

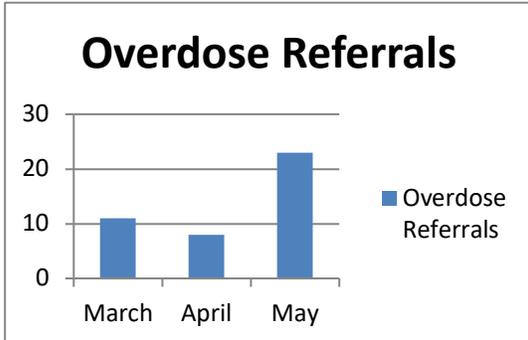
WAYNE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Overdose Prevention Quarterly Report

March 2020 - May 2020

July 2020

Despite the concentrated worldwide focus on combatting the invisible enemy COVID-19, Wayne County has not lost sight of the opioid epidemic and its impact on our community. As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise, the impact of COVID-19 on populations with opioid use also worsen. The data below depict the number of opioid overdoses referred



to the health department for additional services over a 3-month period, starting just before the NC Stay At Home Order went into effect and ending when the State transitioned to Phase 2 reopening. Over this period, there was an initial decline in referred overdoses, followed by a dramatic increase in referred overdoses. As a result, we adopted new strategies to strengthen our prevention efforts to include marketing

our prevention webpage for online referrals, expanding community access to Peer Support Specialist services, increasing the availability of Narcan within the community, and expanding the Wayne County S3 program.

Quarterly Snapshot

#Overdose Referrals Received = 29

#Narcan Trainings = 2

#Participants Trained on Narcan = 3

#Narcan Kits Dispensed = 2

*"Success is a journey,
not a destination."*

Ben Sweetland

Wayne County S3



Syringe Support
Services

"I almost died due to using an unclean needle. Using an unclean needle caused me to have a serious blood infection and the doctor told me that I could have dropped dead at any time." Wayne County Resident



Wayne County S3 is a community-based syringe services program registered through the NC Division of Public Health. Tailored social and medical services are provided on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Wednesday of every month at the HDGC Community Crisis Center. As a result of the coronavirus pandemic, the months of April and May posed several challenges for the program. The decision was made to suspend services for participants, staff, and the program until the mandated restrictions are relaxed and permission to resume is granted by our community partner. Program staff recognize the stress this may cause some of our most vulnerable populations. We are hoping to resume services as soon as possible.

Wayne County Detention Center Substance Misuse Program

Update

In order to protect the inmates during COVID-19, only necessary personnel were allowed inside the detention center forcing the start of the program to be delayed. In the meantime, in an effort to increase services and resources for those with an opioid use disorder, various organizations convened and used the time wisely to apply for federal funding. The Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program (COSSAP) grant funded by the U.S. Department of Justice works to improve access to Medication Assisted Therapy and implement a collaborative approach of integrated behavioral health, care coordination and recovery support for individuals of the target population. If awarded, it will create a structured network of local services solidifying the challenge to start medical treatment from within the jail and continuing those services once an inmate is released to reduce recidivism and future overdoses. Final arrangements are being made for One to One with Youth, Inc. and the Day Reporting Center (DRC) to begin the process of providing services to inmates released into the custody of the DRC.

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Starting in

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ANNOUNCING A NEW PROGRAM FOR WAYNE COUNTY!

The Overdose Prevention Coordinator is instrumental in coordinating the unprecedented Youth4Success program between the Boys and Girls Club of Wayne County and Positive Influences, Inc.

Youth4Success is a tailored professional substance treatment program to address the needs of the Boys and Girls Club members. This is more than just a lesson on how to say no to drugs. Each week, the Boys and Girls Club member joins this program to learn how to manage their feelings, develop academic skills, improve communication skills, improve social skills, and access treatment for substance abuse, if needed. The program also offers specialized treatment plans for members participating with the program and supportive guidance for parents with concerns about their child.

What Can You Do?

- **Help us get the word out!** Many people do not know how to access services that are affordable for them. Even though we strive to provide more options for our community, we have some resources for treatment. Please encourage them to reach out. They can call the number listed below or contact us via our webpage at:
<https://www.waynegov.com/915/Overdose-Prevention>
- **Make a referral.** Fill out the referral form on the Overdose Prevention webpage which is submitted confidentially to the OPC. The information will be shared with a Peer Support Specialist to make contact and provide support.
- **Support our efforts.** Stay plugged into developing programs, attend events, and participate with CALM, Wayne County's Substance Use Coalition. Your presence and support is very important. We encourage residents to make suggestions or voice concerns! They help us better serve our community.

"You try to search for help on Google and find advertisements to go to Florida for treatment. Then if you find something local, it costs \$600 to go. It's always expensive. If we hadn't called the Wayne County Health Department, we would not have known where to go for treatment."

- Wayne County Resident

THANK YOU

At this time, the OPC would like to thank all that met and participated during this quarter. The OPC had meetings with the following (listed in alphabetical order): 4 Day Movement; Boys and Girls Club of Wayne County; CALM; Carolina Treatment Center; Community Crisis Center; Eastpointe; Day Reporting Center; Mental Health Association; One to One with Youth, Inc.; Positive Influences, Inc.; Primary Health Choice; Wayne County Detention Center; Wayne County EMS; Wayne Pregnancy Center and Wayne UNC.

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