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## Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis Grants

*February 28, 2017*

**Grant Summary:** The grant aims to address the opioid crisis by increasing access to treatment, reducing unmet treatment need, and reducing opioid overdose deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment, and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (including both prescription opioids and illicit drugs, such as heroin). The funds must be spent on maximizing existing funding streams in the current system, with 80% of the dollars being allocated toward treatment and recovery support services.

**DBHDD Response:** As the Single State Agency (SSA), DBHDD is the only eligible applicant for the grant. DBHDD submitted an application by the posted deadline of February 17, 2017, for the full amount of Georgia's allocation, \$11,782,710. DBHDD engaged treatment and recovery stakeholders and used previous strategic planning input in the planning of the grant application.

**Population to be Served:** Treatment funds will serve 2,030 people in year 1 and 3,628 in year 2, for a total of 5,658 people. It is estimated that 750 first responders and other stakeholders will be trained in year 1 and 1,500 in year 2.

**Project Summary:** The Georgia Opioid State Targeted Response project will develop a targeted response to the opioid crisis in the state through prevention, treatment, and recovery initiatives. Project activities will strengthen infrastructure and focus on addressing gaps in evidence-based practices and services, and creating a continuum of prevention and recovery-oriented treatment. Strategies/interventions have been established for prevention, treatment, and recovery.

### **Prevention activities will include:**

1. A statewide media campaign on opioid misuse and abuse.
2. An increase in the number of Strategic Prevention Framework opioid pilot programs.
3. A school transition mentor pilot for opioid/prescription drug misuse and abuse prevention.
4. Naloxone education and training for first responders, law enforcement, and public safety.

### **Treatment and recovery activities will include:**

1. Expansion of detox capacity by eight beds across two providers in two locations.
2. Increased bed capacity at one provider site by four intensive residential beds, eight semi-dependent beds, and eight independent beds.
3. Implementation of peer specialist programs in two hospital emergency departments.

4. Employment of four part-time staff to ensure fidelity to Georgia Association of Recovery Residences housing standards.
5. Requiring each treatment provider expanding medication assisted treatment (MAT) services to employ a peer specialist to engage individuals and link them to treatment resources.
6. Providing training about recovery from opioid use disorder for state behavioral health, children and family, corrections, and other stakeholders.
7. Implementing a warm line run by peers.
8. Implementing MAT via a pharmacy benefit in eight treatment provider locations.
9. Implementation of a Department of Community Supervision MAT Vivitrol pilot.

**Project goals: Eight project goals with measurable objectives have been established**

1. Increase awareness about opioid misuse and abuse, and provide training for the public, communities, schools, and first responders to prevent opioid misuse and abuse in Georgia.
2. Expand detox services for individuals with an opioid use disorder in targeted areas.
3. Expand access/bed capacity of residential services for individuals with an opioid use disorder in targeted areas.
4. Incorporate certified peer specialists in identified emergency departments to ensure immediate connection for individuals who have experienced an opioid overdose or individuals with an opioid use disorder who are presenting for services.
5. Establish funding to support the infrastructure of recovery transitional housing.
6. Expand/develop recovery support services for individuals with an opioid use disorder.
7. Implement a warm line, run by peers, for individuals struggling with opioid use disorder.
8. Develop MAT clinic based capacity for DEA approved medications.