Value of Working Together as a Community: Importance of Education, Prevention, Intervention, and Treatment

Dr. Kathleen Moore | April 27, 2023

Research Professor and Executive Director of FMHI

University of South Florida







In 2021 the United States experienced...

80,590 Opioid-Related Deaths

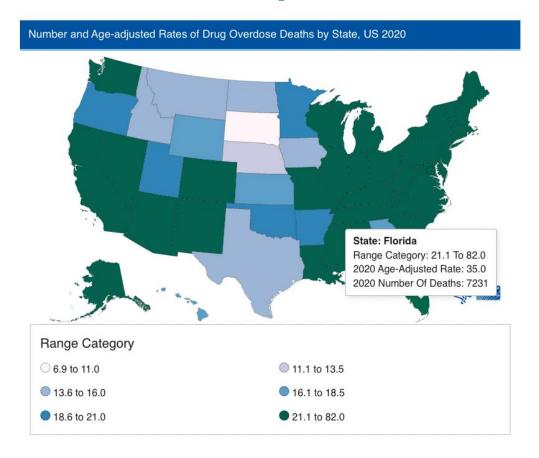
220 deaths per day

9.1 deaths per hour

4.5 deaths every 30 minute

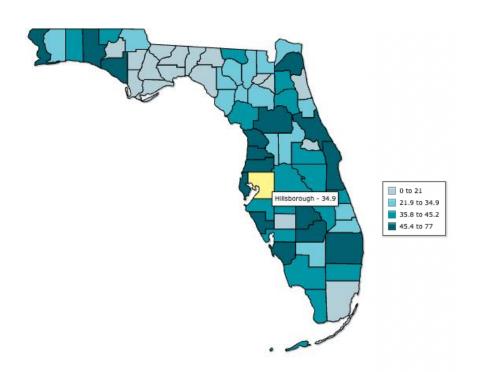
...And 2022-2023 deaths are on the rise

Opioid Deaths: Florida



- In 2021, Florida saw 8,093 overdose deaths, with 6,442 specifically classified as opioid overdose deaths.
- EMS responded to over 40,000 calls to a suspected opioid overdose.
- 51,752 doses of Naloxone were administered statewide

Opioid Deaths: Hillsborough County



Tampa Bay's overdose rate of **23.3 per 100,000** is...

- 9.75% higher than the State of Florida
- 50.5% higher than the nation

The Opioid Epidemic cuts across all socioeconomics categories, demographics, political and religious affiliations, and geographic locations. It can happen to anyone.



Faces of Opioid Overdose

Katherine McParland was homeless at 19 before earning her master's degree in social work leadership. She founded a program aimed at ending youth homelessness and served on numerous boards and advisory committees for youth with similar stories. She died of a Fentanyl overdose at the age of 33 in 2020.



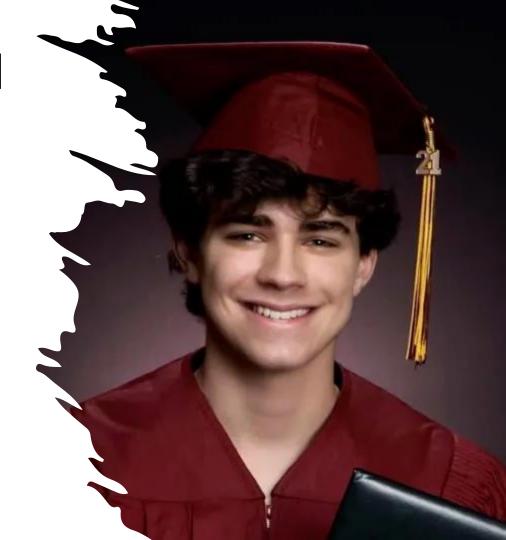


Faces of Opioid Overdose

Jason Botchford was an NHL News Reporter for over a decade before becoming a senior writer for The Athletic. He was a father of three young children and a beloved husband before dying of a Fentanyl overdose at the age of 48 in 2019.

Faces of Opioid Overdose

Zach Didier was 17 years old when he died of a Fentanyl overdose two days after Christmas in 2020. He had seen a Snapchat advertisement of someone selling various products behind the mall. He and his friend decided to buy what they thought was Percocet, but it was a counterfeit pill. He was set to graduate high school in a few months.



3 in 5

More than 3 in 5 people who died from a drug overdose had an identified opportunity for linkage to care or life-saving actions.



Vitalsigns

www.cdc.gov

CDC's Strategic
Priorities to Address
Overdose Crisis:

How do we collaborate as community stakeholders and reduce working in siloes to prevent opioid overdoses?



Education

- Prescriber Education: educate healthcare providers on safe and appropriate prescribing practices, including guidelines for identifying and managing opioid misuse and addiction
- Community Education and Outreach: educate community members, schools, faith-based organizations, and other groups to increase awareness of the risks of opioid use, and harm reduction strategies such as syringe exchange programs, and peer support programs



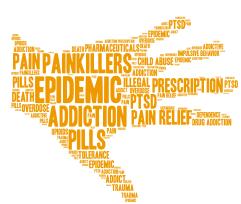


911 Good Samaritan Laws

 Good Samaritan laws protect individuals who call for medical assistance for an overdose victim



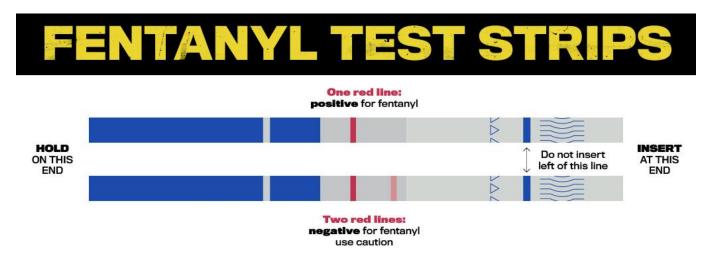
 Relatedly, Naloxone Access laws protect individuals who administer the opioidreversal drug naloxone to an overdose victim





Screening for Fentanyl

- Fentanyl test strips (FTS) provide people who use drugs and communities with important information about fentanyl in the illicit drug supply to reduce risk for overdose
- Florida Legislation (SB-164) working to decriminalize fentanyl testing strips



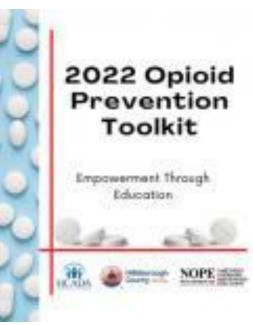
Strategies: Prevention

 Overdose Prevention: teach individuals at risk of opioid overdose and their loved ones how to recognize signs of an overdose, how to administer naloxone, and how to provide basic life support until emergency services arrive.









National "Take Back Day" in Hillsborough County



Targeted Naloxone Distribution

- Opioid Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) programs
- Pharmacy distribution under a standing order (e.g., without physician prescription)
- Co-prescribe Naloxone to patients with opioid prescriptions who are at risk for opioid use disorder
- Distribute Naloxone to non-medical first responders



DOH-Hillsborough provides free Naloxone nasal spray kits and educational materials, referrals, and connections for substance abuse intervention

Strategies: Intervention

- First Responders: improve recognition and response to opioid intoxication and overdose; increase referral systems for continued support
- Healthcare Agencies: increase efforts on postoverdose strategies to link people to care using peer support and recovery coaches
- Criminal Justice System: promote diversion programs for individuals with opioid addiction who come into contact with criminal justice system and build bridges between jail and community-based treatment

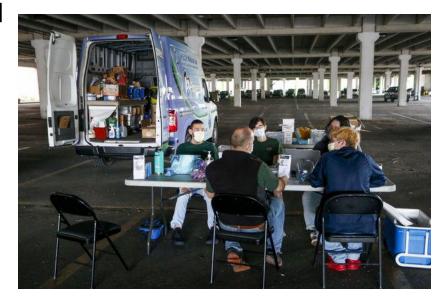


How can we stop the domino effect?

Syringe Services Programs (SSPs)

 SSPs are effective community-based prevention programs that provide access to and disposal of sterile syringes and injection equipment, vaccination, testing, and linkage to infectious disease care and substance use treatment

 Syringe services programs serve as a bridge to other health services including MOUD and products such as "overdose prevention kits" (e.g., containing naloxone)



The USF Health Tampa Bay Street Medicine launched Florida's second SSP

Strategies: Treatment

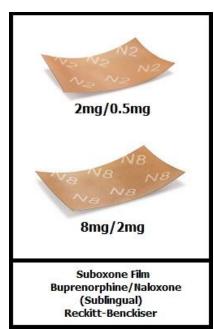
- Increase the availability of medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and educational campaigns to increase acceptance of MOUD as a relapse prevention strategy
 - Expand training and scope of practice for nurse practitioners to facilitate greater access to treatment



- Evidence-based psychosocial treatment strategies (e.g., CBT, contingency management)
- Peer support groups (e.g., recovery support)

Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)

- Buprenorphine, Methadone, Vivitrol
- MOUD decreases opioid use, opioid-related overdose deaths, criminal activity, and infectious disease transmission
- MOUD increases social functioning and retention in treatment



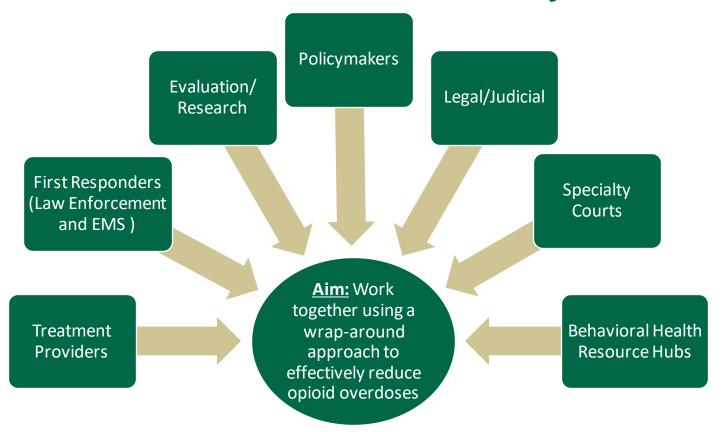






Phoenix House Rising Above Addiction

How can we collaborate as Community Stakeholders?



Take a look around you...

Could you imagine the four people sitting next to you, no longer being here due to Opioid Overdose in the last 30 minutes I've been speaking?

NEVER DOUBT THATA GROUP OF THOUGHTFUL COMMITTED CITIZENS CHANGE THE WORLD



THAT EVER HAS

Questions and Discussion

