

MARYLAND OVERDOSE RESPONSE ADVISORY COUNCIL

PREVENTION • HARM REDUCTION • TREATMENT • RECOVERY • PUBLIC SAFETY



Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, October 17, 2024

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Welcome

Lt. Governor Aruna Miller, Chair



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Annual Report



Annual Report

Structure

- Background
- Data Sharing among Respective Agencies (overdose dashboard, OD2A data communications strategic plan, DORM)
- Emerging Challenges Related to Substance Use Disorder Services and Recommendations to Address the Identified Challenges
- Addressing Overdose Disparities and Health Equity
- Sharing Data Related to Health Equity and Promoting Equity in the Provision of Substance Use Disorder Services
- Looking Forward

Emerging Challenges Related to Substance Use Disorder Services

Providing Medications for Opioid Use Disorders in Carceral Settings

- Since the passage of the Opioid Use Examination and Treatment Act (HB 116) of 2019, local jurisdictions have been working to expand access to treatment with medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) in addition to a wide variety of services for individuals with substance use disorders. However, significant barriers remain for detention facilities in implementing these programs, much of which have to do with cost and staffing.
- These services are vital, and they are extremely urgent; a wealth of research indicates that drug overdose is the leading cause of death after release from incarceration. Individuals are at the highest risk during the two-week period post-release from incarceration.

Emerging Challenges Related to Substance Use Disorder Services

Behavioral Health Workforce Shortage

- Behavioral healthcare providers across the state face significant challenges in recruiting and retaining skilled staff. These challenges are acutely felt in rural areas, which frequently lack the financial resources to compete with larger jurisdictions.

Emerging Challenges Related to Substance Use Disorder Services

Barriers to Treatment

- Maryland should work to address common and widespread barriers to treatment for individuals across the state. Access to reliable transportation, for example, can be a deciding factor for individuals who would otherwise like to access substance use treatment. This is true in urban areas but is especially true in rural areas, where care providers are frequently located at great geographic distance. Housing stability and child care can also greatly impact someone's ability to access substance use disorder services. Maryland also lacks treatment options that specialize in the specific needs of various demographic groups, such as adolescents or individuals with disabilities.

Emerging Challenges Related to Substance Use Disorder Services

Need for Targeted Outreach

- Maryland should increase culturally sensitive efforts to reach various populations and demographic groups that consider their specific needs.

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Recommendations



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Agency Updates



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Public Comment



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For Questions & Public Comment:

StopOverdose@maryland.gov