

Overdose Fatality Review (OFR)

Stark County 2018: Annual Report

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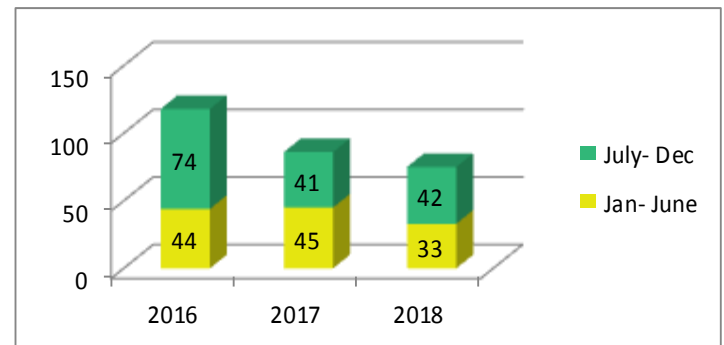


Decrease in Unintentional Overdose

In 2018, the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) team met twice and reviewed all of the 2018 Unintentional Overdose deaths that occurred in Stark County. Data was collected from the Coroner's Reports, Death Certificates, police reports, and Stark Criminal Justice Information Services. All data is public record, and is reported aggregately due to confidentiality laws. Figure 1 shows the number of overdose deaths that have occurred in Stark County since 2016. There were 36% fewer deaths in 2018 when compared to 2016 Overdose deaths.

The OFR team is comprised of members from Public Health, Mental Health, Addiction Services, Coroner's Office, Physicians, Hospitals, and Law Enforcement. The goal of this team is to decrease overdose deaths in the community. It is the hope that with a comprehensive review of available data that recommendations can be made to identify opportunities for reducing opiate related deaths and overdoses as well as help to increase community awareness surrounding this issue. One example of this includes the work on the Stark County Community Response Plan. This plan goes into effect when the Stark County Health Department (SCHD) receives an alert from the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) about an increase in drug related hospital visits. This plan indicates how to contact partners and

Figure 1: 3 Year Comparison of OD deaths



raise awareness if there has been an increase in overdose activity in our community. The plan was tested in May 2019 and small improvements were made based on the test results.

The OFR team developed a decedent letter and questionnaire that will be sent to families of overdose victims in hopes of improving data collection. The questionnaire is voluntary to family members and the data collected will be reviewed by OFR team in aggregate format. The questionnaire asks questions that will help the OFR team gain a better understanding of what may contribute to the overdose deaths in our community and what we might do differently to prevent more deaths from occurring in the future.

Prescription Drug Overdose (PDO) Grant

The PDO grant will be ending in September 2019. This grant was awarded to the Stark County Health Department (SCHD) from Ohio Department of Health (ODH). The main strategies of the grant are:

1. Participation in the Stark County Opiate Task Force
2. Data and Information gathering
3. Education on policy changes like naloxone use and proper disposal of medications.

SCHD also received two separate pilot grants in relation to PDO. An update on the pilot grants are in the last two pages of this report. The SCHD applied for a new FY20 Drug Overdose Prevention grant that would begin in October 2019 and if awarded would work toward similar goals but would also involve a Tier 3 component. Tier 3 involves implementing a sustainable system that will address the opiate epidemic in our community.

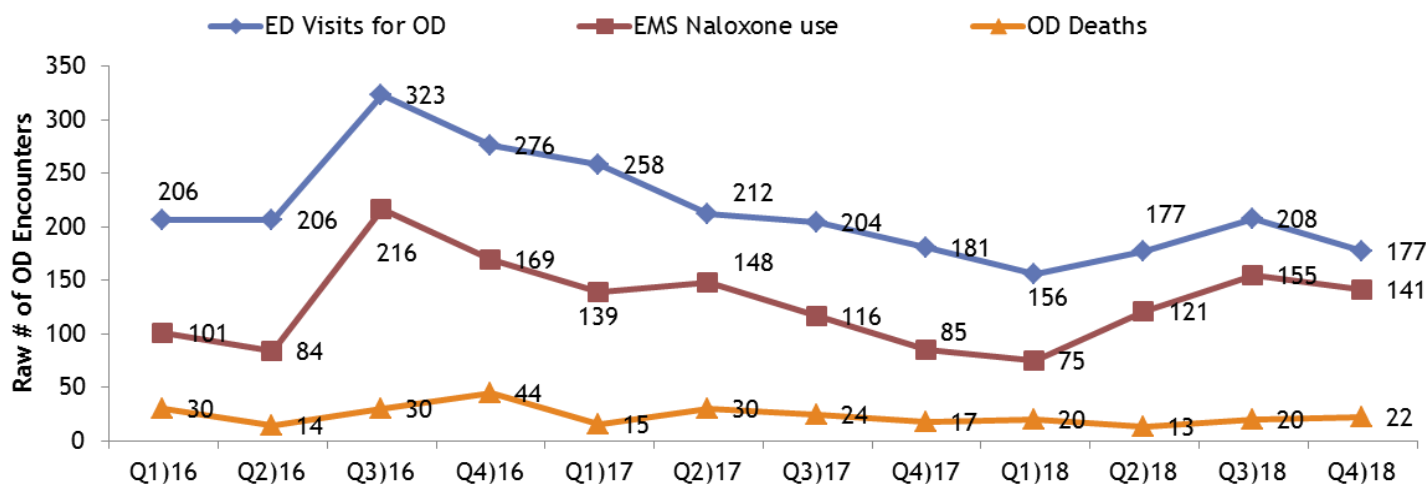
There are many factors that impact America's drug overdose crisis.

www.cdc.gov



Tracking Non– Fatal Opioid Overdoses

Figure 2: Fatal vs, Non-Fatal Overdoses



Tracking non– fatal opioid overdoses has continued to be a focus of the OFR team. The data above in Figure 2 was collected from the following sources, Stark County Coroners Office, EMS Incident Reporting System, and Ohio's EpiCenter. This data provides information on overdose deaths, EMS administration of naloxone, and emergency department visits.

Figure 2, When looking at data from quarter 2 in 2018, more Naloxone was used with fewer lives lost. SCHD monitors Epicenter ED visits on a weekly basis and these reports can be found using the link below.

<http://www.starkcountyohio.gov/public-health/nursing-services/overdose-prevention>



County Dashboard

Stark County GIS, Canton City Police Department, and SCHD continue to work together in creating a variety of County Dashboards for opiate related data. The goal is to create a place for everyone to access the current data available as well as past data. The dashboards can serve as a consistent interactive source for information and data. Figure 3 to the right, shows a screenshot of a dashboard that is being developed with some of the fields that will be available to the public.

This dashboard is not completed yet but other dashboards can be found on this link:

[New Opioid Awareness Hub Page](#)

<https://portal-starkcountyohio.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/opioid-related>

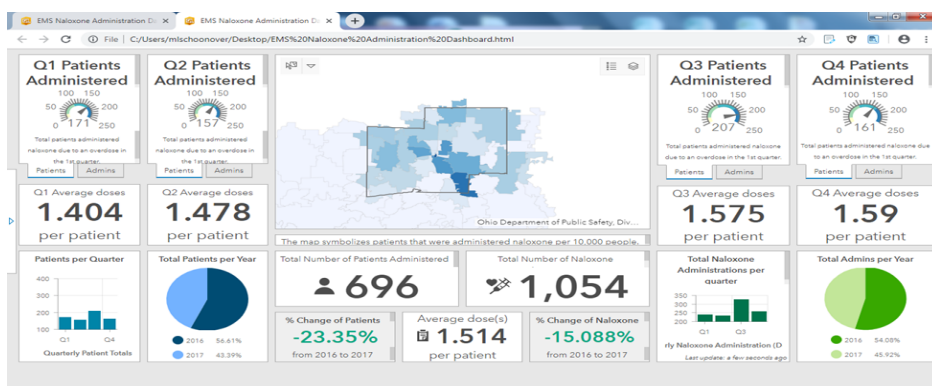


Figure 3 – EMS Naloxone Administration Dashboard 2016-2018

Stark County Demographics

Figure 4: Death Rate by Age Group

Of the overdose deaths that occurred in Stark County, the majority continue to be non Hispanic white males with a median age of 38. However, when reviewing the median ages of deaths over the past 5 years it has fluctuated with a median age of 39 in 2012 to 36 in 2017 and then back up to 38 in 2018. The highest rate age group continues to be in the age group of 25-34.

Another area discussed and tracked during OFR meetings is Criminal History and past history of military service. The criminal history is gathered from the Stark Criminal Justice Information System and can be seen in Figure 5. The most prevalent offenses were theft, assault, and drug related charges. Military history was obtained from coroners reports and showed an increase from 3 of the decedents having a history in 2017 to 5 in 2018.

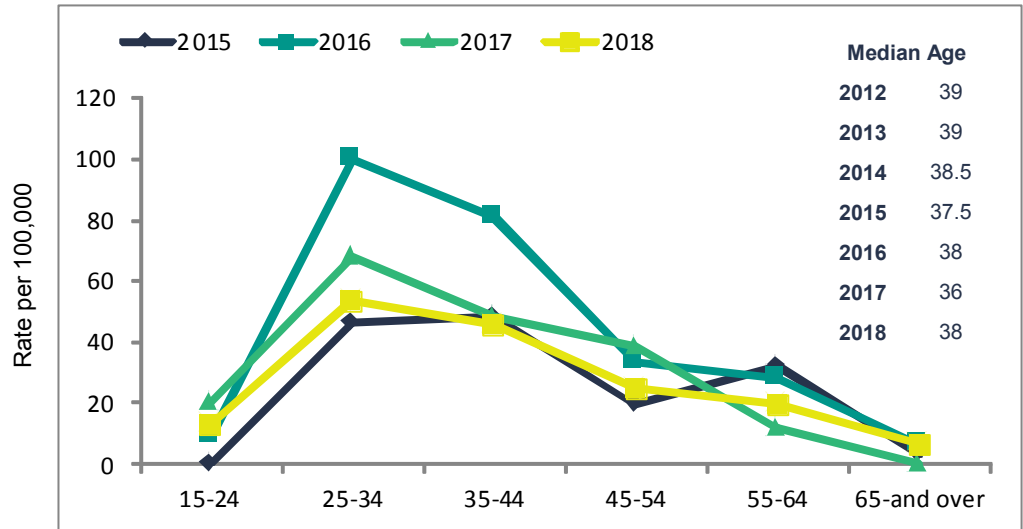


Figure 5: Criminal History

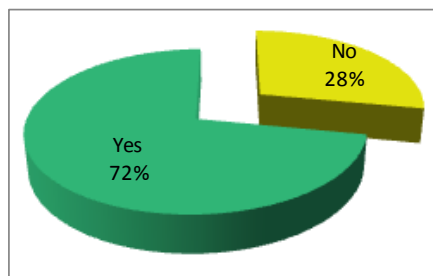
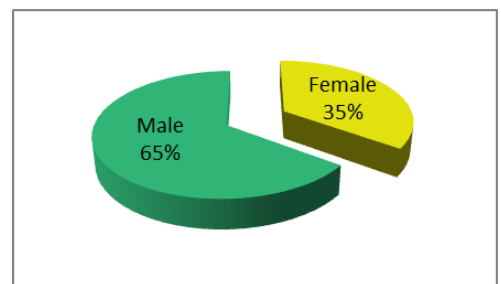
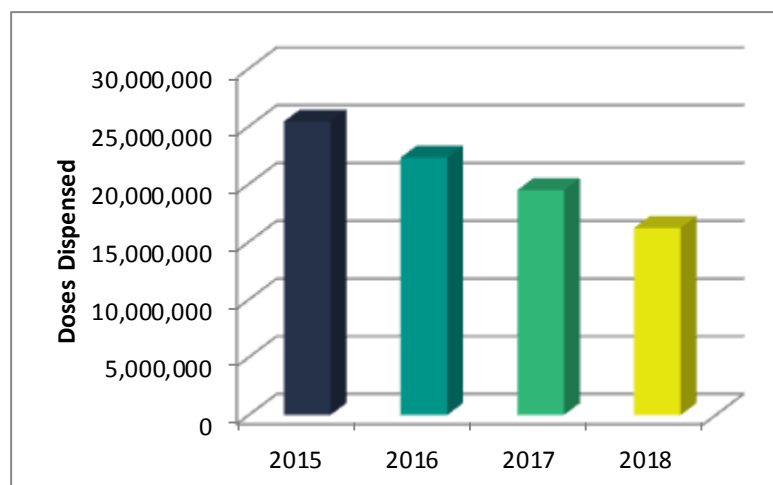


Figure 6: Gender Rate



Continued Decrease in Opioid Prescribing

Figure 7: Stark County 4 Year Comparison of Opiate Doses Dispensed



Stark County has continued to decrease the amount of prescription opioids being prescribed. Thanks to providers utilizing the Ohio Automated Prescription Reporting System (OARRS) which allows prescribers to see the patients prescribing history prior to prescribing opiates, and prescribing guidelines which help limit the number of pills in a prescription. OARRS data reports show that there has been nearly 9 million less doses dispensed in 2018 when compared to 2015. Also, the SCHD and StarkMHAR continue to participate in drug awareness programs through out the county. Most recently they funded a short video media campaign called harmless sharing at Cinemark theaters within our county. This Take Charge video outlined the dangers of sharing prescription medication and reached nearly 97,000 Stark County residents with on screen impressions.

Identified Trends

Figure 8: Percent of Decedents Positive for Opiates

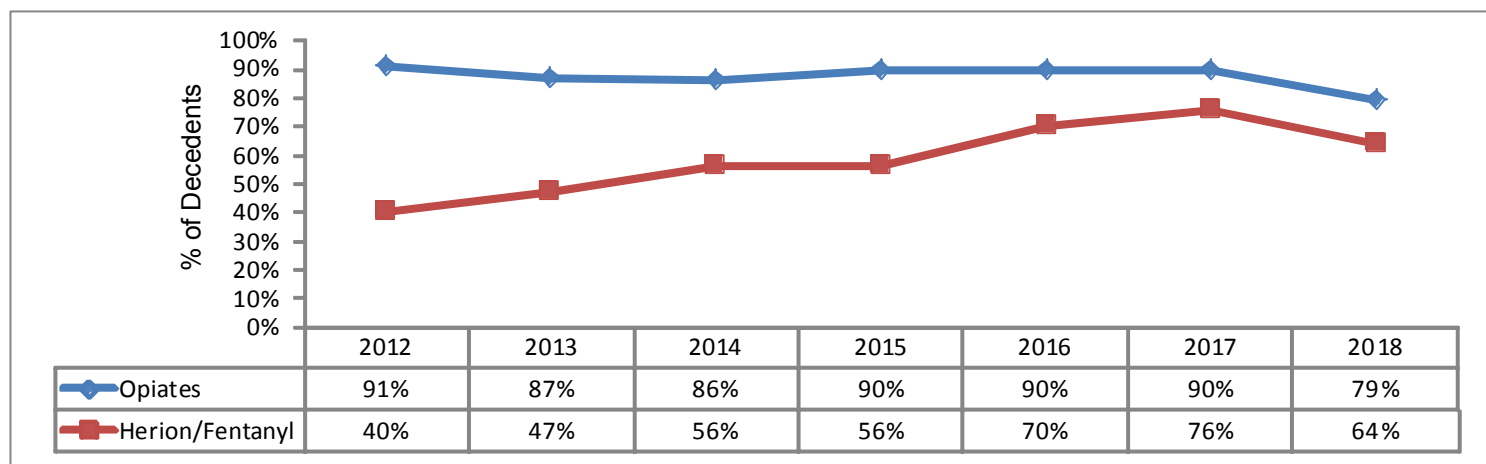


Figure 8, shows a 7 year comparison of Stark County Overdose decedents. From 2012 all the way to 2018 the percentage of opiates present in the toxicology screens has remained consistently high with a decrease in 2018. The percentage of those decedents with Heroin/Fentanyl present has increased each year from 40% in 2012 to 76% in 2017 with a decrease in 2018. This is likely due to an increase of other drugs being abused in the area.

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Figure 9: Illicit Drugs and Alcohol

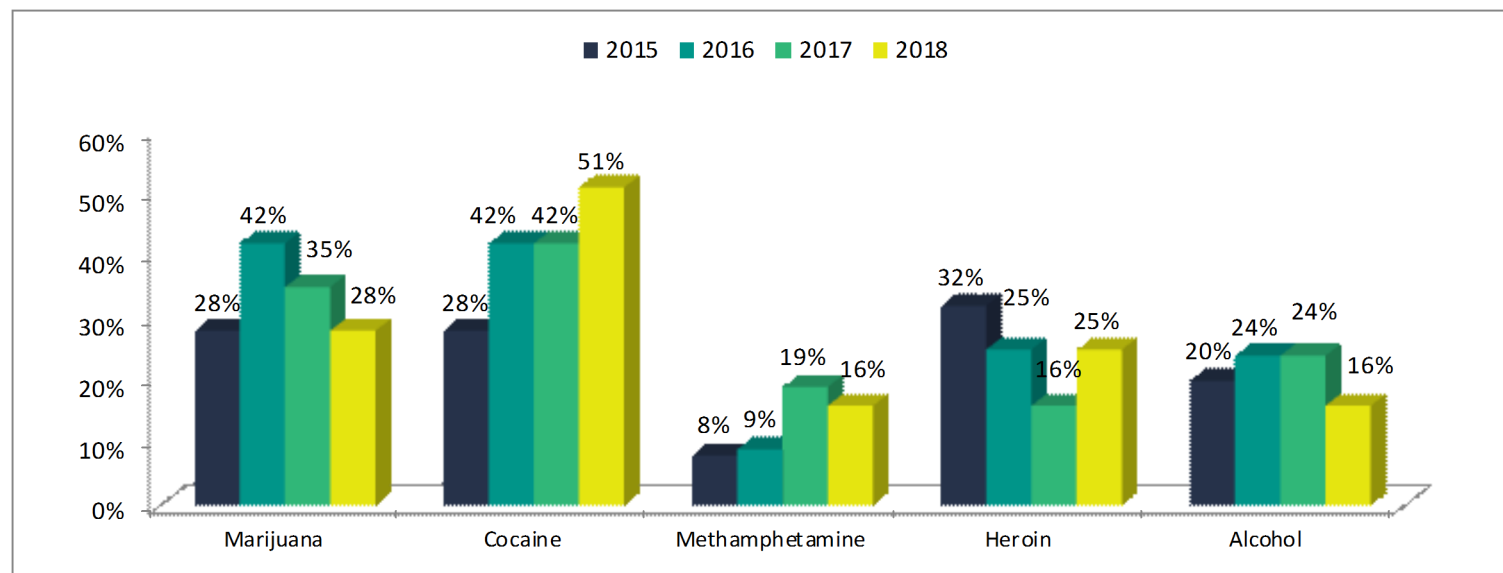
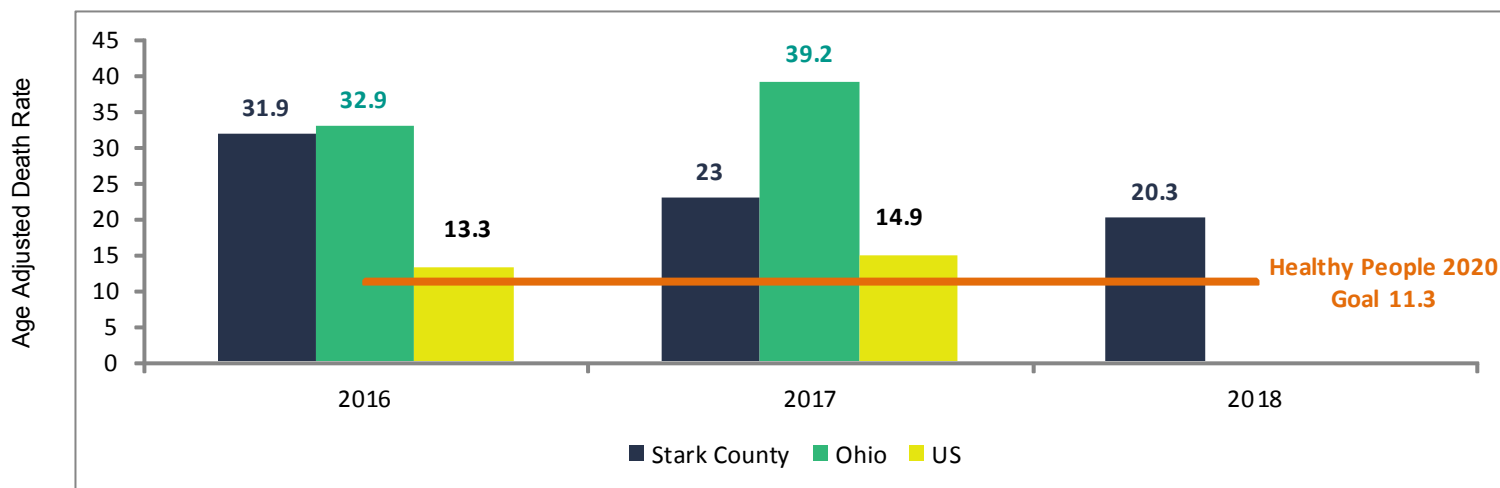


Figure 9, above illustrates the percentage of illicit substances and alcohol present in the 2018 unintentional overdose decedents. Marijuana, Cocaine, and Alcohol continue to be present in several toxicology screens similar to previous years. Methamphetamine was positive in 16% of decedents in 2018 which is slightly lower than last year but has doubled since 2015. Cocaine continues to trend upward with a 9% increase from 2017 to 2018 and a 23% increase from 2015 to 2018.

Figure 10: Age Adjusted Death Rate: Stark County, Ohio & US

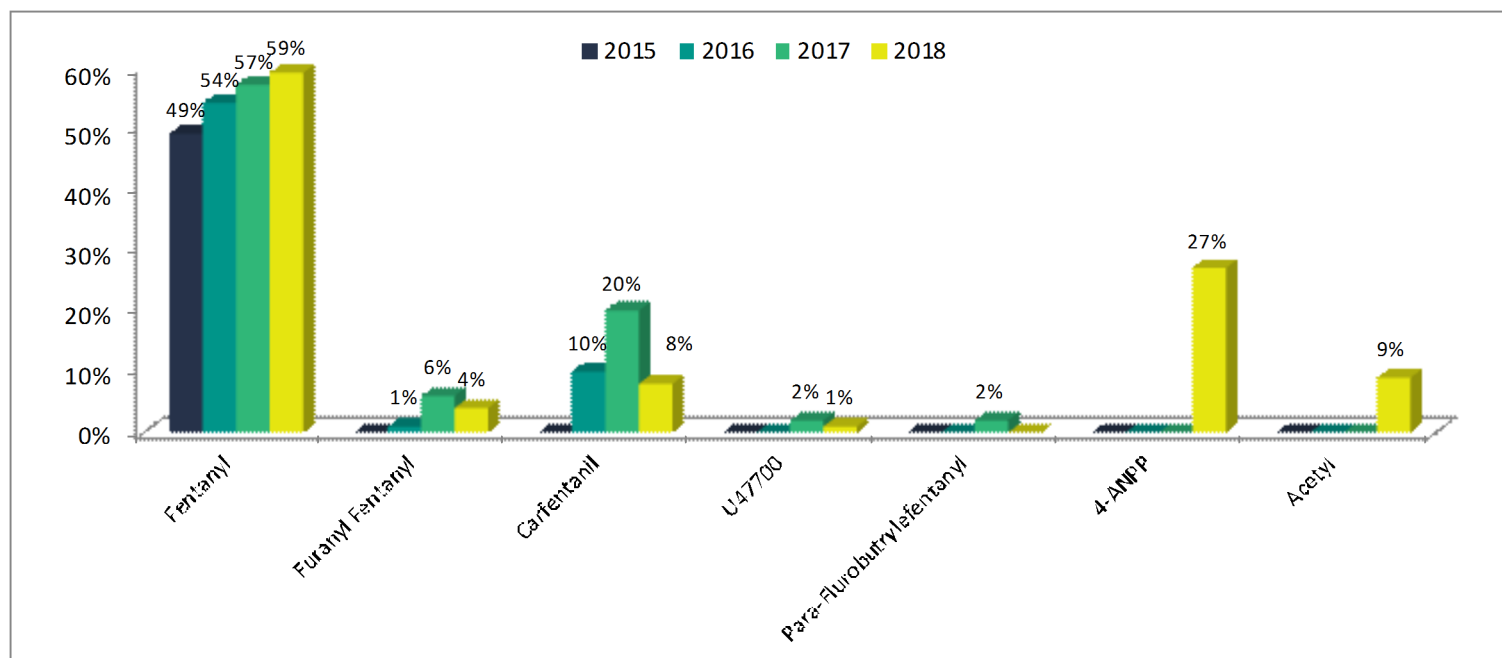


The figure 10 above compares the Age Adjusted Death Rate for Stark County, with the State of Ohio, and the United States. The orange line above indicates the Healthy People 2020 goal/target rate for reducing drug-induced deaths. This target is 11.3. Although Stark County's rate is considerably higher than the 2020 target, there continues to be a decrease in the death rate which has been consistently lower than the Ohio rate. The information in the graphic above was taken from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report/January 2019, the Health People 2020 website, and our local OFR statistics.

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During the second half of 2016 Carfentanil, an analog of Fentanyl that is 10,000 times stronger than morphine emerged in Stark County resulting in several fatalities. Fentanyl positive toxicity has resulted in a steady increase since then with a shift in analogs. During 2017, the frequency of Carfentanil related deaths continued to rise as seen in Figure 11. However, in 2018 decedents tested positive for several other types of fentanyl analogs like Acetyl fentanyl and 4-ANPP with Carfentanil decreasing by 12% from 2017 to 2018.

Figure 11: Fentanyl and Fentanyl Analogs



PDO Pilot Project

SETTING: COMMQUEST DETOX UNIT

PROJECT COORDINATOR: TONYA WAGLER

(330) 451-1678 WAGLERT@STARKHEALTH.ORG



364

The CommQuest Detox Unit distributed 364 naloxone kits between August 2018 and July 2019. All patients were encouraged to attend weekly naloxone education sessions. Patients who completed the training received a naloxone kit upon discharge. Effort was made to educate patients who left AMA (against medical advice).

RESPONSE RATE TO FOLLOW UP CALLS MADE AFTER PATIENT LEFT THE DETOX UNIT



16

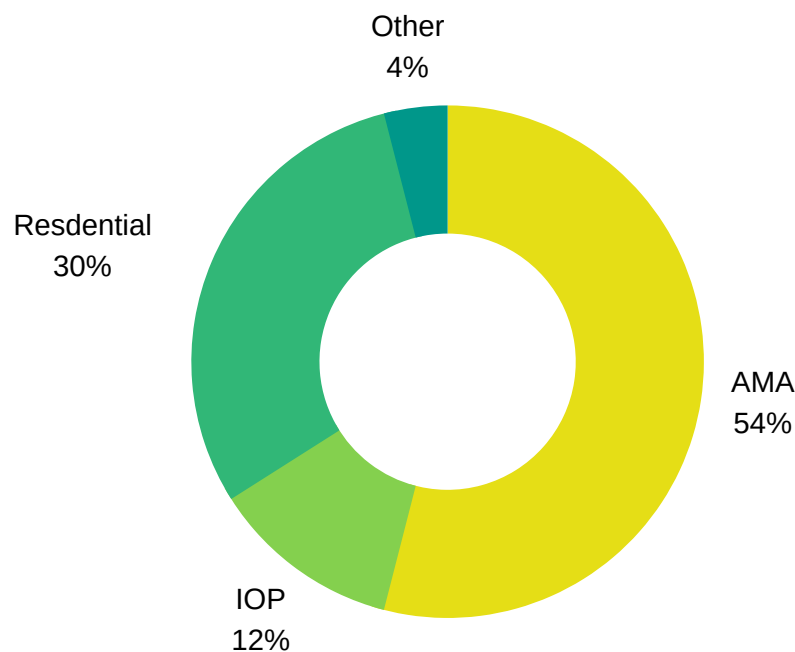
16 patients reported using their kits to reverse an overdose. A total of 728 follow up calls were made at 30, 60 and 90 days post-discharge from the Detox Unit.

38%

Screenings found that 216 of 570 patients admitted to the detox unit had abused prescription drugs.

POST DISCHARGE RATES OF 216 PATIENTS FROM OCT 2018 TO JUN 2019.

Referrals to treatment were made to each patient in the detox unit, based upon their level of need. Warm hand-offs were made whenever possible, with access to transportation a primary concern. An Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) was the best choice for 27 patients, while 64 preferred residential treatment. 116 patients left Against Medical Advice (AMA) and 9 others left for medical reasons.



A steering committee was formed at the beginning of the grant, comprised of key stakeholders. They include: Aultman Alliance Community Hospital, Alliance City Health Dept., Alliance Police Dept., Alliance Fire Dept., Coleman Professional Services, CommQuest, StarkMHAR, Vital Core Health Strategies and the Stark County Health Department.

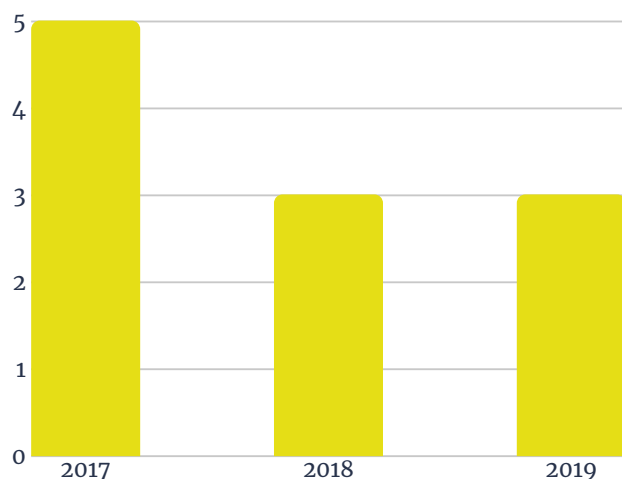
PDO Pilot: Crisis Funds



SETTING: STARK COUNTY JAIL

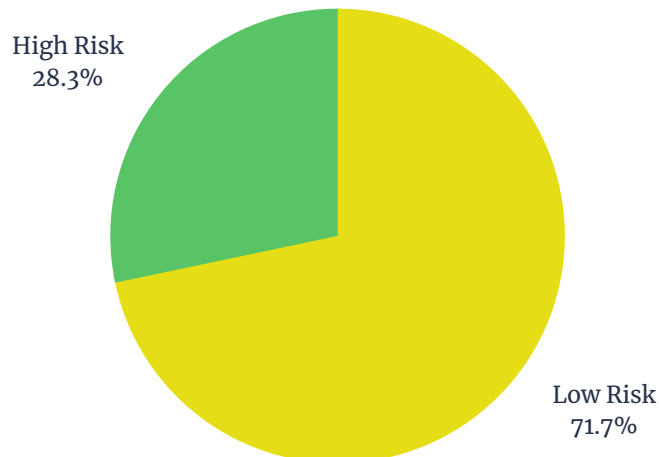
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OVERDOSE DEATH DATA

Vital Core Health Strategies (VCHS) compared coroner overdose death data with inmate records to determine the number of deaths among those released from the Stark County Jail within 30 days. In 2017 there were five overdose deaths, and three each in 2018 and 2019. This information is vital in forming future strategies to reduce Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).



SCREENING FOR RISK

The Stark County Jail screened 530 inmates during intake and found 150 of them were at high risk for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). 134 of these agreed to naloxone training and received a Narcan kit placed in their personal belongings upon release. The Correctional Health Care Group, Inc. worked on this project from Dec 2018 to Jan 2019.

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The Alliance City Health Dept. conducted ten community trainings over the course of the grant. 28 community members were trained and received kits.

125K

A media campaign was launched to reduce stigma surrounding Opioid Use Disorder (OUD). Radio ads were placed with Q92 and 94.1 WHBC. A video clip aired at Carnation Cinema, and the Alliance Review managed an online campaign. The estimated combined reach/impressions is 125K.

28

Referral boxes were placed in 23 locations throughout Alliance. The boxes had referral and resource cards to increase access to treatment. After 12 months, four referrals were made.

Stark County Resources

Opiate Hotline: 330-454-HELP (4357)

Community information, education, support and connection to services anytime.

Project SWAP (Needle Exchange Program)

Canton City Health Department- 330-489-3322

Treatment

Coleman Behavioral Health – Crisis Hotline- 330-452-6000

Regional Center for Opiate Recovery (RECOR)- 330-837-9411

CommQuest Services– 330-455-0374

Alliance Detox and Recovery Unit– CommQuest– 330-821-8503

Project DAWN Sites

Alliance City Health Department– 537 E. Market St. 330-821-7373 ext. 13

Coleman Behavioral Health/Crisis Center– 242113th St. NW Canton 330-452-6000

Regional Center for Opiate Recovery(RECOR)- 1680 Nave Rd. 44646 330-830-8740

Helpful Websites

Stark County Mental Health & Addiction Recovery (StarkMHAR): <https://starkmhar.org/>

Stark County Health Department:

www.starkcountyohio.gov/public-health/nursing-services/overdose-prevention

Take Charge Ohio: takechargeohio.org



**Are You
In Pain?**

**Talk with
your doctor
about how to
manage pain
without pills.**

References:

1. Death Statistics were from the Stark County Coroners Office, data was pulled from the Ohio Department of Health's EpiCenter database Gender and Population data was taken from the 2015 ODH data warehouse.

2. Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Medical Services, EMS Incident Reporting System

3. Ohio Automated Prescription Reporting System (OARRS) Ohio Board of Pharmacy

