OVERVIEW

The Georgia Opioid State Targeted Response is a SAMHSA funded program that addresses the opioid crisis. DBHDD was awarded $11,782,710 for year one (May 1, 2017 - April 30, 2018) as the only eligible applicant in Georgia. This project will develop a targeted response to the opioid crisis in Georgia through prevention, treatment, and recovery initiatives. Project activities will strengthen infrastructure, focus on addressing gaps in evidence-based practices and services, and create a continuum of prevention and recovery-oriented treatment. Strategies and interventions have been established for prevention, treatment, and recovery.

Data & Need

In 2015, 1,307 people died from a drug overdose in Georgia.

- 68% of Georgia overdose deaths were due to opioids
- Between 1999 and 2014:
  - Prescription opioid overdose increased 10-fold
- In 2014:
  - 55 Georgia counties had overdose rates higher than the U.S. average

Project Goals

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities' (DBHDD) state targeted response to the opioid crisis will...

- Increase awareness
- Provide Training
- Expand Services
- Increase Peer Support
- Support Infrastructure
- Implement New Services
- Combat Overdoses
- Educate Community
- Support Many Pathways to Recovery

The next page provides additional detail regarding strategies and activities DBHDD will implement in the state targeted response.
Statewide Media Campaign

The media campaign will increase awareness about opioid misuse and abuse, provide education about the problem and available resources, reduce stigma, and increase awareness and understanding of Georgia’s Good Samaritan Law.

**Prevention activities include:**
- A kickoff event
- PSAs
- Radio ads

Naloxone Education & Training

This component will provide Naloxone/NARCAN training for first responders and people in the community (ambulance drivers, emergency room professionals, fire fighters, police officers, community service boards, etc.).

**Prevention activities include:**
- Distribution of Naloxone/NARCAN kits
- Training and education events

School Mentor & SPF Opioid Pilot Programs

The School Transition Mentor Program will develop an opioid prevention education program and tool kit for use during key transitional periods. The SPF* pilot program will increase the number of SPF prescription drug prevention providers in Georgia, with an opioid focus.

**Prevention activities include:**
- Increasing awareness
- Education/training
- Improving collaboration and coordination of prevention

*For more information on the SPF process visit www.samhsa.gov.

Expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment

Expansion of available treatment services for individuals with opioid use disorder with limited resources who experience barriers to access to services and medication

**Activities include:**
- Expand detox capacity
- Increase residential bed capacity
- Provide training on best practices
- Provide MAT pharmacy benefit

Recovery Services and Peer Support

Recovery services will include increasing peer support throughout the state and implementing new recovery approaches to educate on the many pathways of recovery and enhance collaboration in recovery-oriented system of care

**Activities include:**
- Implementing Peer Support Warm Line
- Peer specialist in hospital ER
- Training and education events

Treatment & Recovery Grantees

- St. Jude’s Recovery Center
- Grady Health System
- Southside Medical Center
- Newport Integrated Behavioral Health Recovery Place
- Advantage Behavioral Health Systems
- Avita Community Partners
- Unison Behavioral Health
- Georgia Council on Substance Abuse
- Georgia Addiction Recovery Residences
- Navigate Recovery Gwinnett
- Atlanta Harm Reduction Coalition
- Georgia Department Of Community Supervision

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