

INCREASING ACCESS TO NALOXONE

BERNALILLO COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCIL

OPIOID ACCOUNTABILITY INITIATIVE

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BERNALILLO ■ COUNTY
Community Health Council

Improving the health and well-being
of all Bernalillo County residents and neighborhoods!



OVERVIEW

- Our Place in the Coalition
- Epidemiology & Background Data
- Programmatic Activities
- Partner Agencies
- Direct Outreach
- Methods



OUR PLACE IN THE COALITION

- The Naloxone Strategy Group
 - One of the three strategy groups of the Opioid Accountability Initiative
 - Naloxone distribution under PDO largest project
 - Acts as guiding coalition for the naloxone distribution project
 - Consists of pharmacists (commercial and research), AFD, APD, BCSO, City of Albuquerque/City Council, Bernalillo County, NM DOH, AHCH, MDC, others
 - Brought information to help develop focus of plan for naloxone distribution
 - Always open to new members



Prevention

PREVENTION is the ultimate strategy to reduce the scourge of drug use and deaths. Initiatives to give kids a healthy start in life pay off in many ways, including reduced likelihood for later drug use. Other preventive strategies include information about drugs and their risks and reducing access to drugs. Reduction of criminal distribution of drugs, curbing excessive or otherwise inappropriate prescribing of painkillers, and proper disposal of unused drugs are other examples of preventive strategies.

Treatment

Opioid use disorder (OUD) is a treatable chronic disease. Treatment has several important components. Medication assisted treatment (MAT) in conjunction with behavioral health counseling and treatment is the basis of treatment that has been shown to be most effective in saving lives and restoring people to healthful, productive lives. Treatment capacity in terms of numbers of providers able and willing to provide MAT is limited. A major challenge and priority is to build treatment capacity in the county.

GOAL

Reduce number (or rate) of overdose deaths associated with opioid use in Bernalillo County

Harm Reduction (Access to Naloxone)

HARM REDUCTION means taking steps to reduce risks in persons with opioid use disorder (OUD). By far the most important for saving lives is the distribution and use of naloxone (Narcan®). Properly administered, naloxone can rapidly and safely reverse an otherwise fatal opioid overdose. A priority for the Opioid Accountability Initiative (OAI) is to increase the distribution of naloxone, trying to make it available where and when it is needed. While naloxone saves lives, it does nothing to treat OUD or otherwise change the situation of the opioid dependent victims. That is where the Treatment Pillar is crucial.

Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice

LAW ENFORCEMENT/CRIMINAL JUSTICE/PUBLIC SAFETY are aspects of a world that engages many people who have opioid drug use behaviors often along with social circumstances that keep many trapped in that world and places them at particular risk of overdose deaths. The strategies that address them are in the first three pillars, especially access to naloxone and access to effective drug treatment along with mental health and social support services.

COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Strategy Group co-chairs, staff and contractors plus other key stakeholders



PREVENTION
Strategy Group

Needs assessment/capacity plan/
strategic planning

Home Visiting
to prevent
ACEs

Middle School
Project –
education &
counseling

Prescribing
Guidelines

Prescription
Monitoring
Program

Communications Strategy



NALOXONE
(Access to Narcan)
Strategy Group

Needs assessment/pilot
distribution plan

New Access
Points in
Community

Increased
Co-Prescribing

Increased
Pharmacy
Access

Monitor
Legislation
(standing
order)

Direct Distribution & Outreach



TREATMENT
Strategy Group

Standard of Care
for MAT

Increased MAT
prescribing

MAT in Criminal
Justice System

MAT at MDC
Maintenance
& Induction

Access to Full
Range of
Treatment

Re-Entry
Center post-
MDC

Coordinated Treatment System



EPIDEMIOLOGY OF OVERDOSES

- NM drug overdose higher than national average
 - 8th highest in nation in 2015 (Peterson & Davis, 2017)
 - Deaths tripled between 1990 and 2015 (Peterson & Davis, 2017)
- NM Age-Adjusted Death Rate 2015
 - 24.8 deaths per 100,000 population
- US Age-Adjusted Death Rate 2015
 - 16.3 deaths per 100,000 population



EPIDEMIOLOGY OF OVERDOSES (CONT.)

- 2015 – 72.5% drug overdose deaths in NM involved opioids (Peterson & Davis, 2017)
 - 50.4% involved prescription opioids
 - 43.3% involved heroin
 - 6.3% involved both



EPIDEMIOLOGY (CONT.)

- Bernalillo County
- Use
 - Youth (2015 YRRS):
 - 6.4% HS students reported using painkillers to get high (prev. 30 days)
 - 2.7% reported using heroin
 - 2.3% used injection drugs at some point in life
 - Adults (NMCS 2016)
 - 4.7 reported using painkillers to get high (prev. 30 days)

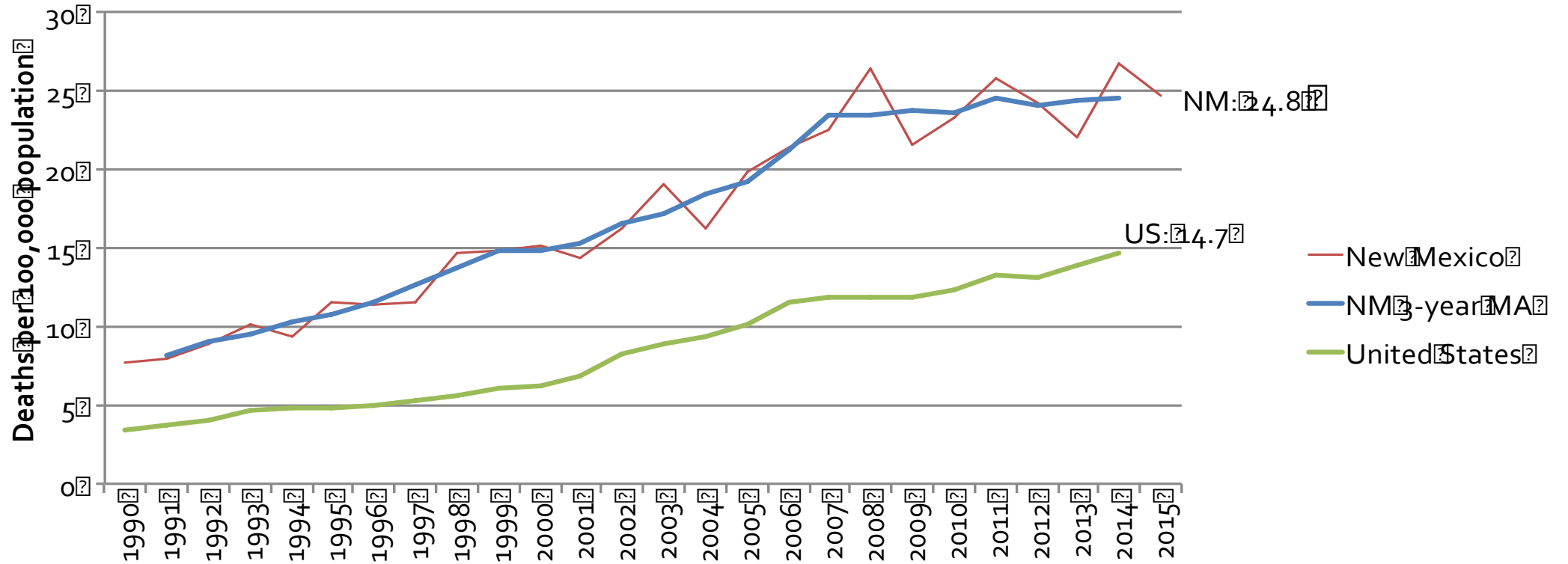


EPIDEMIOLOGY (CONT.)

- Overdoses (2009-2013) (DOH ERD)
 - 9.4 deaths per 100,000 population - Rx
 - 1.8 deaths per 100,000 population – Rx and heroin combined
 - TOTAL Opioids: 19.2 deaths per 100,000 population
- Bernalillo County (2013-2015) (DOH ERD)
 - 374 opioid related deaths in Bernalillo Co. = 36% of all overdoses in state (n=1,031)
 - 185 Rx deaths in county – 32% of all Rx deaths in the state (n=577)
 - 36 deaths Rx + heroin = 43.3% of all Rx+heroin overdose deaths in state (n=83)
 - 189

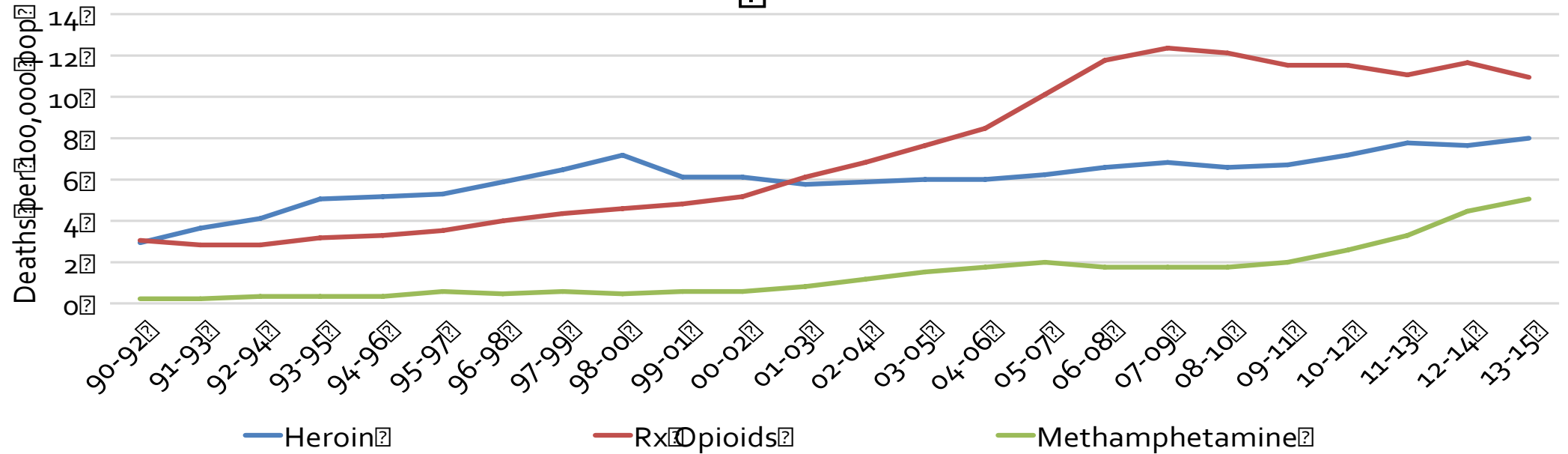


Drug Overdose Death Rates, New Mexico and United States, 1990-2015



Rates are age-adjusted to the US 2000 standard population
 Source: United States (CDC Wonder); New Mexico (NMDOH BVRHS/SAES, 1990-1998, 2015; NM-IBIS, 1999-2014)

Drug Overdose Death Rates for Selected Drugs, NM 1990-2015 3-year Moving Average



Rates compensated for non-specificity prior to 3-year average
 Drug categories are not mutually exclusive
 Rates are age adjusted to the US 2000 standard population
 Source: Office of the Medical Investigator, UNM/GSP population estimates

PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES – AN OVERVIEW

- What is naloxone?
 - Brand name Narcan
 - Opioid antagonist – reverses the effects of an opioid
 - Used to treat and reverse opioid overdose
 - Only works on opioids
 - Safe, extremely effective, no abuse potential

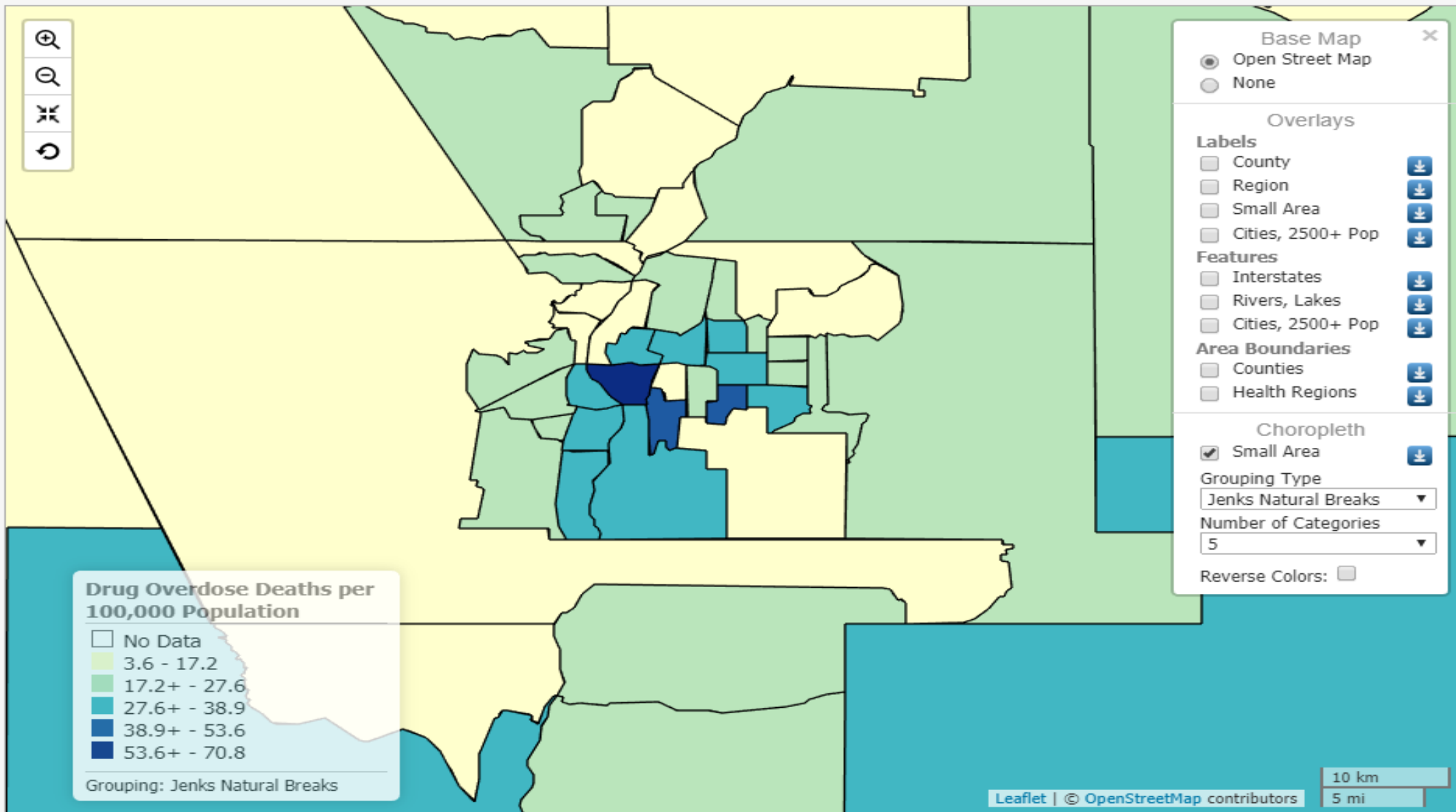


PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES – THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- Needs assessment conducted in February
 - Three major hotspot areas for overdose deaths (IBIS, 2015)
 - Downtown (69.5 deaths per 100,000 population)
 - International District (53.6 deaths per 100,000 population)
 - University South (47 deaths per 100,000 population)
 - Identified South Valley as potential for expansion
 - Identified potential routes for naloxone distribution not already being used



Deaths due to Drug Overdose per 100,000 Population by Small Area, New Mexico, 2009-2013



PROGRAMMATIC ACTIVITIES – DISTRIBUTION PLAN

- Goal
 - Distribute Narcan to non-traditional first responders – i.e.:
 - To those not captured by other programs
 - To those who would most likely be in a position to respond to an overdose
 - To those in the social circle of people at risk of an overdose
 - Individuals recently incarcerated
 - Overdose survivors



DISTRIBUTION PLAN

- Populations targeted for naloxone distribution
 - People who use opioids/heroin
 - Layperson first responders
 - Corrections Department
 - Law Enforcement
 - Hospital emergency Departments
 - Fire Departments



PARTNER AGENCIES

UNMH – Emergency Department



- **Target Population:** People Who Use Opioids/Heroin, Overdose Survivors, Lay First Responders
- **Agency Focus:** Naloxone distribution upon release from ED or immediately after
- **Training Focus:** Overdose prevention education & naloxone distribution – Nurses, Peer Support Workers, NM Poison and Drug Information Center staff.
- Training on providing education with strict time constraints
- Pilot focus on logistics and distribution after ER visit – focus on friends & family



PARTNER AGENCIES

NMCD – Probation & Parole – Bernalillo County



- **Target Population:** Those Released from Incarceration, People Who Use Opioids/Heroin, Overdose Survivors, Lay First Responders
- **Agency Focus:** Naloxone distribution to probationers, parolees, & family/friends
- **Training Focus:** Overdose prevention education & naloxone distribution
- Pilot focus on small handful of Transitional Coordinators to train probationers and parolees



PARTNER AGENCIES

Albuquerque Police Department



- **Target Population:** People Who Use Opioids/Heroin, Overdose Survivors, Lay First Responders
- **Agency Focus:** Naloxone distribution at the scene of an overdose; Naloxone administration in overdose response
- **Training Focus:** Overdose prevention education & naloxone distribution & naloxone administration
- Pilot focus on Downtown Squad



PARTNER AGENCIES

Youth Development, Inc.



- **Target Population:** People Who Use Opioids/Heroin, Lay First Responders
- **Agency Focus:** Naloxone distribution to families & friends of clients
- **Training Focus:** Overdose prevention education & naloxone distribution
- Pilot focus on reaching parents & friends of participants within Casa Hermosa and Gang Intervention Program



BCCHC OUTREACH



- The Bernalillo County Community Health Council Direct Street Outreach
 - BCCHC will utilize staff and volunteers to conduct direct street outreach of naloxone
 - Focus
 - Individuals who use opioids/heroin
 - Family, friends, and those in social circles
 - Downtown, International District
 - People who are not accessing Syringe Exchange Services



ESTABLISHING SUSTAINABILITY

- MOU Sustainability Requirement
- Partnership Agreements
- Internal Purchasing
- Co-prescription policy changes
- **The pilot year will help inform agencies on their sustainability plan**



PILOT CONSIDERATIONS

- Pilot is a test phase
 - We hope to gather data to determine future aims of the program
- BCCHC will evaluate partner agencies during pilot to establish needs for implementation phase/continuance during implementation phase.



EXPANSION

- BCCHC continues to explore possibilities for expansion
 - There are more hot spot areas that could be reached
 - APD Expansion
- BCCHC is available to train local organizations in overdose prevention and response. If you're interested, feel free to contact me.



OTHER PROJECTS

- Social Marketing
 - How do we encourage people to get naloxone?
- Mapping naloxone availability
 - Where can people get naloxone?
 - How do they know that?

QUESTIONS?



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- If you would like to become involved in the Naloxone Strategy Group,
 - If you would like Overdose Prevention and Response training for you and your staff,
 - Or if you would like to discuss opportunities to incorporate naloxone outreach in your community,

- Contact Sharz Weeks:

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