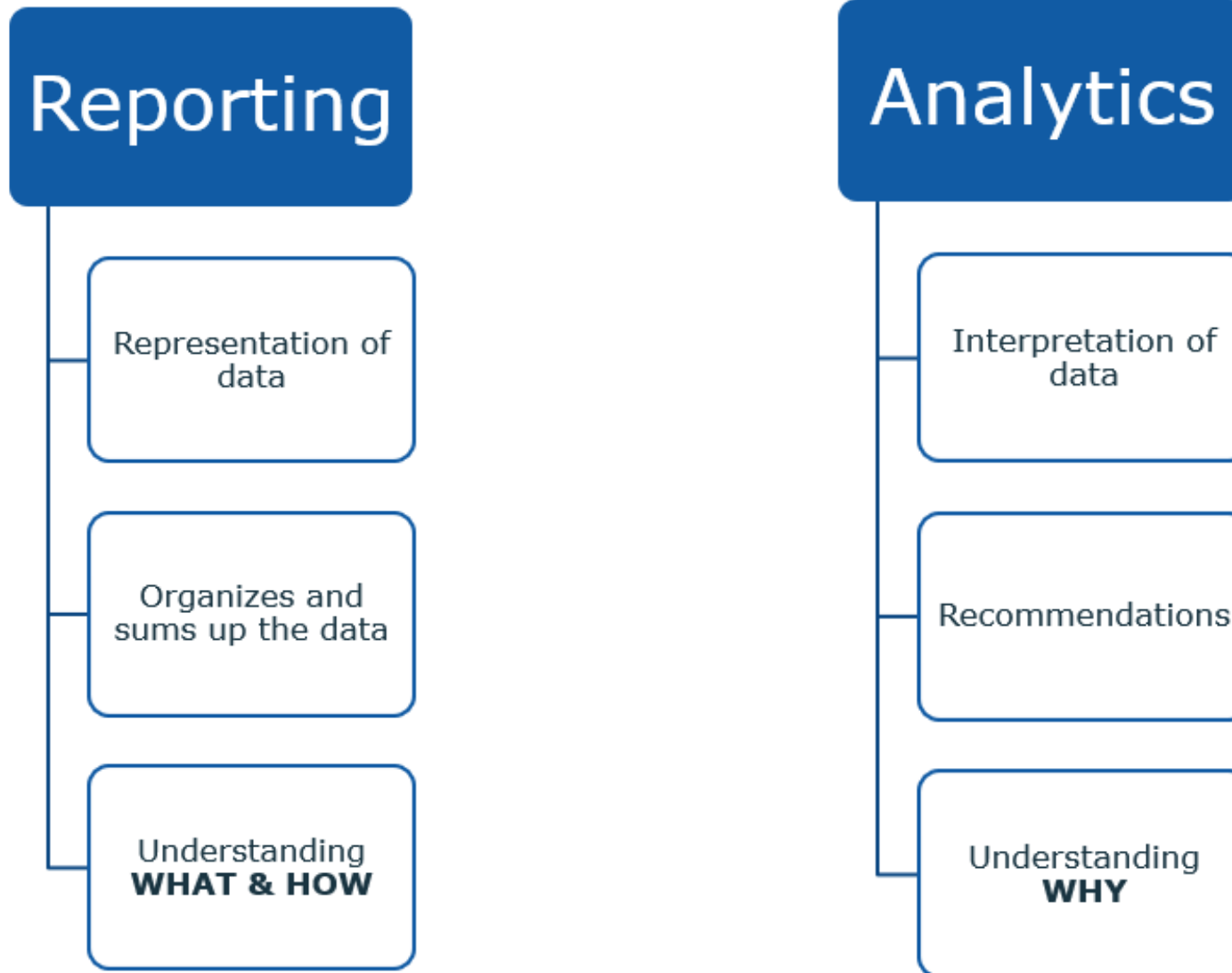
Technical Assistance Support



Defining Data Reporting



Data Reporting Vs Data Analytics

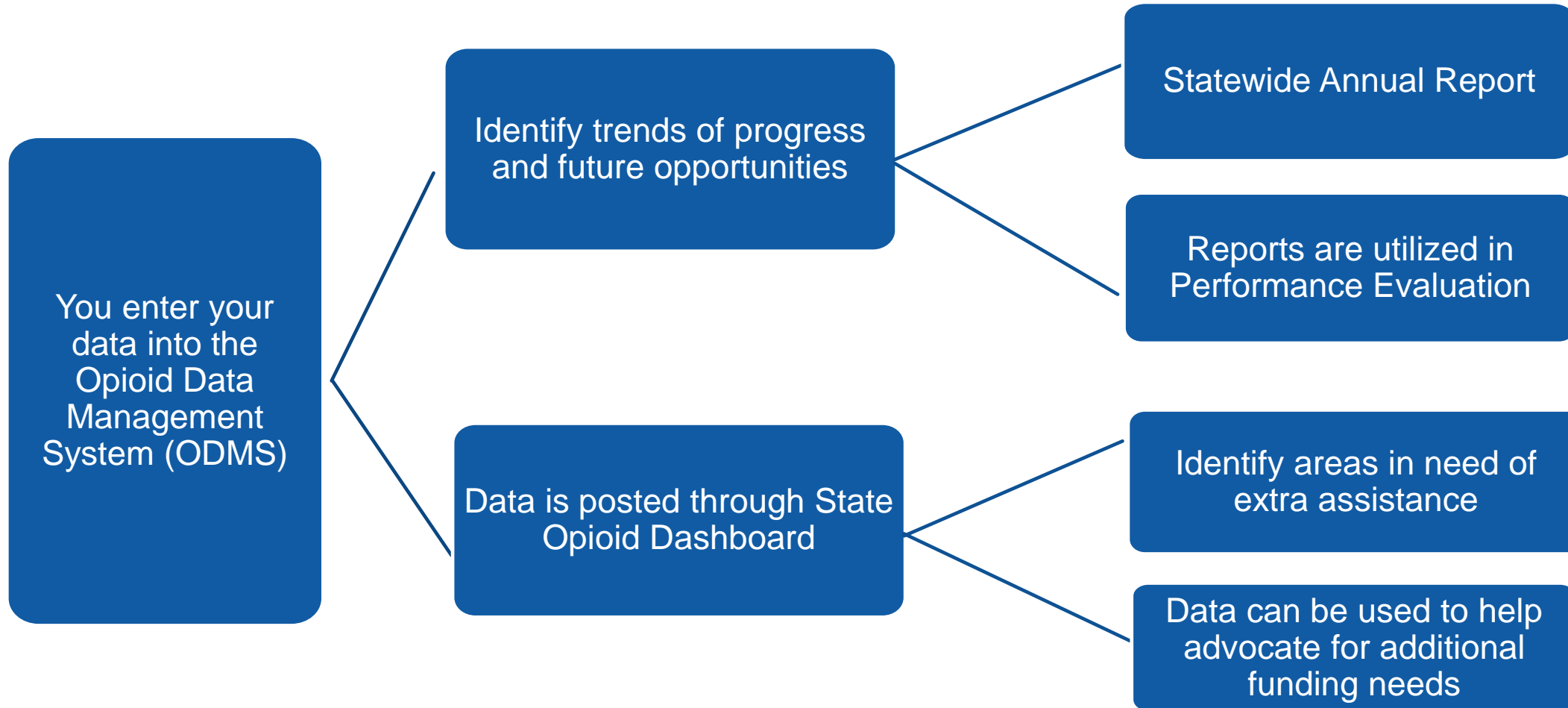


What are the Benefits of Reporting?

- **Transparency:**
 - Comprehensive data collection that captures treatment, prevention, recovery, workforce, and training.
 - Public facing dashboard to identify trends.
- **Accountability:**
 - Public facing financial reporting template.
 - Public repository of all county plans.



Why is Reporting Important?



How Do I Submit Data and Required Information?

- Email **HQW.SAMH.Opioid.Data.Access.Support@myflfamilies.com** to request access to the system.
 - The team will give you a guide and instructions on how to use the system.
- Account Administrator: Designate an account administrator that can verify who within your county or municipality is allowed to have access to upload and review or edit your data. Feel free to grant access to multiple individuals if needed, but you only need one account administrator.



Where Can I Find More Information?

- **Opioid Settlement Website:** FloridaOpioidSettlement.com
- **To Request a Technical Assistance Meeting:** Email HQW.SAMH.Opioid.Settlement.Inquiry@myflfamilies.com





Questions?



STATEWIDE DRUG POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024

Background

- The Statewide Council on Opioid Abatement (SCOA) is required to work with, provide information to, and receive information from the Statewide Drug Policy Advisory Council (DPAC).
- The SCOA must also ensure that its recommendations and actions are consistent with DPAC's recommendations to the extent possible, pursuant to s. 397.335(4)(b), Florida Statutes.
- DPAC features 19 members, including individuals with expertise in drug enforcement, prevention, treatment, and faith-based services.
- Chaired by the State Surgeon General, DPAC is responsible for conducting a comprehensive analysis of all drug problems and making recommendations on funding and strategies.

Prevention Recommendation 1

Develop and implement a substance-use prevention strategy designed to reduce drug use among youth 12-17 years of age. The strategy should focus on:

- (1) Deployment of a unified anti-drug messaging campaign developed around evidence-based practices to ensure good outcomes;
- (2) Increasing/maintaining substance use prevention efforts by securing/sustaining front-end prevention funding that increases screenings and addressing trauma-related issues among youth; and
- (3) Expanding state partnerships with anti-drug coalitions, educational institutions, law enforcement, and other members of the 12 Community Sectors.

Prevention Recommendation 2

Engage in an evidence-based substance use prevention program designed to reduce drug use among youth 12-17 years of age. The curriculum should focus on evidence-based and/or evidence-informed prevention strategies proven to reduce substance use, while also increasing youth resiliency, coping strategies, positive mental health, and responsible decision-making. The end goal is to better link existing prevention education programs with Florida's educators and to reduce substance use and abuse among Florida's youth.

CORE/Hospital Bridge Recommendation

Encourage the continued establishment of warm handoff programs, such as the Coordinated Opioid Recovery Network (CORE) from hospital Emergency Departments to community Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment providers to address opioid overdose; issue naloxone to overdose patients before they leave the ED.



GME Recommendation

To increase physicians with an addiction medicine specialty, ensure Graduate Medical Education (GME) positions are allocated to fellowship and residency programs for addiction medicine.

Peers and Recovery Community Organization Recommendation

Continue the statewide Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) initiative designed to promote and enhance recovery efforts in Florida and support the continued development of the Recovery Community Organization (RCO) and a statewide RCO that helps link community initiatives.

Alignment with DCF Initiatives Funded by the Opioid Settlement

- Prevention recommendations align with funding for prevention initiatives, particularly First Lady Casey DeSantis' statewide prevention campaign: *The Facts. Your Future.*
 - FY 23-24: \$25.4 million
 - FY 24-25: \$18.0 million
- The Hospital Bridge/CORE recommendation aligns with major funding priorities:
 - FY 23-24: \$26.8 million CORE and \$4.0 million for Hospital Bridge services
 - FY 24-25: \$31.8 million for CORE and \$4.0 million for Hospital Bridge services
- The GME recommendation aligns with funding and a Request for Applications to support GME slots
 - FY 23-24: \$4.0 million
 - FY 24-25: \$4.0 million
- The Peers and RCOs recommendation aligns with funding carved out for hiring new peers and expanding RCOs:
 - FY 23-24: \$13.0 million
 - FY 24-25: \$8.2 million



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Recommendation Template

Recommendation

- Describe the recommendation in detailed sentence form.

Is the recommendation evidence based (if applicable)

- The recommendation should be a best practice or evidence based (if applicable).

If the recommendation requires statutory change, please provide draft language.

Data to Support Recommendation (if applicable)

- Provide data to support the recommendation (if applicable).

Anticipated Positive Impact

- In narrative form, describe the prospective positive impact that each recommendation will have on the opioid epidemic.
 - If applicable, reference local areas, regions or other states that have successfully implemented this recommendation.

Identify barriers to implementation

Fiscal Impact

Key partners:

- Identify key partners (e.g. state agencies, advocacy organizations) needed to mobilize these recommendations.



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Sample Recommendation

Recommendation: Update and enhance the Florida Association of Recovery Residences' ["Suggested Practices for Medication Assisted Therapy"](#).

It is recommended that Florida Association of Recovery Residences' "Suggested Practices for Medication Assisted Therapy", be revised to: (1) encourage continuation of Medication Assisted Treatment for as long as the prescriber determines that the medication is beneficial, (2) remove references to long-term use of Medication Assisted Treatment medications as a "red flag" and (3) remove requirements for Medication Assisted treatment stop dates and taper plans.

Research shows that housing instability often precedes and elevates the risk for substance use and overdose. Additionally, a 2023 study showed that housing instability in the form of continual involuntary displacement is associated with an increase in overdose mortality of between 71 percent and 94 percent. Medication Assisted Treatment and stable housing are evidence-based methods to address opioid use disorder, homelessness, hospitalizations, and mortality. Individuals who stay in recovery residences that accept Medication Assisted Treatment, like Oxford Houses, demonstrate reductions in substance use and illegal activities, and improvements in employment. This recommendation will make Florida Association of Recovery Residences certified recovery residences more welcoming and accepting of individuals that are successfully recovering with Medication Assisted Treatment. The recommendation will also encourage individuals to continue recovering with Medication Assisted Treatment and accessing housing without the fear of raising red flags or being encouraged to discontinue treatment.

The implementation of the proposed recommendation will require collaboration from Florida Association of Recovery Residences, Florida Behavioral Health Association/Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association (FADAA), Florida Association of Managing Entities, and Florida Society of Addiction Medicine. There is no fiscal impact associated with this recommendation.