



Pennsylvania  
York County  
Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-Based Program

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

## Overview

This project serves York and Adams Counties, which have a combined population of 551,084. Young adults (aged 18 to 25) account for the highest prevalence of substance abuse in those counties. This population also experiences most of the opioid overdose fatalities. Caucasian males are particularly vulnerable. More than half of all fatalities in York and Adams Counties are primarily related to fentanyl. The demand for medication-assisted treatment (MAT) continues to grow within the counties, as evidenced by the local methadone clinic's expansion. Individuals under age 18 appear particularly vulnerable to prescription opiates and abuse other opiates/synthetics, and early use of opiates/synthetic substances may later result in heroin/fentanyl use. A lack of inpatient services may negatively impact treatment and recovery for this population. The criminal justice system accounts for the second-highest volume of York Adams Drug & Alcohol Commission (YADAC) referrals. Approximately 70 percent

of individuals under county probation/parole and 70 percent of those incarcerated in York and Adams Counties have substance use problems.

## Grant Focus

- Expand jail-based treatment and effective reentry programs.
- 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.
- Support prescriber education programs.
- Integrate standardized screening practices into the criminal justice system.

## Program Approach

The project expects to:

1. Improve the prison and opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment infrastructure by seamlessly identifying persons with OUD and connecting them to treatment and nontreatment services with adequate community-based support to encourage long-term recovery and reduced recidivism.
2. Improve prompt connection to treatment and nontreatment services for persons who have overdosed within the past 24 hours.
3. Improve prescription opioid availability and stewardship to ensure the well-being of persons at risk for developing an OUD.

Local providers will provide the full range of treatment services, including all forms of MAT.

The following are the project goals:

- **Goal 1:** By March 2020, establish a collaborative program between the prison and YADAC to ensure that persons with OUDs are identified pre-release, are engaged with a care manager, and receive treatment and nontreatment services post-release to support long-term recovery.
- **Goal 2:** By March 2020, establish a collaborative program between the prison and YADAC to ensure that persons with OUDs who are on work release are identified, are engaged with a care manager, and receive treatment and nontreatment services during work release and post-release from prison.
- **Goal 3:** By January 2021, establish an integrated data system recording all law enforcement naloxone utilizations, emergency medical services naloxone utilizations, and hospital emergency department admissions for opioid poisoning/overdose to identify persons at risk for future overdose and coordinate rapid outreach.

- **Goal 4:** By January 2022, 95 percent of York and Adams Counties' primary care physicians and pharmacists have conversations with patients about nonopioid therapies, discuss risks and benefits of opioid use, assess baseline pain and function, check the prescription drug monitoring program, and encourage proper storage and disposal of prescription medications.

## Project Partners

- Central Pennsylvania Transportation Authority—[rabbitransit](#)
- Family First Health; Wellspan Health
- Healthy York Network
- University of Pittsburgh Program Evaluation and Research Unit
- York and Adams Counties Prisons
- York City Bureau of Health
- York County District Attorney's Office

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