THE ISSUE

Montgomery County had the highest unintentional drug overdose death rate in the state of Ohio from 2011 to 2016. These deaths have steadily climbed from 130 in 2011 to 566 overdose deaths in 2017. Approximately 90% of the overdose deaths involved at least one opioid with illicit fentanyl being found at an alarming rate. Similar rates of death were being seen across the country which eventually led the President of the United States to declare the national opioid crisis a public health emergency.

THE RESPONSE

In September 2016, the Montgomery County Commissioners convened a community-wide forum to request that stakeholders work together to address the epidemic. Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery County and Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) have taken the lead in coordinating these efforts.

The result has been the formation of the Community Overdose Action Team (COAT). The team seeks to enhance current services, looks for gaps in existing services, and explores more effective ways to combat the drug overdose crisis. The COAT operates under a Collective Impact Model – an innovative and structured approach to making collaboration work across various sectors to achieve significant and lasting social change. The COAT is managed using the Incident Command System structure. ICS provides a comprehensive management system designed to enable community partners to work together to respond to local, state and federal emergencies.

Over 200 individuals from community agencies, along with people in recovery and family members, participate in one of eight branches. It is only through this community-wide collaborative effort that we can begin to reduce the number of overdose deaths. In 2017, the COAT had developed, enhanced or expanded over 45 programs and services.

THE GOAL

The COAT’s primary goal is to reduce the number of fatal drug overdoses in Montgomery County.

THE BRANCHES

Each branch is responsible for producing and reporting action plans every 30 days. A Steering Committee, comprised of more than 60 community leaders from numerous public and private organizations throughout Montgomery County, guides the overall efforts.

**Prevention** — prevent opioid and illicit drug misuse

**Treatment and Recovery** — expand access to treatment and community supports

**Illegal Opioid Supply Control** — decrease the supply of illegal opioids and other illicit drugs

**Response** — emergency and crisis plans to respond to individuals in crisis or a large casualty event

**Harm Reduction** — increase capacity for harm reduction efforts including syringe services and Narcan distribution

**Prescription Opioids** — promote use of best practices for opioid prescribing; raise awareness and knowledge about the dangers of opioids

**Criminal Justice Services** — expand access to treatment options for those involved in the criminal justice system

**Education and Information** — raise public awareness and knowledge about the use and misuse of opioids
The charts to the right represent unintentional drug overdose deaths from 2010 to 2017 and number of unintentional drug overdose deaths in 2017 as reported by the Montgomery County Coroner’s Office.
Prevent substance misuse from starting. Identify those who have already begun to misuse substances and intervene early

- Wright State University developed the Heroin and Opioid Abuse Prevention Education (HOPE) curriculum which provides opioid abuse prevention education for grades K-12.

- Montgomery County Wellness at Work was developed to assist employers with drug-free workplace policies and second chance programs. Ten business have been trained.

- Youth-led prevention programs increased from 5 to 8.

- ADAMHS has completed the “Building Prevention with Faith” one day training with 4 local churches. This training helps to integrate prevention messaging into the faith community.

- PAX Good Behavior Game has been implemented in 8 schools with a total of 272 classrooms.

- ADAMHS offered 11 Kernels for Life trainings that have been completed with a total of 278 individuals trained.

- ADAMHS has trained 100 youth with Life Skills Training.
• Goodwill Easter Seals has distributed 72 medication lock boxes and over 5,400 drug disposal deactivation pouches.

• Over 400 people have been trained in Generation Rx, medication safety training, and over 40 people have become trainers.

• Alternatives to Pain Management Education was sent out in the Montgomery County water bills through Environmental Services reaching 80,000 county residents.

• ADAMHS has contracted with Samaritan Behavioral Health to conduct Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) within the Vandalia-Butler School District.

• ADAMHS partnered with Kroger Pharmacy to pass out drug disposal deactivation pouches. Over 200 pouches were distributed.
TREATMENT AND RECOVERY
Expand access to treatment and community support programs

- ADAMHS increased subacute (residential) detoxification beds from 8 to 14, which increased capacity from 415 to 730 people per year.

- Ambulatory (outpatient) detoxification services through Samaritan Behavioral Health Inc. expanded to 24 hours 7 days per week.

- Goodwill Easter Seals has certified 20 Peer Recovery Supporters through OMHAS (Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services).

- ADAMHS has expanded from 4 to 7 Recovery Houses and increased capacity from 20 female and 5 male beds to 45 female and 43 male beds.

- Public Health implemented a new Medication-Assisted Treatment Program using the Hazelden Betty Ford – COR-12 model.

- ADAMHS has trained 21% of all uniformed officers in Montgomery County in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Academy.

- Valley View Community Drug Free Coalition created HOPE booklets to offer support to people who have overdosed or for those who have had a family member or friend overdose.

- ADAMHS received a capital grant to purchase / renovate 8 apartments for women who are pregnant and receiving Medication-Assisted Treatment through the Promise to Hope Program at Miami Valley Hospital.

- Recovery Alliance of Montgomery County was created to build alliance of recovery organizations. The Recovery Alliance partners are: Dayton Fellowship Club, Families of Addicts, ALCO-AIDES, Recovery Café Dayton, West Side Club, and ADAMHS.
RESPONSE

Emergency plans to respond to individuals in crisis or a large casualty event of mass overdoses at one time in Montgomery County

- Greater Miami Valley EMS Council developed templates for Fire / EMS departments to furnish Narcan to the public.

- ADAMHS partnered with the Dayton Fire Department to establish a Fire / EMS Narcan repository to personally furnish Narcan to the public.

- 3,000 Overdose Support Toolkit postcard packets were distributed to Fire / EMS and GROW teams. These packets include resources for local information on how to seek help.
Prescription Opioids
Promote use of best practices for opioid prescribing; raise awareness and knowledge about the dangers of opioids

- The Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine is developing and enhancing addiction curriculum.

- Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) training is now offered to prescribers.

- Kettering Health Network developed PAUSE a pathway for physicians and pharmacists to manage chronic or benign pain. It is about taking a moment to pause and consider alternatives to opioids.
**ILLEGAL OPIOID SUPPLY CONTROL**

*Decrease the supply of illegal opioids and other illicit substances*

- Follow up was completed on 263 non-fatal and 25 fatal overdoses by the Heroin Eradication and Apprehension Team (HEAT) to assist with prosecution of dealers responsible for providing illegal narcotics that caused an overdose.

- RANGE Task Force arrested 128 suspects, collected 63 firearms, and seized currency and illegal drugs valued at $8,865,050.

- Bulk Currency Smuggling Task Force has seen an increase in seizures of Heroin / Fentanyl, Marijuana, and Methamphetamine.

- Montgomery County Drug-Free Coalition expanded from 3 to 7 law enforcement blitzes.

- Montgomery County Drug-Free Coalition has conducted 10 Right Time Faith Based Town Halls.
HARM REDUCTION
Increase capacity of harm reduction programming to effectively provide overdose prevention and engage clients in support services

- Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone) expanded training to community agencies, businesses, and community events.

- Public Health partnered with Project DAWN to provide training to businesses who wish to keep Narcan on site.

- CarePoint Syringe Services through Public Health expanded from 1 to 3 sites and now furnishes Narcan to the public.

- Dayton Police Department manages the Narcan repository for Montgomery County. Twenty law enforcement departments and five other first responder agencies are now carrying Narcan with 2,507 doses delivered 2017.

- Partnership formed between Dayton Police Department and Public Health to furnish Narcan to the public.

- Public Health’s Overdose Outreach Program expanded to furnish Narcan to individuals who have overdosed and / or family members.
CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES
Expand access to and utilization of treatment options in the criminal justice system

- Montgomery County Juvenile Court established a Family Treatment Court.

- ADAMHS expanded court ordered behavioral health assessment services in the county jail.

- Project DAWN provides monthly trainings at the county jail, the STOP Program, and the MonDay facility for people preparing to be released from these correction facilities.
EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Raise awareness and knowledge of the dangers of opioids and illicit drug misuse by implementing public awareness activities

- GROW (Getting Recovery Options Working) through the Montgomery County Drug-Free Coalition expanded from 1 outreach program with the Dayton Police and East End Community Services, to 7 police departments to provide outreach to individuals who have overdosed.

- Public Health expanded outreach to individuals who have overdosed in Miamisburg, Miami Township, West Carrollton, Germantown, German Township, and those involved with the Miamisburg Municipal Court.

- Dayton Police, Dayton Fire / EMS, and Miamisburg Police Department added full-time staff to the GROW teams.

- GROW Blitzes began through the Montgomery County Drug-Free Coalition to target specific neighborhoods throughout the county by going door to door to provide information on available services.

- DEA 360 strategy was implemented. DEA 360 held a community summit at Wright State University, sponsored a 5K run, and offered several educational opportunities for the community.
• ADAMHS launched the Think Again media campaign to educate and confront the stigma around addiction. The campaign went on to win a 2017 Bronze Hermes / ADDY® Advertising Award.

• Mobile target advertising was completed with Fox 45 in high risk zip code areas.

• The Voices Project was launched by Indigo Life Media. 26 video stories of hope will be produced featuring people in recovery.

• 4 Conversations For Change events were held by East End Community Services and Dayton Police Department. These events are open to the public to learn about treatment and other community resources and receive Narcan training.
**JOINT INFORMATION CENTER**

The Joint Information Center (JIC) provided coordinated messaging between members of the COAT and in response to local, national and international media requests. The JIC presented monthly media briefings to highlight progress of the COAT initiatives.

**DATA UNIT**

The Data Unit provided weekly updates on overdose death numbers that are published on the Public Health and Montgomery County Coroner’s office websites. The Data Unit also provided EpiCenter alerts when drug overdose numbers exceeded a threshold in the emergency rooms. The Data Unit provided a six month and annual report that is available at www.phdmc.org.

**2018 GOALS**

- Continue our coordinated COAT strategy to achieve collective impact
- Continue to use data to establish COAT strategic directions
- Continue to seek federal and state funding that aligns with COAT initiatives
- Increase businesses who adopt Drug-Free Workplace policies
- Partner with businesses to increase employment opportunities for those in recovery
- Increase community-wide and youth-led prevention programs
- Strengthen partnerships with faith communities
- Continue media messaging to educate people on available treatment options
- Increase media campaigning to reduce stigma of mental illness and addiction through the Think Again Campaign, #Voices Project (Indigo Media), speaking engagements, and town hall meetings
- Increase certified Peer Recovery Supporters
- Increase Narcan distribution and outreach
- Expand and enhance syringe services
- Improve coordination of recovery club organizations

**SPECIAL THANKS**

On behalf of the Backbone Support, we want to thank all members of the COAT who have come together to address this opioid crisis. Your dedication and commitment to Montgomery County has been far reaching. We applaud all the efforts that were completed this year and look forward to all the great work that will be accomplished in the coming years. Thank you for being a part of this collective impact approach. “Alone we can do so little: Together we can do so much.” – Helen Keller
Community Overdose Action Team
*Working Together To Combat Opioid Overdoses*

Dayton & Montgomery County

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

FOR MORE INFORMATION
937-225-5700 OR PHDMC.ORG/COAT