

TRACK 2: TREATMENT OPTIONS & THIRD-PARTY PAYERS - STATUS REPORT

Provided as a Reference to the Governor's Opioid State Action Accountability Taskforce.

Report Timeframe

From: 7/1/2018

To: 9/30/2018

Description

Track 2 is focused on treatment options and third-party payers across four areas:

- 1) opioid management to address the unprecedented access to prescription drugs leading to an increased need for medication assisted treatment through opioid treatment programs, and addressing Medicated and access barriers;
- 2) coverage for non-opioid pain management therapies, such as cognitive behavioral health, chiropractic, and acupuncture therapies;
- 3) early interventions strategies; and,
- 4) overdose education and naloxone distribution.

One of the key strategies for Nevada's approach to improving treatment opportunities is the development of Integrated Opioid Treatment and Recovery Centers (IOTRCs). Three organizations were named IOTRCs in Nevada and are providing services in communities throughout the state.

Highlights

- **People in Treatment.** An estimated 2,500 individuals received OUD treatment through Nevada's IOTRCs (average February – May 2018).
- **People Connected to Services.** The IOTRCs continued outreach with hospitals, and relationship-building resulted in several MOUs (memoranda of understanding) signed that will facilitate warm-handoffs between hospitals and IOTRCs.
- **Naloxone Distributed.** Naloxone has been distributed to more people throughout the state, and 7 reversals were reported between May and July, saving lives. Reversals are not required to be reported, meaning that this count may underestimate the total lives saved through Naloxone distribution in the state.
- **Virtual Dispensary Ready to “Go Live.”** Final steps made in the development of the Virtual Dispensary, which will allow for tracking of naloxone within the state to support distribution throughout the state.
- **New Resources to Fund Efforts.** State Opioid Response (SOR) funding awarded; this will complement and add resources to existing projects and programs, as well as fund new initiatives. Additionally, two tribes in Nevada received federal funding through SAMSHA's Tribal Opioid Response Grant funding opportunity.
- **Peer Recovery Support Services Established.** Access to peer recovery support services is improving through system improvements and partnerships with IOTRCs.
- **Recovery-Friendly Workplaces.** Gov. Sandoval has started a Recovery-Friendly Workplace Program with the aim to reduce the stigma of substance use and encourage workplaces to support treatment and recovery. The program is designed to give business owners training, draft policies, and technical assistance to become a recovery-friendly workplace. A resource manual and educational training vide are being created for business owners to reference.

Milestones Completed

- In May – July, more than 1400+ 2-dose naloxone kits were distributed through STR & state funding. This includes:
 - 288 2-dose units through IOTRCs
 - 986 2-dose units to law enforcement
 - 171 2-dose units to community members (through 12 trainings completed in coordination with the prevention coalitions)
 - 7 reversals were reported
- Southern Nevada Health District also distributed naloxone. Between July 1 and September 30, 2018, a total of 1,358 kits had been distributed, as follows:
 - Community: 661
 - EMS: 532
 - Law Enforcement: 165
- The Year 2 funding process for the State Targeted Response (STR) Project Expansion resulted in subawards in eight areas: 1-Outpatient Clinical Treatment and Recovery Services; 2-Mat Expansion for SAPTA Certified Providers; 3-Tribal Treatment and Recovery; 4-Criminal Justice; 5-Community Paramedicine; 6-Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome; 7-Recovery Support Services, and 8-Community Preparedness Planning. Grantees included:
 - a. UNR-Project ECHO, Center for Behavioral Health, Dignity Health, Eighth Judicial District Court, Empowerment Center, Foundation for Recovery, Health Insight, The Life Change Center, Northern Nevada Hopes, Ridge House, TRAC B, Vitality Unlimited, CASAT, UNLV, National Judicial College, and Carahsoft/Vertiba, Terry Kerns (through Nevada Attorney General's Office), Man Power, the Statewide Media Campaign and Renown Pregnancy Center, Substance Abuse Crisis Hotline.
 - b. Additional categories for funding for operating and supplies, travel, Naloxone, community preparedness planning, MAT Expansion, and Contract Assistance.
- Funding grid can be found here: https://casat.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Year-2_STR_subawards_List.pdf
- St. Rose / Dignity completed considerable outreach with providers in the Las Vegas area toward improving services (screening and treatment) for women who are pregnant and affected by opioid use. Early successes include screening of newborns and providing warm handoffs connection to MAT clinic.
- Center for Behavioral Health (CBH) used mobile recovery teams to work with LEAD and working on diversion – collaboration.

Ongoing Action Items

- Continue efforts to develop and improve Integrated Opioid Treatment and Recovery Center model, including technical assistance and capacity building
- Hold bi-weekly STR Core Team Meetings on the STR grant to coordinate partners and activities
- Continue training for community-based organizations (CBOs) that will distribute naloxone
- Continue DHCFP and DPBH to support sustainability and accessibility
- Development and technical assistance for IOTRCs to align with newly created Division Criteria
- Continue outreach to hospitals to connect them with IOTRC Mobile Recovery Outreach
- Support and promote pain management and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinics through Project ECHO
- Work to establish access to MAT in Tribal communities
- Continue to assess spending for each grant award; redirect where needed
- Identify challenges that programs are facing and help find solutions

Milestones Anticipated in the Next Quarter

Description of Action Item	Progress
1) Virtual Dispensary In Use by Selected Partners	In process
2) Grants Awarded for Community Preparedness Plans	In process
3) Seminars on ALTO (Alternatives to Opioids) Completed (November 13 in Reno & November 14 in Las Vegas)	In process
4) Develop Medicaid Policy for Medication Assisted Treatment	In process
5) Launch Perinatal Quality Collaborative for Prevention of NAS	In process

Challenges and Recommendations

To support ongoing improvement, challenges that were identified are shared along with suggested actions.

- **Challenge:** Much work has been completed to improve education around the Good Samaritan Overdose Act, demonstrated through reversals and lives saved. However, many people who are actively using are concerned about repercussions
Suggested Action: Continue Information, education, outreach, and communication.
- **Challenge:** Stigma associated with substance use disorder is still a critical factor in peoples' access to services.
Suggested Action: Cultural norms need to change around substance use, and that will take time and intentional communication.

Resources/Information

Prescribe 365 Nevada (DPBH) <http://prescribe365.nv.gov/>

SAPTA Funded Programs <http://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ClinicalSAPTA/Home> - SAPTA/

Project ECHO Pain Management Resources <https://med.unr.edu/echo/clinics/pain-management>

Project ECHO Research MERIT Study Flier <http://bit.ly/2wlvkz> (long link: <https://med.unr.edu/Documents/med/statewide/echo/MERIT%20Research%20Flyer%20-%20ED%20Provider.pdf>)

Nevada State Targeted Response Grant (STR) <https://casat.org/nevada-state-targeted-response-grant-str/>

Nevada's IOTRCs

- **Center for Behavioral Health:** <http://centerforbehavioralhealth.com/treatment-center-nevada/>
- **The Life Change Center:** <http://tlccreno.org/>
- **Vitality Unlimited:** <http://www.vitalityunlimited.org/>

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