Massachusetts
State Opioid Response (SOR)
Overview

NASADAD Webinar
September 8th, 2022

Deirdre Calvert, MSW LICSW
Director, Bureau of Substance Addiction Services
MA Department of Public Health
Figure 2. Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths, All Intents
Massachusetts Residents: 2000 - 2021

Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths in MA
A Contaminated Drug Supply

Figure 4. Percent of Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths with Specific Drugs Present
Massachusetts Residents: 2014 - 2021

- Fentanyl
- Cocaine
- Benzodiazepine
- Alcohol
- Likely Heroin
- Prescription Opioid
- Amphetamine
Opioid-Related Overdose Deaths by Race and Ethnicity

Confirmed Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates, All Intents, by Race and Hispanic Ethnicity

Male

Age-adjusted Rates per 100,000

- All Races
- White non-Hispanic
- Black non-Hispanic
- Hispanic
- Asian/Pacific Islander non-Hispanic
- American Indian non-Hispanic

Male
MA SOR Grant Overview

• Aims to address the opioid overdose crisis in Massachusetts by:
  
  – Increasing access to FDA-approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder (MOUD), and
  
  – Supporting the continuum of prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support services for opioid use disorder (OUD), stimulant use disorders, and other concurrent substance use disorders

• With a particular emphasis on reaching BIPOC and addressing structural racism including the social determinants of health.
Funded Services

Prevention

- Prevention in Early Childhood

Intervention

- School- and Community-Based Intervention
- Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution
- Post Overdose Support Teams

Harm Reduction

- Collaborative and Transitional Models
- MAT Enhanced
- Stimulant Treatment and Recovery Teams (START)

Treatment

- Moms Do Care and First Steps Together

Recovery Support

- Access to Recovery
- Rapid Re-Housing
- Youth and Young Adult RSS
Street-level addiction treatment for stimulant use disorder.

Started June 2021: 1419 appointments scheduled, 672 visits were completed

Utilizes contingency management through Recovery Rewards Program
- Engagement, Exercise

55% of patients identify as a person of color

35% of patients identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community

Figure 5: An intersectional look at racial identity and sexual orientation of patients who completed intakes, based upon EIM/ESM data. (N=68)
“START is a really good mix of scientific medicine with an interpersonal almost spiritual side. A lot of programs I have gone to haven’t been educated around stimulants, which are very different from alcohol or heroin. More importantly, you don’t shut doors for folks who use stimulants but rather open them. I’ve seen a lot of times on the news that other drugs are mentioned freely, but as soon as stimulants are mentioned people don’t want to help you. For me, it’s felt good because the providers here are educated on stimulants and my identities – LGBTQ+, adopted, POC, HIV-positive, etc. This is the first place where all of these parts of me were understood and part of my treatment plan. I also love the diverse staff that includes LGBTQ+ and POC. Counselors at [other program] didn’t understand my methamphetamine use or its history within the LGBTQ+ community, but you do. START gets it and it gets me.”
– 30 y/o, Hispanic and Indigenous, Malden, MA
Other Funded Activities

Infrastructure Development
- Ongoing Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning
- Improving Data Quality and Reporting

Training, Technical Assistance and Capacity Building
- Black and Latino Addiction Counselors Education
- Opioid ECHO and Beyond the Waiver trainings
- Occupational Health
- Suicide Prevention
- MOUD in Long Term Care Facilities
- Many more…

Strategic Communications
- State HelpLine Promotion
Questions?

Deirdre.C.Calvert@mass.gov