

# Overdose Fatality Review

## Peer Mentor Site Opportunities

The purpose of the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Peer Mentor Program is to elevate, communicate, and leverage OFR promising practices while building bridges between nascent teams and those with demonstrated success. The OFR Peer Mentor Program provides a unique opportunity to learn the application and practice of OFR from experienced peers.

### OFR Peer Mentee Application

OFR peer mentee participants are matched to an experienced OFR peer mentor site that provides consultation and support through direct communication and a virtual\* OFR site visit to see firsthand how OFRs work in practice.

A typical OFR mentee experience will include:

- One-hour introductory call at least one week before the OFR virtual site visit
- Two-hour OFR observation
- One-hour post review discussion call at least one week after the OFR virtual site visit
- Facilitated discussions with one or two OFR members as requested by the peer mentee
- Feedback to the Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR), the BJA-designated training and technical assistance provider, by both the mentor and the mentee about their experience

(\*Note: In-person site visits are on hold during the COVID-19 response.)



Request a virtual site visit by completing this online form. ([http://s.iir.com/OFRSite\\_Visit](http://s.iir.com/OFRSite_Visit))

## OFR Peer Mentor Sites

OFR peer mentor sites serve as models for individuals and teams interested in starting a program or for more established programs interested in learning innovative practices.

### Indiana Peer Mentor Site

Indiana's OFR program is managed by the Indiana Department of Health and is a county-level OFR program established in 2018. It is currently funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Overdose Data to Action grant.

#### Experience

- State coordination of local sites
- OFR legislation
- 16 OFR teams throughout the state
- Coroner-based system
- Family interviews and psychological autopsies
- Experience with suicide and overdose deaths
- Collaborates across fatality review programs, including Maternal Mortality Review and Child Fatality Review, focused on youth suicides
- Community of Practice monthly call for all local coordinators

### Utah Peer Mentor Site

Utah's OFR is managed by the Utah Department of Health and is a state-level OFR established in 2017. It is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant with Opioid Response Strategy (ORS) involvement.

#### Experience

- State-level OFR initiative
- OFR legislation
- Centralized medical examiner office
- Themed-case selection
- Summary reports
- Family interviews
- Convening different types of death reviews (including suicide, homicide, and maternal mortality)

Visit the COSSAP Resource Center at [www.cossapresources.org](http://www.cossapresources.org).

## About the Institute for Intergovernmental Research

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) serves as the connecting point for COSSAP TTA efforts and collaborates with BJA leadership and fellow TTA providers to work directly with COSSAP site-based grantees. IIR's role includes guidance and contributions by subject-matter experts in priority COSSAP areas of focus; coordination of the COSSAP TTA network's cadre of experts and providers; publication production and design of COSSAP resources; planning, coordination, and delivery of national-level trainings and working group meetings; COSSAP Resource Center development and maintenance; coordination of distance-learning opportunities and resource dissemination; and other complementary activities.

## About BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement in achieving safer communities. To learn more about BJA, visit [www.bja.gov](http://www.bja.gov) and follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/DOJBJA](https://www.facebook.com/DOJBJA)) and Twitter (@DOJBJA). BJA is part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.