



BJA's
Comprehensive
Opioid, Stimulant,
and Substance Abuse
Program



Wisconsin
Wisconsin Department of Justice
State of Wisconsin FY 2019 Comprehensive Opioid Abuse
State-Based Program

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

Overview

Opioids present a very real and growing harm in all areas of the state of Wisconsin. Over a ten-year period, the number of opioid overdose deaths more than quadrupled across the state. In 2017, Wisconsin recorded 916 opioid overdose deaths, up 11 percent from 827 in 2016 and up 49 percent from 614 in 2015. In addition, emergency room visits for suspected opioid overdoses increased 109 percent in Wisconsin from July 2016 to September 2017.

In 2017 alone, there were 26,546 hospitalizations for opioid overdoses in the state. Wisconsin's opioid-related hospitalizations rate has not leveled off; in fact, it increased 37 percent from 2014 to 2017. Over the past 15 years, statistics have shown that prescription opioids are the main driver of drug overdose deaths and poisonings in Wisconsin. Prescription opioid use is often the gateway to heroin use. In 2016, Wisconsin experienced 389 opioid-related deaths involving heroin, up from 29 deaths in 2006. Wisconsin has also been able to identify the rapid expansion of heroin throughout the

state by examining the number of heroin submissions to its crime laboratories. For example, in 2008, the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory managed 221 heroin analysis cases from 23 of Wisconsin's 72 counties. In 2018, the laboratory managed 1,055 heroin analysis cases from 58 counties.

Grant Focus

- Expand law enforcement diversion and first-responder models that connect individuals to substance abuse treatment and recovery support services.
- Employ the use of alternatives to incarceration programs for nonviolent drug offenders.
- 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.

- Develop and disseminate research on opioid policies and interventions.
- Strengthen the nation's prescription drug monitoring programs.
- Educate public safety and criminal justice stakeholders about substance abuse.

Program Approach

The goal of this project is to expand existing and emerging programming options to address the opioid epidemic by providing subaward funding to two types of programs:

Pre-Booking Diversion Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion [LEAD] Model Sites

- Five sites will be selected.
- The Wisconsin departments of Justice and Health Services will work with the State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's Behavior Change Interventions Subcommittee to select sites.
- Goals:
 - Diversion to treatment at pre- or post-arrest stages, limiting exposure to the criminal justice system.
 - Establishment of processes, criteria, or both to identify appropriate participants.
 - Establishment of resources to refer clients to a treatment provider or coordinator.

Jail-Based Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Sites Based Within Local Sheriffs' Departments

- Nine sites will be selected.
- The Wisconsin departments of Justice and Health Services will work with the Badger State Sheriffs' Association to select sites.
- Goals:
 - Provision of nonnarcotic, nonaddictive, injectable

MAT to an inmate in the days immediately preceding reentry to the community.

- Provision of community-based care coordination for inmates exiting the county or tribal jail.
- Use of evidence-based, trauma-informed practices for substance use disorder treatment.
- Establishment of and adherence to a care coordination plan to enroll all program participants in medical assistance and provision of continued treatment during and after reentry.
- Compliance by participating agencies with all municipal, county, and state or tribal requirements for accreditation, certification, and licensing.

Selected locations will vary based on existing capacity, existing structures, and underserved or rural geographic areas of the state. To oversee the project and evaluate the performance of the sites, the Wisconsin Department of Justice will create positions for an opioid project coordinator, a law enforcement opioid initiatives advisor, and a research analyst.

The evaluation of this project will focus on the implementation of evidence-based treatment practices, improved access to evidence-based treatment, improved treatment engagement and client outcomes, and reduction in opioid overdoses.

Project Partners

- Wisconsin Department of Health Services
- Wisconsin Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Information and Analysis

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