

Strategies for Expanding Naloxone Access and the Role of Fatality Review Teams

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Great Lakes PTTC
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January 2021

The use of affirming language inspires hope.

LANGUAGE MATTERS.

Words have power.

PEOPLE FIRST.

The PTTC Network uses affirming language to promote the application of evidence-based and culturally informed practices.



Thank You for Joining Us!

A few housekeeping items:

- If you are having technical issues, please individually message Kristina Spannbauer or Stephanie Behlman in the chat section and they will be happy to assist you.
- Please put any questions for the speaker or comments in the Q & A section, also at the bottom of the screen. We will respond to questions during the presentation.
- We will be using automated transcriptions for today's webinar.

Thank You for Joining Us!

A few more housekeeping items:

- You will be directed to a link at the end of the presentation to a very short survey – we would really appreciate it if you could fill it out. It takes about 3 minutes.
- We are recording this session and it will be available on our website in a couple of weeks.
- Certificates of attendance will be sent out to all who attended the full session. They will take about 2 weeks.

A close-up photograph of several social media icons on white keyboard keys. The icons include Pinterest (red 'P'), Snapchat (yellow ghost), Instagram (purple and pink camera), Facebook (blue 'f'), and Twitter (blue bird). The keys are arranged in a grid, and the background is slightly blurred.

Follow Us On Social Media!

Facebook and Twitter:

- @GreatLakesATTC
- @GMhttc
- @GLPTTC

Photo: iStock

Speaker Introductions



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PROTECTING, MAINTAINING AND IMPROVING THE HEALTH OF ALL MINNESOTANS

Learning Objectives

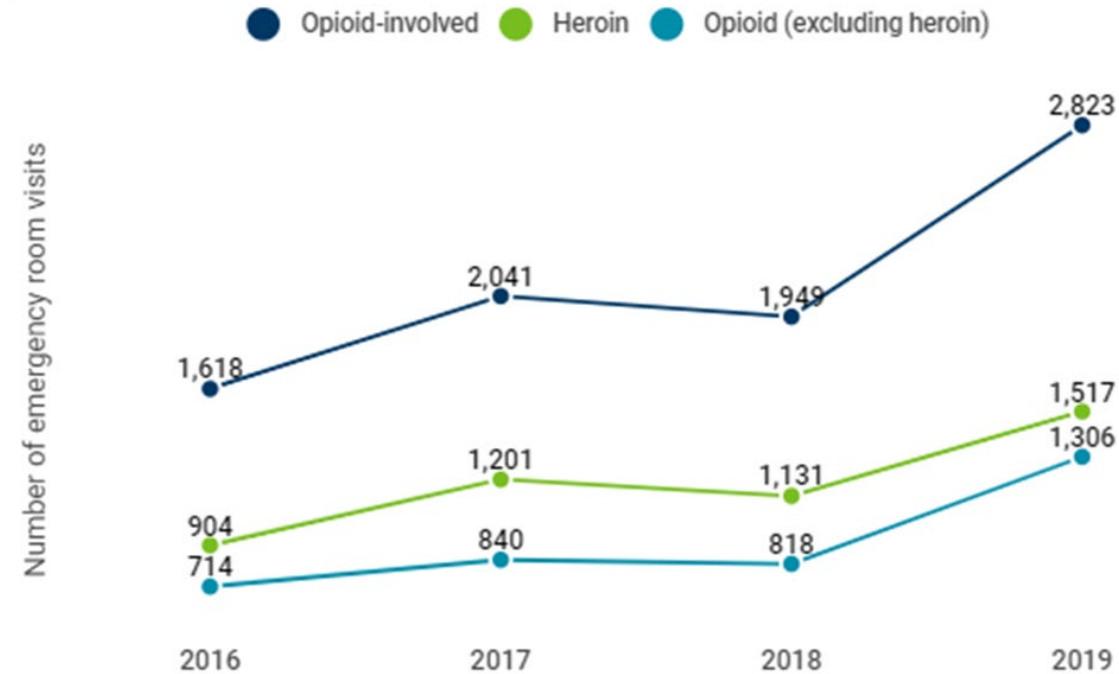
- Provide data showing the impacts of drug overdose in Minnesota
- Summarize MDH efforts to increase access to naloxone across Minnesota
- Describe MDH efforts to implement Overdose Fatality Review and linkage to care teams across Minnesota

Minnesota Drug Overdose Data

Nonfatal overdoses are increasing

Nonfatal Overdose

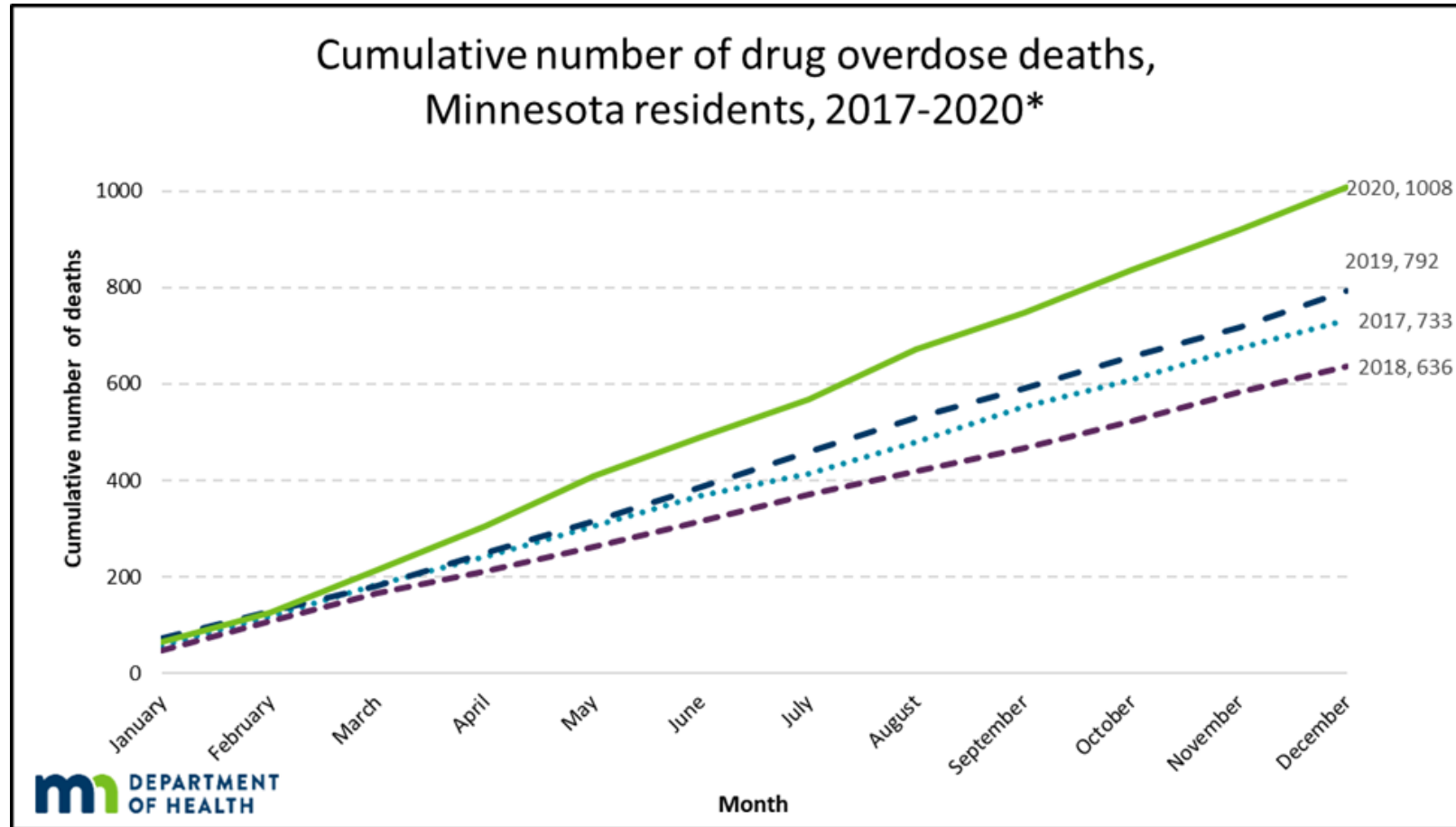
Emergency room visits for opioid-involved overdose increased for all drug categories from 2018 to 2019.



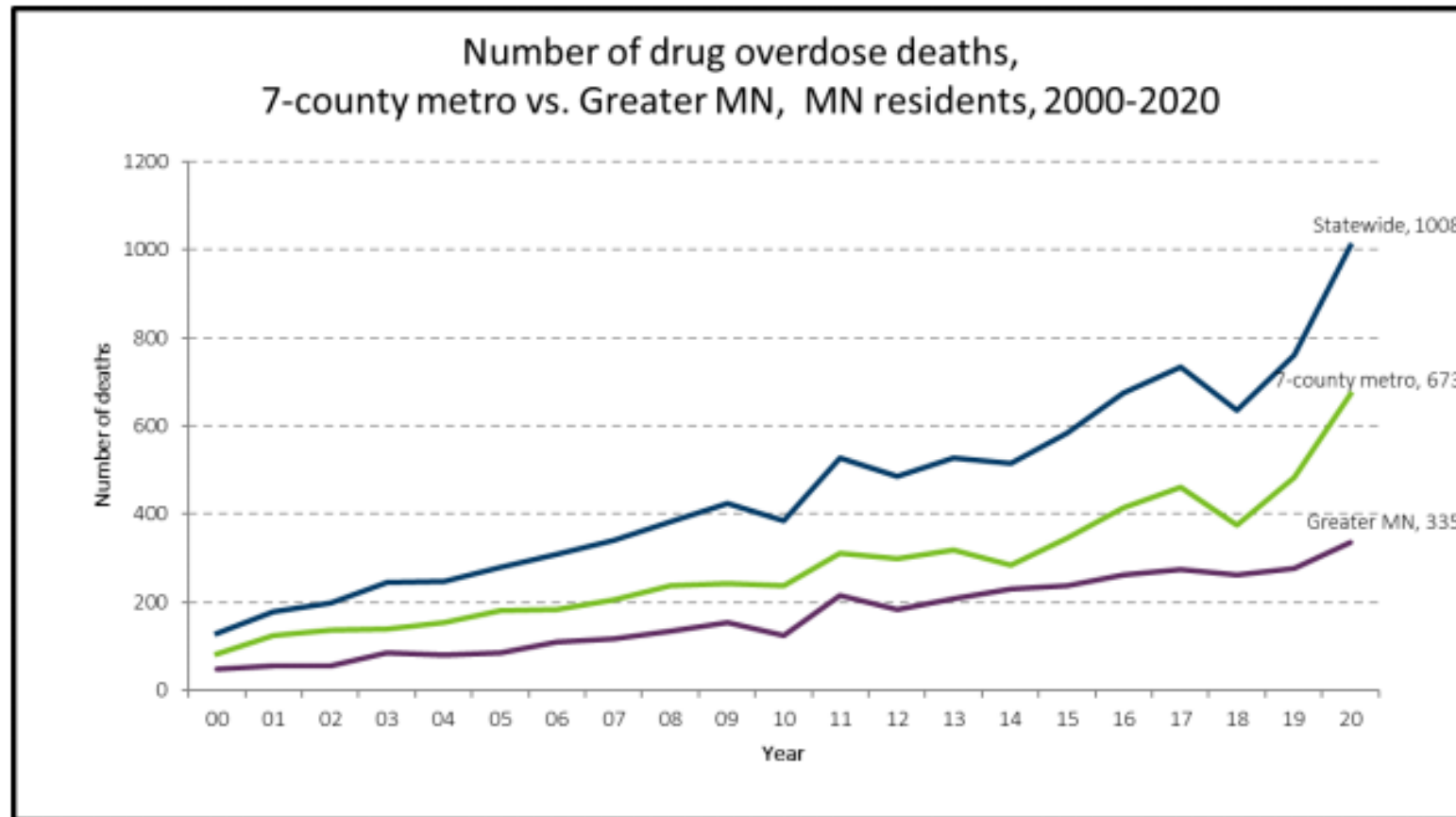
[Download data](#) [Drug Overdose Data Sources](#)

Source: Minnesota hospital discharge data

Overdose deaths are increasing as well



All of MN saw an increase in overdose deaths

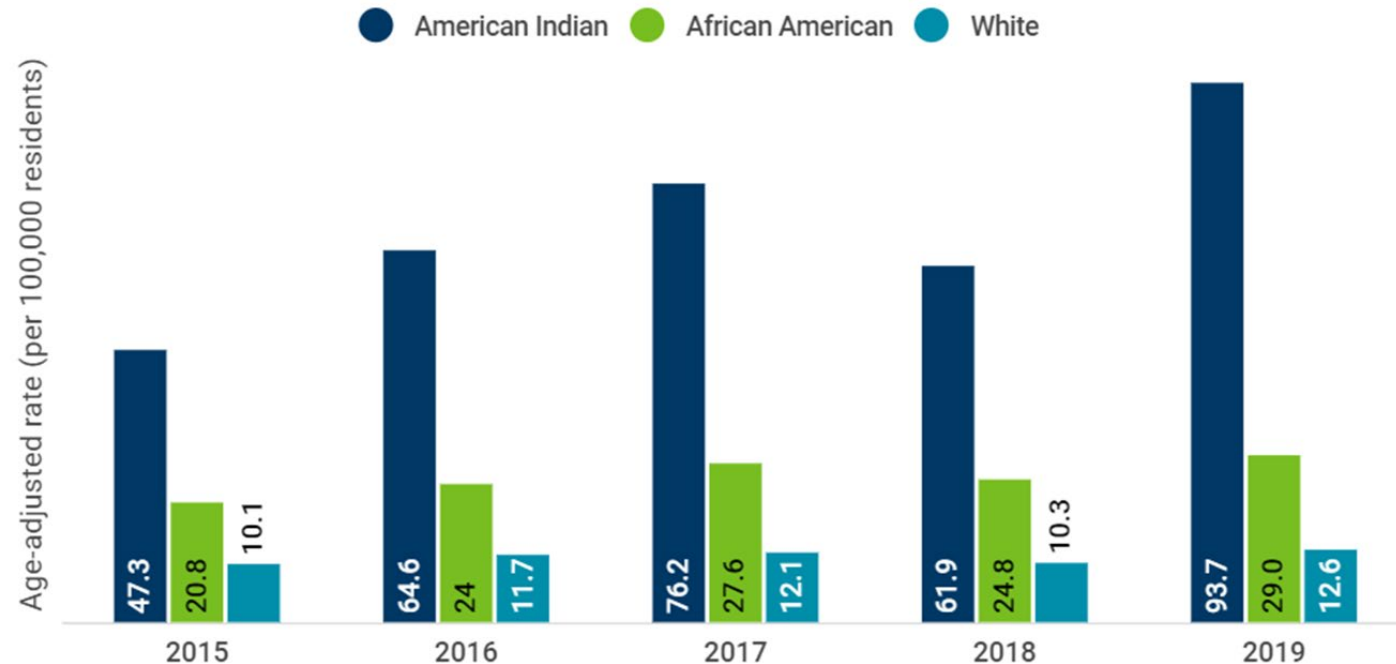


SOURCE: Minnesota death certificates, Injury and Violence Prevention Section, Minnesota Department of Health, 2000-2020

*NOTE: 2020 data are preliminary and likely to change when finalized

State rate masks significant drug overdose disparities

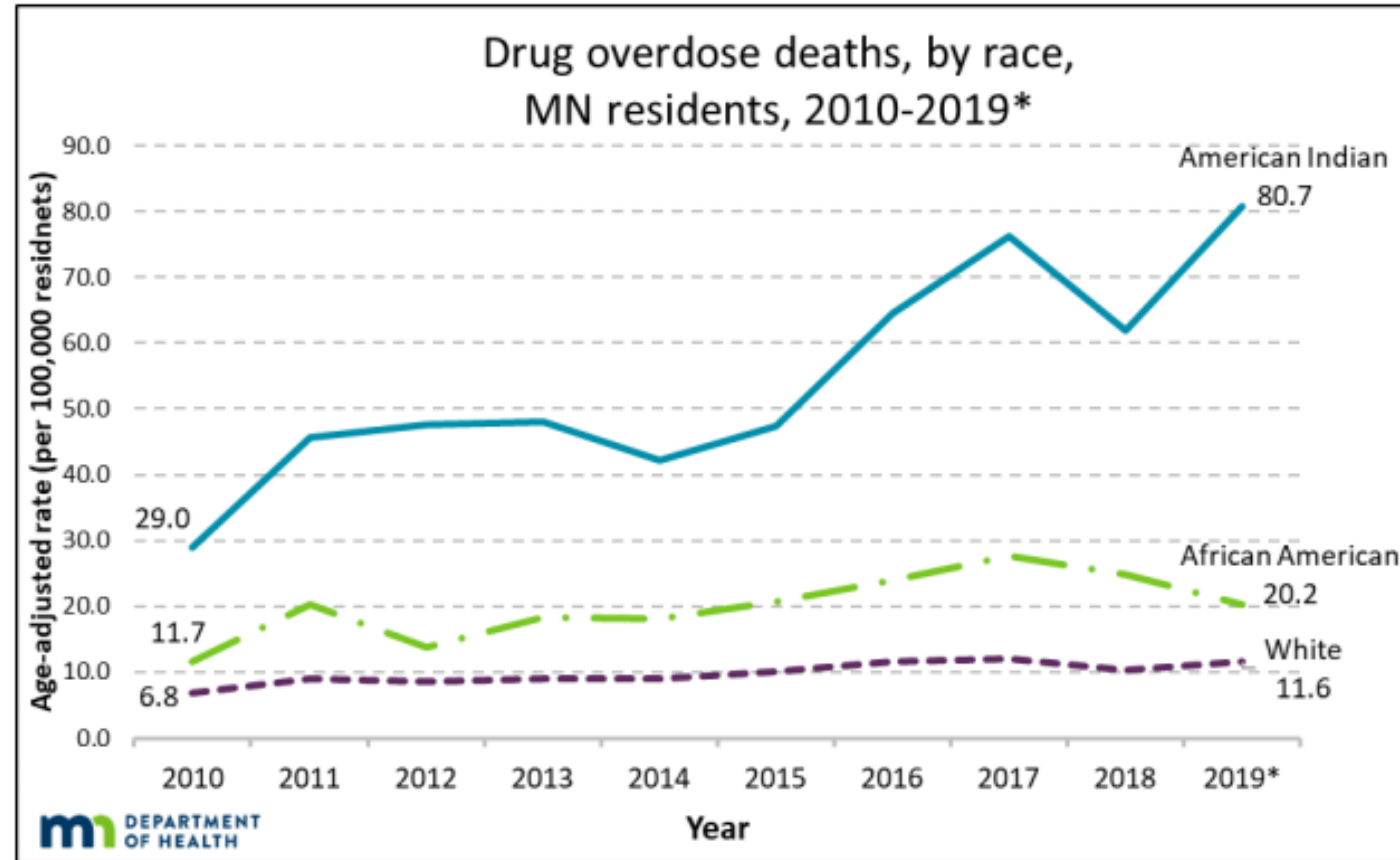
In Minnesota, American Indians are seven times as likely to die from a drug overdose as whites, and African Americans are twice as likely to die from a drug overdose as whites.



 [Download data](#) [Drug Overdose Data Sources](#)

Source: Minnesota death certificates

Disparities have grown



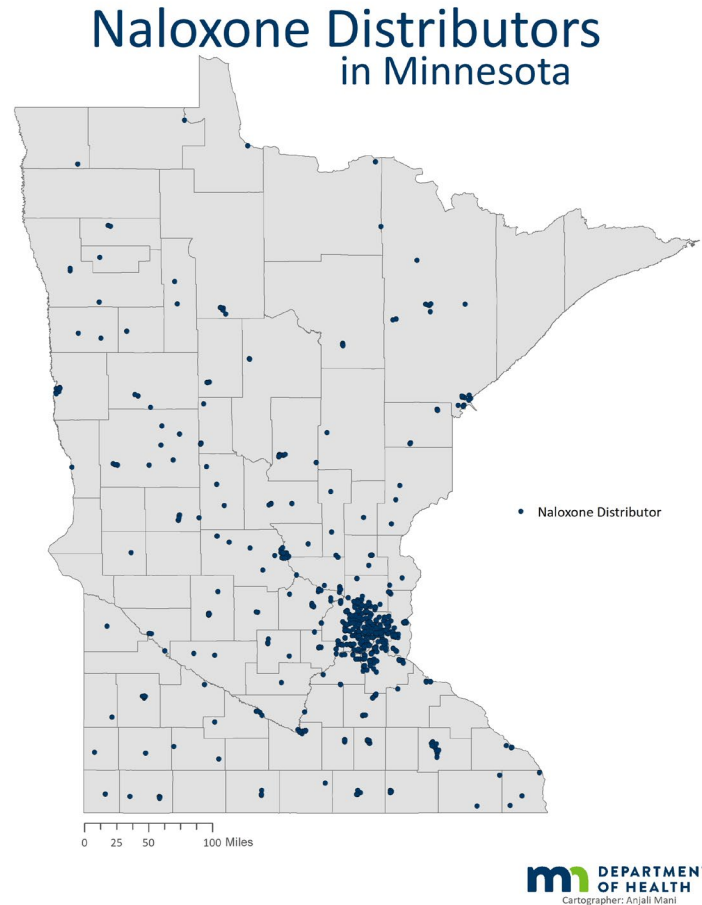
SOURCE: Minnesota death certificates, Injury and Violence Prevention Section, Minnesota Department of Health, 2010-2019*

NOTE: 2019 data are preliminary and are likely to change when finalized.

Expanding Naloxone Access in Minnesota

- 2016 Session Law, Chapter 124 – Expanded access to naloxone by allowing pharmacists to write prescriptions for naloxone via a naloxone protocol.
- 2019 Opioid Epidemic Response Bill - Raises funds from drug manufacturers and distributors to fight the opioid crisis managed by the Opioid Epidemic Response Advisory Council (OERAC).

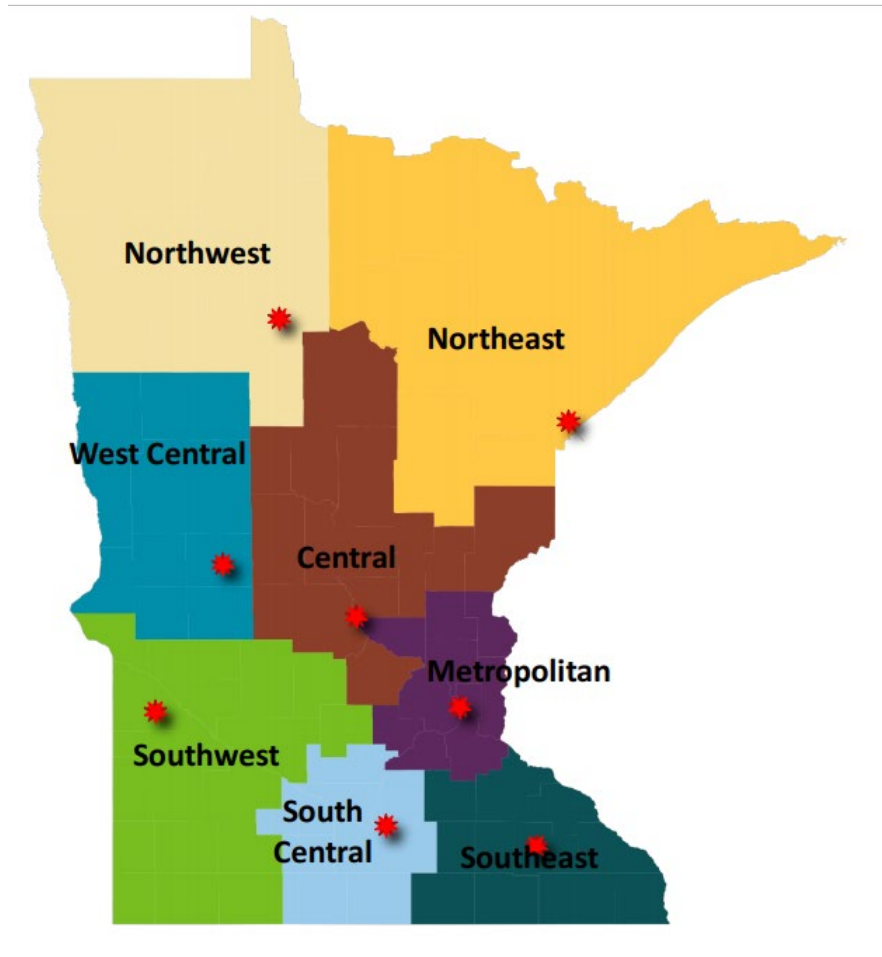
Pharmacy Access with a Naloxone Protocol



- Over 300 independent pharmacies have a naloxone protocol.
- Pharmacists can create a prescription for naloxone upon request.

- The State partners with EMS and harm reduction groups for distribution to best reach first responders and those most at-risk of an overdose.
- Partners provide naloxone, naloxone kits, training, education, and resources.
- A variety of funding sources support this activity.

EMS regions and Naloxone Distribution



- SAMHSA SOR, OERAC funded
- Starting in 2017, the MDH partnered with the eight EMS Regional Directors.
- Distribute and provide training and resources to first responders on naloxone statewide.

Harm Reduction Partners

- BJA COSSAP funded
- The MDH partnered with two SSPs who work directly with those most at-risk of opioid overdose to also distribute naloxone and provide education and training.
 - Greater Minnesota: Rural AIDS Action Network
 - Metro area: Southside Harm Reduction
- These partners function as a part of network and also supply other harm reduction groups in the state with naloxone.

The Future of Naloxone

- In partnership with DHS, the MDH are currently working to develop a naloxone inventory system to make the distribution process much more efficient.
- This system will allow us to:
 - Have a web portal for first responders and other groups to request naloxone.
 - Track how much and where naloxone is distributed.
 - Work in tandem with overdose surveillance systems to allow for smarter distribution of naloxone.
 - Shuffle near-expiring doses to high need areas.

Naloxone is an important part of our response to the opioid epidemic, but what happens after someone is revived?

Linkage to Care Teams

Syringe Services Programs

- CDC OD2A funded
- Partnership with seven SSPs across Minnesota
 - Fixed site and mobile
- Active referrals and warm hand-offs to substance use disorder treatment, recovery supports, and harm reduction resources
- Work in collaboration for outreach

EMS Linkages to Care Teams

- BJA COSSAP funded
- Five EMS Region teams provide statewide coverage
- Post-overdose follow-up with Peer Recovery Specialists
 - In community
 - In Emergency Departments

- CDC OD2A funded
- Position to support incarcerated individuals with substance use disorder with continuation of care after release

Saint Paul Police Department COAST Team

- CDC OD2A funded
- Post-overdose follow-up with Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor
- Outreach bus
- Shelter drop-in hours

Overdose Fatality Review Teams

Every drug overdose death is preventable.



Overdose Fatality Review Teams



Planning, Implementation, and Evaluation Team

- City of Minneapolis Health and Police Departments
- Minnesota Department of Health
- Technical Assistance and Evaluation Team from Bureau of Justice Assistance

Highlights

- New and strengthened partnerships
- Participation from a wide range of agencies

Lessons Learned

When sending invitations, include...

- A concise and easy-to-understand OFR overview
- Concrete data governance and confidentiality information

Highlights

- Mutual agreement for a space of no judgment or blame
- Honor for decedent
- Third party facilitator
- Process evaluation

Lessons Learned

- Use uniform data collection and decedent timeline tracking documents to improve accuracy of notes

Examples of Recommendations from Minneapolis OFR

- Increase culturally specific treatment and wraparound services availability
- Leave additional naloxone at the site of overdose events by first responders
- Increase medication-assisted therapy access in correctional settings

- BJA COSSAP and CDC OD2A funded
- Five EMS Region teams across Minnesota
- Three culturally specific agencies
- [OFR Implementation Guide](#)

Take Home Message



Overdose fatality review teams strengthen the systems of care that serve people suffering from substance use disorder, heal communities, and prevent future drug overdose deaths.

Questions? Thank you!

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