

Emergency Management's Role in the Opiate Crisis



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How we are impacted

Fatal Overdoses in Summit County

- 2015 200
- 2016 225

Increase of 11.3 %

Impacts

- **Schools**
 - 15.6% of Summit County high school students reported using a prescription drug without a doctor's prescription one or more times during their life (2014 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance data)
- **Social Services**
 - Housing for children with parents with substance abuse
 - Summit County Juvenile Court has a specialized court docket for family challenges and assisting with family reunification

Impacts (continued)

- Public Safety
 - EMS is responding to more overdose calls
 - Law Enforcement is now carrying naloxen a drug used to block or reverse the effects of opioid medication. This is not only to use on the public, but for them also if they should be in contact with the drug (specifically carfentanil).
 - *The dramatic spike, from two or fewer per day to 11 or more, is thought to be the result of the introduction of carfentanil to the Akron drug market. The heroin-like drug is so potent it's used to sedate elephants in zoos.*

Statistics from the Akron Fire Department

2016

1449 total overdoses broke down as follows:

- 306 incidents prior to July 1, 1143 incidents after July 1
- 1288 saves
- 161 deaths

In early August Intranasal Narcan was added to every APD cruiser and every AFD fire truck as a result of the huge upswing in overdose calls. Prior to this it was only carried by AFD med units.

Prior years to use as a comparison:

- 2015 – 554 total OD's
- 2014 – 354 total OD's
- 2013 – 175 total OD's

It's Out There

- Opiates are being used in:
 - Vehicles
 - Homes
 - Hotels
 - Businesses
 - Schools

Summit County Children Services

- 50% jump in custody cases in 2016
- Average 113 per month of cases involving children removed from their homes
- Family Case Plans include:
 - Reunification
 - Therapy
 - Parenting classes

Children can be removed from their home altogether and placed in foster care or adoptive homes-urgent need for these services

Caseworkers are also Impacted

- Caseworkers often build a relationship with the family
 - Often a parent then dies of an overdose
 - Caseworker now must assist in telling the children



Ohio
Department of Health

DISASTER RESPONSE

MR 12



Summit County had the Mobile Morgue staged at our Medical Examiner's Office three times in 2016.
Summit County's Medical Examiner knew ahead of time to contact Summit County EMA for this resource.

- July 19, 2016- July 26, 2016
- November 15, 2016- November 30, 2016
- December 6, 2016- December 20, 2016- Ohio EMA contacted Summit County EMA directly to see if we needed this resource. Summit's Medical Examiner was just about to contact us!!



Some of the impact for Summit County's Medical Examiner

- Personnel & Supplies
- Waste Management System
- Body Removal Contract
 - Annually their contract is for the removal of 320 bodies. This contract began in August of 2016. It has already surpassed this amount and a new contract is being executed.

During a Disaster

- Studies have already been conducted for treating opioid users during a disaster (prescribed or not)
- Social services that may be able to assist during “routine” operations will be impacted
 - *Behavior Health & Clinics may not be available*
 - *Phone in support systems may not be available*

*Information provided by *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, Opioid Substitution Treatment Planning in a Disaster Context: Perspectives from Emergency Management and Health Professionals in Aotearoa/New Zealand

During a Disaster; Post Katrina(*)

- Health records were destroyed in New Orleans
- Evacuees treated with methadone with “guest doses”
- Treatment had to be provided to only those that demonstrated physical signs of withdrawal

**Information provided by International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Opioid Substitution Treatment Planning in a Disaster Context: Perspectives from Emergency Management and Health Professionals in Aotearoa/New Zealand*

Post Hurricane Sandy (*)

- Clinics in New York were unable to operate
- Communication systems were down causing a disruption with regulatory agencies
- Hospital emergency rooms had increased opiate users
- “Some emergency service staff without knowledge of opioid withdrawals thought that the diarrhea experienced by opioid clients was symptomatic of a disease outbreak and tried to quarantine them”

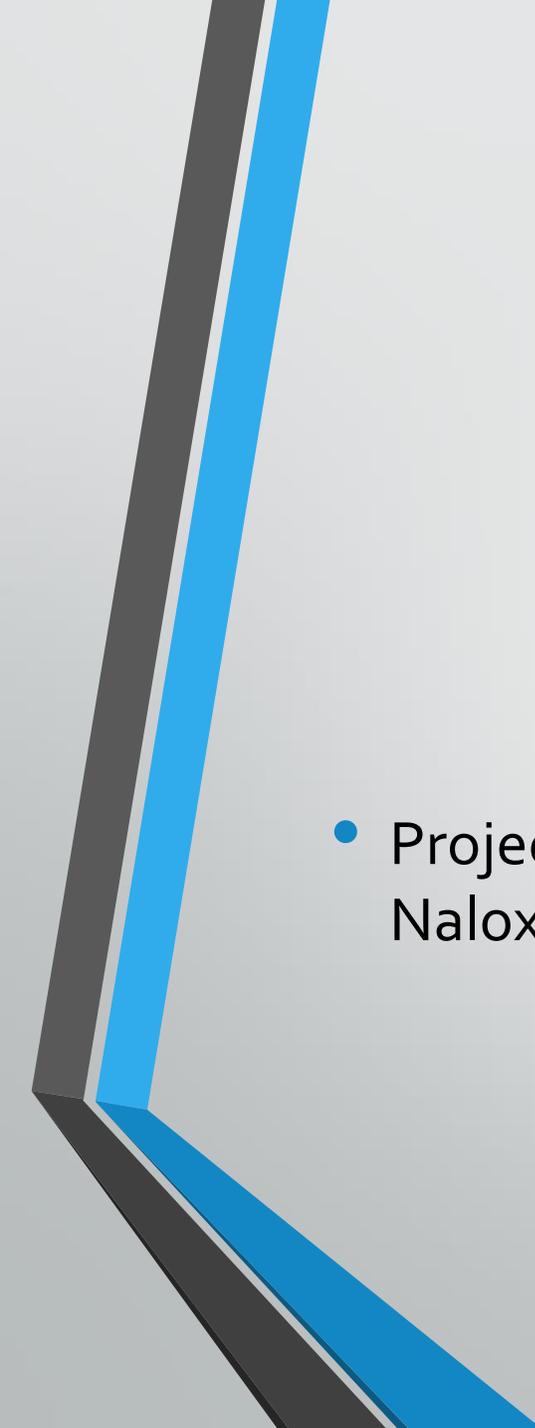
**Information provided by International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, Opioid Substitution Treatment Planning in a Disaster Context: Perspectives from Emergency Management and Health Professionals in Aotearoa/New Zealand*



Heroin does not discriminate



***What Summit County is doing to address the
Opiate Epidemic***



Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided with Naloxone)

- Project DAWN is a free service for Summit County residents that provides Naloxone and trains individuals on how to administer the medication

Summit County Opiate Task Force

- Established in February 2014 by the County of Summit Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services Board

The Summit County Opiate Task Force is a group of key individuals and organizations committed to reducing the tragic consequences of opiate abuse in Summit County through education, collaboration, and the wise use of available resources.

Opiate Task Force

- Treatment Resources
- Prevention Programs

- Recovery Support
- Project DAWN

Treatment Resources

- Addiction Helpline- will assist with beginning treat
- Crisis Center- answered 24/7 to help you or someone you know who is addicted
 - Crisis Text Line
- Ambulatory Detoxification (local treatment centers)
 - [Akron General Edwin Shaw Rehabilitation Institute](#)
 - [Akron Urban Minority Alcoholism & Drug Abuse Outreach Program](#)
 - [Asian Services In Action, Inc. \(ASIA\)](#)
 - [Community Health Center treatment programs for adults and adolescents](#)
 - [IBH Addiction Recovery Center](#)
 - [Mature Services](#)
 - [Oriana House chemical dependency programs](#)
 - [Rigel Recovery Services](#)
 - [Summa Health System \(Ignatia Hall\)](#)
 - [Summit County Public Health](#)

Prevention Programs

Prevention targets risk and protective factors as the “influences” of behavioral health problems. The above mentioned IOM report defines risk and protective factors as follows:

Risk factor: a characteristic at the biological, psychological, family, community, or cultural level that precedes and is associated with a higher likelihood of problem outcomes

Protective factor: a characteristic associated with a lower likelihood of problem outcomes or that reduces the negative impact of a risk factor on problem outcomes

***ADM Website*

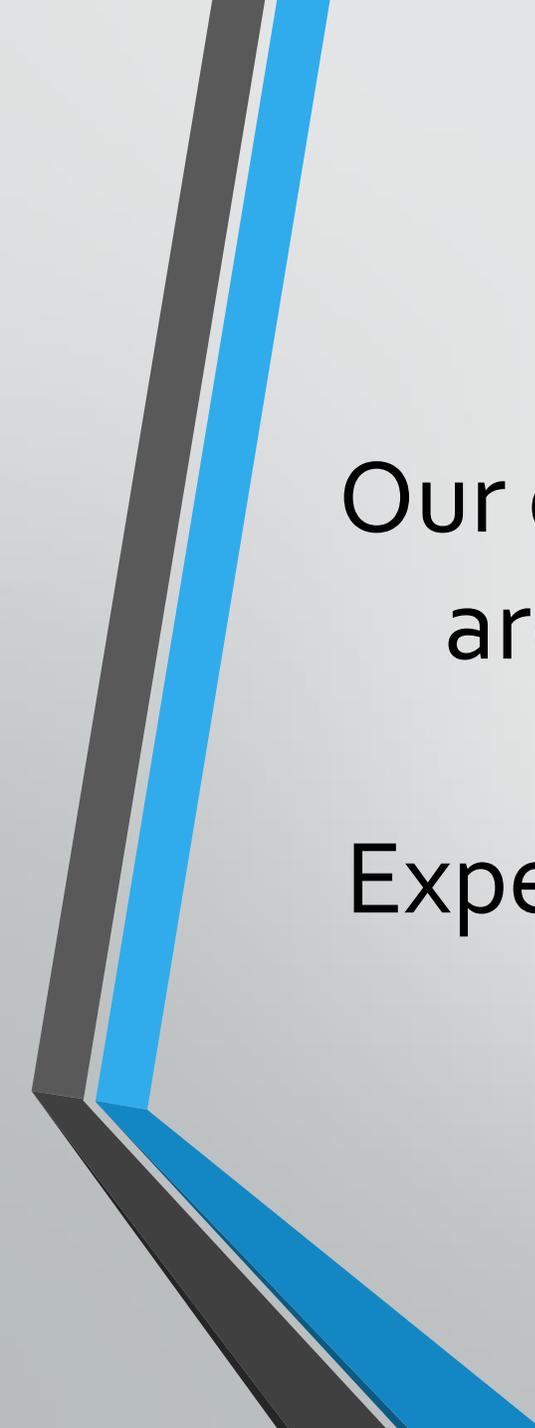
Recovery Support

- Recovery Housing- Provides transitional living
- Recovery Coaching-Provides services face to face or via telephone to assist in establishing a recovery plan to identify & manage relapse warning signs and other critical issues to success. Recovery coaches or Certified Peer Supporters are persons in good recovery from addictions for more than 2 years, and models a healthy recovery lifestyle. A person may want to have a sponsor and in addition, seek a different person as a recovery coach.
- Rock & Recovery- online listening experience that provides inspiring messages and stories as well as uplifting music. Produced by WAPS-FM in Akron

Quick Response Teams (QRT)

Some communities in Summit County are now participating in a QRT which was implemented as results of a program in Colerain Township, Hamilton County.

- A team of 3; paramedic, law enforcement officer and counselor go to the homes of overdoses from the previous week to discuss options and programs available.



Our elected officials and health commissioners
are stating this is a “Declared Emergency”

Expectations from Emergency Management??



Emergency Managers Need to Plan

Opioid Dependency needs to be considered in emergency planning

- Part of the vulnerable population



What challenges could we encounter?

- In the general population
- Health care facilities
- Shelters

How Can Emergency Managers Plan to Address these Issues

- Establish a Coordinated Call Center and include addictions issues as part of information sharing
- Utilize planning ahead of time with ESF 8 (Public Health & Medical Services) and ESF 6 (Shelter & Mass Care)
- Client carry dose cards
 - Are they authentic-tamper proof?
- ESFs 6 & 8 need to be aware of drug enforcement regulations before a disaster

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The Road to Retirement