

MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM REVIEWS OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS

THE RESULTS OF A STATEWIDE PILOT IN RHODE ISLAND

Rhode has been significantly impacted by the opioid epidemic, ranking 11th in rate of unintentional drug overdoses in the US in 2017. The RI Department of Health piloted a multidisciplinary drug overdose death review team. Mini-grants were offered to community based organizations as a novel way to fund the recommendations from the review team.

Rhode Island's approach to this review process included:

ESTABLISHING PROGRAM GOALS

1. Data review by diverse group
2. Identify gaps and make recommendations
3. Distribute funds to support interventions at community level

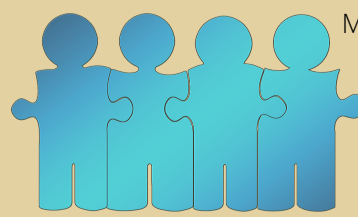


ESTABLISHING AUTHORITY AND MEMBER PROTECTION

RI used contracts between state agencies and institutions in its pilot phase. Legislation was passed to establish protections and expand membership in 2018.

CREATING A TEAM

Membership represented diverse stakeholders.



OD Prevention Program
Epidemiologists
Mental Health Providers
Physicians
EMS
Corrections
PDMP
Toxicologist
Medical Examiner
Addiction Specialists

THEMES

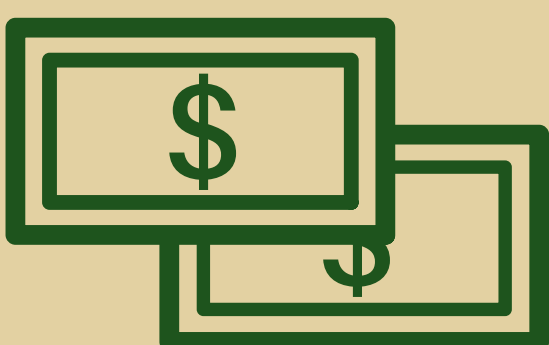
- Fentanyl-related deaths
- Overdoses in public locations
- Overdoses with novel fentanyl analogues
- Overdoses among recently incarcerated
- Overdoses among women
- Overdoses among people of color

SELECTING CASES

Surveillance data was used to determine a theme for each meeting.

CONDUCTING REVIEWS & DISEMINATING FINDINGS

Recommendations for interventions were summarized and shared with partners and posted online.



ADVANCING RECOMMENDATIONS WITH MINI-GRANTS

Small grants of \$5,000 or less were available to community based organizations after each meeting for implementation of recommendations. Grant process was competitive.

Source: Hackman, Holly; Koziol, Jennifer A.; McCormick, Meghan; McDonald, James V.; Green, Traci C. Multidisciplinary Team Reviews of Drug Overdose Deaths and the Use of Minigrants to Advance Recommendations: A Statewide Pilot in Rhode Island. *J Public Health Manag Pract.* 2020 May-Jun; 26(3): xx-xx. doi:xxxxx/PHH.xxxxxx.

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