

IDAHO

USE OF STR/SOR GRANT FUNDS TO ADDRESS THE OPIOID CRISIS

Background on opioid-specific grants to States

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) administers the State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis (STR) and State Opioid Response (SOR) grant programs. These grants aim to address the opioid crisis by increasing access to treatment, reducing unmet treatment need, and reducing opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment, and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (OUD) in the States. States received a total of \$500 million for each of FY 2017 and FY 2018 through STR. Additionally, in FY 2018, States received an additional \$1 billion in new funding through the SOR grants. In FY 2019, States received \$1.5 billion through SOR. Eligible applicants for both STR and SOR are the State alcohol and drug agencies.

Allocations for Idaho

Idaho received \$2 million through STR for each of FY 2017 and 2018, and \$4 million through SOR in FY 2018. In FY 2019, Idaho received a total of \$6 million through SOR.

Overview of Idaho's efforts to address the opioid crisis

Idaho has used STR/SOR funds to build the foundation of Idaho's opioid use disorder (OUD) and medication-assisted treatment (MAT) provider network. Idaho has been able to support peer-based recovery support services within Idaho's communities through initiatives such as providing recovery coach services in emergency departments, as well as jails and/or prisons. Idaho has also invested in prescriber education and naloxone distribution to first responders across the State.

Primary prevention: stopping opioid misuse before it starts

Prevention work has been focused primarily on prescriber education, drug drop-boxes, and an awareness campaign.

- The State agency launched a **hospital-based educational campaign** with five hospitals.
- In partnership with the Office of Drug Policy, Health and Welfare's Division of Public Health, and the Board of Pharmacy, STR funding is used to provide **individual prescriber reports**, offering a comparison to peers' prescribing habits by utilizing Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data.

- STR funding established a **drug drop-box program in pharmacies** statewide.
- Education to prescribers on the use of the PDMP and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) prescribing guidelines.
- Idaho has been able to launch **awareness campaigns** focused on opioid misuse, addiction, and overdose.

Increasing access to treatment

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT)

STR funding was used to add MAT to the array of treatment services available to those with OUD.

Early Engagement

STR/SOR funds provided early engagement services to individuals with an OUD discharging from hospitals, crisis centers, jails, and prisons. Idaho also provided supportive community-based services to those with an OUD.

To increase the availability of early engagement services, SOR funds are being used to train and support Certified Recovery Coaches within the State.

Special Populations

The State alcohol and drug agency is currently targeting STR/SOR funds to those without health insurance. SOR funds are targeting pregnant/postpartum women as well.

Overdose reversal efforts: saving lives

Idaho increased the use of naloxone by providing kits to first responders, emergency personnel, federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), and community members who encounter people at high risk of overdose.

Supporting recovery

Over 1,000 individuals have received recovery support services through Idaho's nine (9) recovery centers.

Collaborating with local entities

Idaho worked with local police departments to implement a Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) pilot program. The State is working with emergency departments to implement immediate intervention and peer-supported warm handoff programs. The Department of Health and Welfare collaborated with the public health system in prescriber education efforts.

Additional positive outcomes

- 5,205 reports were given to prescribers on their opioid prescribing patterns
- 2,184 naloxone kits were distributed through year 1 of STR and 36 overdose reversals were reported.
- 1,100 naloxone kits have been distributed through year 1 of SOR.
- 919 individuals have received psychosocial therapy, MAT, and recovery support services.
- Early engagement services were provided to 180 individuals discharged from hospitals or crisis centers and 196 individuals released from jail or prison. Community-based services engaged 1,636 individuals in sober support groups and 439 through sober recreation activities.
- Idaho now has 287 Drug Addiction Treatment Act (DATA) waived prescribers, which is an increase of 105 over 2017.
- Over 1,000 individuals have received recovery support services through Idaho's nine (9) recovery centers.
- 10 individuals are anticipated to participate in the LEAD pilot.

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