



Illinois
 DuPage County Health Department
 DuPage County Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program

10/01/19 Grant Start → 09/30/22 Grant End

Overview

DuPage County is the second-most populous county in Illinois, with a population of 931,826 people, spanning 327.5 square miles. Approximately 67.9 percent of residents are white, non-Hispanic; 14.1 percent are Hispanic or Latino; 11.4 percent are Asian; 4.7 percent are black; and less than 1 percent are American Indian/Alaska Native or Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander. Twenty-six percent of county residents speak a language other than English, and nearly 18 percent live below 200 percent of the federal poverty level. There is a critical shortage of substance use disorder treatment programs serving individuals without health insurance, and many of these individuals are referred to treatment programs outside of the county. In 2018, 98 opioid-related deaths occurred in the county, with 64 percent because of fentanyl alone or in combination with heroin. In 2017, there were 494 opioid-related emergency department visits. Law enforcement officers are outfitted with Narcan through the DuPage Narcan Program, a collaborative

effort among the coroner's, sheriff's, and state's attorney's offices; chiefs of police; and the DuPage County Health Department (DCHD). In July 2017, a Sequential Intercept Mapping workshop identified critical gaps in services for high-risk opioid users who are incarcerated, at risk for incarceration, and recently released from jails.

Grant Focus

- Expand jail-based treatment and effective reentry programs.
- Increase access to naloxone.
- Prioritize real-time data collection, analysis, and dissemination.
- Link data sets to identify trends and focus resources.
- Expand models of public health, behavioral health, and public safety information sharing and collaboration at state and local levels.

Program Approach

The project will support the Heroin/Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) Taskforce goals of reducing overdose fatalities and increasing access to effective treatment for substance abuse and co-occurring mental disorders among underserved high-risk individuals. The HOPE Taskforce is a joint operation of the DuPage County Board and the DuPage Board of Health and includes representatives of mental health, law enforcement, adjudication, substance use treatment, prevention, and education.

The project will provide:

- High-risk opioid users with increased screening and access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT) in the DuPage County Jail and enhanced linkages to community-based care upon release.
- MAT to anyone in the jail population who presents a need, including, but not limited to, those eligible in the recovery pod.
- Narcan to individuals post-incarceration and linked to cognitive behavioral therapy (CBT) through community providers.

The project also will unify disparate data sources related to opioid use in the county to improve understanding of drug trends, support program evaluation, inform clinical decision making, and identify at-risk populations and treatment gaps. A data team will be formed from members of the HOPE Taskforce to:

1. Develop the outcome measures for the project.
2. Quantify and document baseline information.
3. Select appropriate data collection methods.
4. Identify persons responsible for data collection and analysis.
5. Design systems to use formative evaluation data to modify project activities.

6. Use a summative evaluation to quantify project outcomes and impacts.

A population health specialist will support the team, and data collected will be shared publicly.

The DuPage County Coroner's Office will lead efforts to implement a cross-sector overdose fatality review team based on the RxStat model. A subaward for evaluation component—to the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority—also will guide the overdose fatality review team development based on the New York RxStat model. The coroner's office will oversee multiagency collaboration to identify key data sets.

Select measures will be added to the DCHD's performance dashboard to track participants and nonparticipants in MAT, document proceedings of the overdose fatality review team, and produce two final evaluation reports.

Project Partners

- DuPage County Sheriff's Office
- DuPage County Jail
- Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority
- HOPE Taskforce
- DuPage County Coroner's Office
- Village of Carol Stream
- Village of Addison
- Northwestern Medicine Behavioral Health

Contact Information

Project Director: Mila Tsagalis

Email: mtsagali@dupagehealth.org

Phone: (630) 682-7400

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