

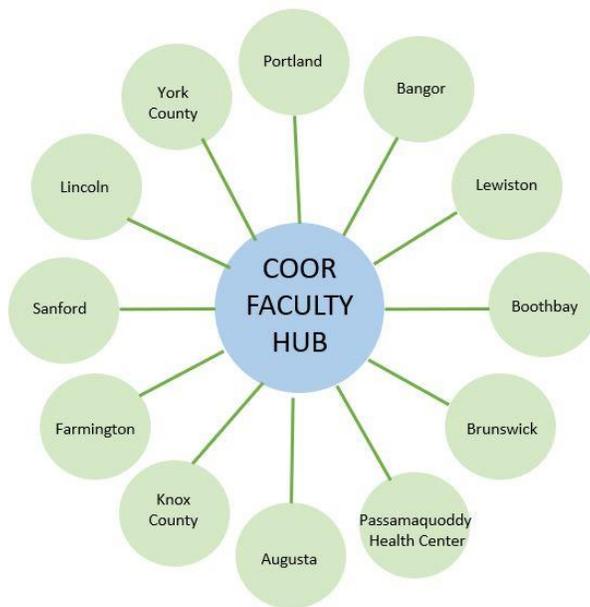


Northern New England-Practice Transformation Network (NNE- PTN)
Community Opioid Overdose Response (COOR) ECHO Program
NEWSLETTER

News, Events, and Opportunities

April 2019

We encourage you to share this newsletter with your communities to learn more about our Community Opioid Overdose Response (COOR) ECHO occurring with 12 communities across Maine.



The COOR ECHO project brings together leaders of key sectors within 12 local communities across Maine to work together to reduce opioid overdose deaths. The program leverages the resources and expertise of the Northern New England Practice Transformation Network (NNE-PTN) and the ECHO model to provide case-based, video-supported collaborative learning opportunities to work within and across communities to reduce opioid overdose deaths. It expands Project ECHO model from the traditional clinical model to a community-based, systems-oriented model, and builds on successful models from other regions to decrease opioid overdose deaths using a community-oriented approach.

The four focus areas of the COOR ECHO are:

- Collecting timely, local data on drug/opioid overdose deaths
- Improving OUD treatment capacity using rapid-access, low-barrier approaches
- Improving naloxone distribution
- Creating linkages with the SUD/OUD recovery community

To help you communicate your work on this effort, QC has created a COOR ECHO infographic. Please download and view our new [COOR ECHO infographic](#) and feel free to spread the word!

To learn more about the NNE-PTN COOR ECHO please visit:

www.mainequalitycounts.org

COOR ECHO Sessions

**COOR ECHO Session #7: Wednesday, April 17th
10:30am- 12noon**

- **Faculty presenter:** Kenney Miller. His topic will discuss, "Increasing Access to Naloxone to Prevent Opioid Overdose Deaths."
- **Community case presentation:** Healthy Community Coalition, Ashley McCarthy

Governor Mills Administration News

Naloxone Survey Form

The State of Maine under the Mills Administration is offering a new form to fill out and an organization is able to receive narcan kits and naloxone. The target start for this program is April 1. The distribution will be by the city of Portland and the University of Maine.

Feel free to share this information with others. The goal is to get as much narcan/naloxone to as many locations as possible as quickly as possible.

Below is the link to print this new form.

<https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/samhs/forms.shtml>

Once completed, please either fax this form back to (207) 287- 9152 or email it to SAMHSAdmin.DHHS@maine.gov

Governor Mills Signs Executive Order Directing Immediate Action to Combat Opioid Epidemic

Mills announces she will sign Financial Order to purchase and distribute lifesaving, anti-overdose medication and train hundreds more Recovery Coaches

Augusta, MAINE - Governor Janet Mills today signed an Executive Order directing her Administration to take immediate steps to combat the opioid crisis. The Order outlines the initial actions that will be taken by the Administration, as overseen by Gordon Smith, the Director of Opioid Response, to prevent overdose deaths, increase treatment and recovery efforts, and bolster prevention efforts - all of which will be done in a manner to reduce the stigma associated with substance use disorders. The Order will supplement the vigorous efforts of law enforcement at all levels to stem the tide of drug trafficking into Maine.

In support of the Executive Order, Governor Mills announced that she will also sign a financial order directing the Office of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services (SAMHS) to purchase 35,000 units of the life-saving, anti-overdose medication naloxone using available federal and state funds and distribute it to health entities across the state. The order also directs the use of SAMHS funds to train 250 Recovery Coaches and to fund a full-time recovery coach in 10 emergency departments across the state to facilitate the movement of more people into treatment programs. Both actions can immediately help save lives.

To read Executive Order, Click this

<https://www.maine.gov/governor/mills/news/governor-mills-signs-executive-order-directing-immediate-action-combat-opioid-epidemic-2019-02>

Governor Mills 10 Point Opioid Plan

From Governor Mill's webpage: In 2017, 952 drug-affected infants were born in Maine, according to the Department of Health and Human Services. In the last decade, 7,708 babies were born affected by drugs, 1,024 in 2016 alone, representing approximately 8 percent of all live births in Maine.

At least one person a day dies of a drug overdose, increasingly from heroin and fentanyl.

Two-thirds of the 368 drugged-driving traffic stops in 2016 tested positive for opioids, according to the Maine Health and Environmental Testing Lab: Analysis Maine Rural Drug and Alcohol Research Program at the University of Maine.

In 2015 an estimated 15,000 people received treatment for substance-use disorder in Maine, while another 25,000 could not get treatment because of a lack of capacity or lack of insurance.

There is no silver bullet to this complex problem, which is not simply a public safety or law enforcement matter, but a full-blown public health crisis that leaves thousands of children without a parent, communities devastated, employers without a healthy workforce, and families torn apart.

[Gov Janet Mills 10 Point Opioid Plan](#)

Educational Opportunities

**Maine Behavioral Health Workforce Development Collaborative:
"Reducing Stigma When Working With People Who Use Drugs "
Presented by Maddy Magnuson
Health Equity Alliance
Friday, April 26, 2019 ~ Augusta**

Inherent in the way we talk about things is how we think of those same things. When we use words like "clean" we necessarily imply that the opposite is "dirty." Substance Use Disorder continues to be a highly stigmatized medical

condition despite the many advancements in neurobiology and a fuller understanding of social and environmental determinants of health. In spite of these many advancements, people with a Substance Use Disorder continue to report high rates of discrimination from medical providers, denial of services from government entities, and continued targeting by law enforcement. The ramifications of stigma in care environments are manifold and further compound the opioid crisis. During this workshop participants will explore personal biases related to drug use and the way that these emerge in language, the ramifications of stigma against people who use drugs and how to create an affirming environment that will enhance care for people who use drugs.

Participants who successfully complete this workshop will:

- Explore personal biases related to drug use.
- Understand the history of stigma connected to drug use in cultural context
- Understand diversity in drug use
- Explore the reasons people use drugs
- Explore cultivation of an affirming environment

Friday, April 26, 2019

12:30 PM - 4:30 PM

Check-in begins at 11:45 AM

Light Lunch will be served during check in period

Augusta Civic Center, 76 Community Drive, Augusta

\$45 Registration Fee

Light lunch, workshop attendance and continuing education credit included.

Save \$10 if you PAY by April 24, 2019- Early Bird fee \$35

4.0 Continuing Education Credits -For more information on credits offered

*Please Note: if you arrive late or leave early, you MUST sign out to receive a certificate and AdCare will need to adjust your certificate to reflect time.

Certificates will be available at the end of the day, please pick them up at the registration table as a way to confirm your attendance.

[For More Information and to Register](#)

Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit - April 22-25 in Atlanta, Georgia:

The Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit convenes a national collaboration of stakeholders from Federal to family to discuss what's working in opioid overdose prevention and treatment. Be part of the international discussion on addressing the opioid crisis at the 2019 Rx Drug Abuse & Heroin Summit April 22-25, 2019 in Atlanta, Georgia.

[For more information and to register](#)

Funding Opportunities

New Rural Communities Opioid Response Program Funding Opportunity

HRSA's Federal Office of Rural Health Policy has released the Notice of Funding Opportunity for a new Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) initiative called RCORP-Implementation (HRSA-19-082). HRSA plans to award approximately 75 grants to rural communities as part of this funding opportunity.

You can review the [funding opportunity at grants.gov](#).

Successful RCORP-Implementation award recipients will receive up to \$1 million for a three-year period of performance to enhance and expand substance use disorder (SUD), including opioid use disorder (OUD), service delivery in high-risk rural communities. Award recipients will implement a set of core SUD/OUD prevention, treatment, and recovery activities that align with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) [Five-Point Strategy to Combat the Opioid Crisis](#) (PDF - 76 KB).

Application due date: Monday, May 6, 2019

[To Read the press release](#)

First Responders-Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is accepting applications for fiscal year (FY) 2019 First Responders-Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (Short Title: FR-CARA) Grants. SAMHSA will award FR-CARA funds to states, tribes and tribal organizations [as defined in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (ISDEAA)], and local governmental entities. Local governmental entities include, but are not limited to, municipal corporations, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, and townships. The purpose of this program is to allow first responders and members of other key community sectors to administer a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose. Recipients will train and provide resources to first responders and members of other key community sectors at the state, tribal, and local governmental levels on carrying and administering a drug or device approved or cleared under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act for emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose. Recipients will also establish processes, protocols, mechanisms for referral to appropriate treatment and recovery communities, and safety around fentanyl, carfentanyl, and other dangerous licit and illicit drugs.

For the purposes of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA), first responders include firefighters, law enforcement officers, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, or other legally organized and recognized volunteer organizations that respond to adverse opioid related incidents.

Eligible Applicants: Eligible applicants are: * State governments; * Federally recognized American Indian/Alaska Native (AI/AN) tribes, tribal organizations, Urban Indian Organizations, and consortia of tribes or tribal organizations; and * Local governmental entities including, but not limited to, municipal corporations, counties, cities, boroughs, incorporated towns, and townships. The eligibility for this grant program is statutorily defined in Section 546 of the Public Health Service Act. Current FR-CARA recipients who received funding in FY 2017 and FY 2018 under SP-17-005 are not eligible to apply.

Application Due Date: Monday, May 6, 2019

[To Read the press release](#)

Resources

National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) Guide to MAT Best Practices for Recovery Residence Operators

NARR has just released its guide for operators on supporting individuals receiving medication-assisted treatment for opioid use disorders. The guide is a joint effort of NARR, the National Council for Behavioral Health, and the Center for Social Innovation. It is available to [read and download on the NARR site](#).

It is concise, easy to read, and tailored to the information needs of recovery housing operators and staff members. It discusses the basics of the most commonly prescribed medications, including how they work, how they are meaningfully improving recovery outcomes, and most importantly how residences can become welcoming and supportive recovery environments for individuals prescribed these medications.

The "how to" material in the guide is based on the experiences of recovering individuals, recovery residence operators and peer staff members. Implementation of the recommendations it contains is fully consistent with NARR standards.

[To read and download this document, click here.](#)

COMMUNITY COALITION "SPOTLIGHT"

SPOTLIGHT **Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition (CHCC)**

Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition is a local health coalition serving the towns of Biddeford, Saco, Old Orchard Beach, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Arundel, Buxton, Dayton, and Hollis. We collaborate through our Substance Use Prevention Coalition, Project Alliance, for all prevention and education work that we do with the partners who are part of the COOR ECHO program: the Biddeford Police Department, the Kennebunk Police Department, Southern Maine Health Care, Maine Behavioral Health, Seeds of Hope Neighborhood Center, and the Substance Use Outreach Liaison of the cities of Biddeford and Saco. A few highlights of the work that our partners have done in our communities include: Opioid Overdose and Response trainings at Seeds of Hope; The launching of Kennebunk's Recovery Coach Academy; presentation's to coalition members about Adverse Childhood Experiences; and Southern Maine Healthcare's partial hospitalization program, among others. The Saco Biddeford Opiate Outreach Initiative has had a significant impact on the community. During 2018, the initiative reached out to 176 individuals in crisis. The program completed 70 treatment program placements for 47 different individuals, and known overdoses declined by 49% in 2018 compared to 2017, the lowest level since 2013. The Biddeford Fire and Police Departments collectively saw a 35% reduction in the number of individuals that were administered NARCAN.

In addition to all of this work, Coastal Healthy Communities Coalition works with five separate school districts to implement prevention education for middle school and high school students, and recently has been working with four separate alternative high schools to implement PhotoVoice, a program that promotes the use of photography for positive social change while capturing the conditions in the community through the eyes of our youth. More information about our prevention and education activities can be found here: <http://www.projectalliance.info/>

ARTICLES

Knox County Groups Invite Public to Recovery Forum -Village Soup-

ROCKLAND - Knox County law enforcement invites all interested community members to a free informational session Thursday, April 11, about the newly formed Knox County Recovery Collaborative (KCRC). The KCRC session will be held from 5 to 6 p.m. at the Steel House, 639 Main St., Rockland, and will be hosted by Knox County Sheriff Tim Carroll.

Carroll said in a news release, "We're ready. I'm looking forward to working with this dedicated group of community and health partners here in Knox County. Together, with community support, we can help fight the problems of mental health and substance use disorders that are plaguing our society."

Through the KCRC, the Knox County Sheriff's office, Rockland, Rockport, Thomaston and Camden police departments will work with local community resource partners to address the harmful use and effects of heroin, fentanyl, opioids and other illicit substances in Knox County.

The presentation will include an overview of KCRC, information on how community members can support the effort and an outline of next steps. Refreshments will be served.

For more information about the event, contact Sheriff Carroll at 594-0429, extension 701

[To Read this Article](#)

From MPBN
Director Of Opioid Response Says Maine Will Launch Drug Prevention
Ad Campaign

By MAL LEARY * MAR 22, 2019

Governor Janet Mills proposed two-year budget includes an allocation of \$5.5 million for addressing the state's opioid addiction crisis.

Gordon Smith, the state director of opioid response, says the plan is to launch a drug prevention advertising campaign similar to those being used in other states.

"In Wisconsin - dose of reality, Colorado - take meds seriously. Utah - use only as directed, Maryland - heroin and opioid prevention toolkit," Smith says. Smith told members of the legislature's Human Resources Committee that studies show the campaigns have been successful, even though they take time. He says Maine has a very limited effort underway on social media and the new effort will expand that messaging to mass media.

"There is no period of time that we don't need to be all over these individuals," says Smith. "When they are babies, when they are infants, when they are born, before they get to school, when they are in school, when they get out of school."

Bangor Daily News -
"Maine Joins Lawsuits Against Opioid Pill Makers and Retailers"
By Bill Trotter

WASHINGTON COUNTY, Maine - Washington County has joined a dozen other Maine cities and counties that are among many nationwide to file lawsuits against the manufacturers of opioid prescription medications.

Citing the impact that widespread addiction to painkiller pills has had on public resources, hundreds of governmental entities including states,

municipalities and counties have filed suit against pharmaceutical manufacturers and retailers, alleging that the companies misled the public and doctors about the risks. Purdue Pharma, AmerisourceBergen Drug, CVS, Walgreens and Walmart are among more than two dozen defendants in the lawsuit.

[To read this article, click here.](#)

OTHER

Maine Public Radio, "Gordon Smith: Maine's New Opioid Response Director Discusses His Priorities and Plans"

On February 19th. Gordon Smith was interviewed on Maine Calling about his priorities and plans as the Opioid Response Director.

As Maine's first director of opioid response, Gordon Smith is tasked with coordinating state efforts to combat the opioid epidemic. Smith will be Mills' point person for coordinating interagency efforts to address Maine's opioid crisis, which continues to claim an average of more than one life every day.

[To Listen to this Interview, click here](#)

COOR E-Newsletter survey feedback opportunity

Northern New England-Practice Transformation Network (NNE- PTN) Community Opioid Overdose Response (COOR) ECHO Program E-Newsletter Feedback Survey

The team at Maine Quality Counts has been putting together a monthly e-newsletter for COOR ECHO participants. We are looking for feedback from all

of the COOR community to help us improve this newsletter to better meet the needs of COOR ECHO.

Please complete this short, 6-question survey.

[Click here to complete the survey.](#)

COOR Faculty Information

COOR FACULTY

Please click the following link to learn more information regarding the COOR Faculty team. To read the COOR faculty Bios, [click here](#).

Our Contact Information

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For more information on other programs, visit: [Maine Quality Counts Website](#)

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