

WYOMING

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 Wyoming

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

Overview of Wyoming's efforts to address the opioid crisis

The Wyoming STR and SOR grants aim to prevent the opioid crisis by focusing on three strategies:

1. Provide access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT)
2. Expand opportunities to reach more people through integrated addiction care and partnerships with the criminal justice system
3. Reduce opioid overdose related deaths through the provision of treatment and recovery activities for those with opioid use disorder (OUD)

Primary prevention: stopping opioid misuse before it starts

Wyoming utilizes a system-based approach to prevention. STR funds have been used for the following:

- Implementation of Project ECHO to help educate providers in rural areas about OUD
- Co-funding a media campaign that utilizes the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) materials
- Distribution of SAMHSA's Opioid Prevention Toolkit

Future efforts under SOR include partnerships with:

- The Wyoming Department of Corrections to prevent overdoses among inmates who are re-entering the community
- Hospitals to address opioid prescribing practices, stigma, and social determinants of health
- A consumer-run organization to train on client decision-making across the State
- Engaging people in recovery on system design

Increasing access to treatment

- Ninety percent of SOR funds are intended for MAT and community-based services.
 - From 5/1/2018-1/31/2019, 334 people with OUD received services with STR funds; 61% of clients successfully completed treatment; approximately three-fourths of the clients served received MAT.
- The number of physicians with a Drug Addiction Treatment Act (DATA) waiver has increased from 4 (2015) to 29 (2018).
- Additionally, Wyoming has several initiatives that will reach people involved in the criminal justice system.
- The implementation of warm handoffs to treatment will be utilized under SOR.

Overdose reversal efforts: saving lives

Wyoming is working towards training individuals on the use of naloxone and will coordinate locally to reduce overdoses among people released from prison, jail, emergency rooms, hospitals and residential treatment.

Supporting recovery

The number of Wyoming certified peer specialists increased from 4 (2010) to 67 (2018). Under STR, 5/1/2018-1/31/2019, 228 clients received recovery support services. STR funding for recovery services included \$120,000 in services and \$31,000 in peer specialist trainings. All SOR programs will include peer specialist services wherein \$217,500 is planned for recovery support and \$85,000 has been allocated for peer specialist trainings.

Collaborating with local entities

Community substance use disorder treatment agencies that are subrecipients of STR and SOR funds work directly with their community agencies.

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