Human Services Programs and the Opioid Crisis
10.3 million people misused opioids in the past year
- 9.9 million misused pain relievers
- 808,000 used heroin
- 506,000 both misused pain relievers and heroin

from 11.4 million (2017)

2.0 million people had an opioid use disorder
- 1.7 million people with a prescription pain reliever use disorder
- 526,000 people with a heroin use disorder
- 226,000 had both pain reliever and heroin use disorders

Main reasons for opioid misuse: Pain 63.6%

51.3% obtained the last pain reliever they misused from a friend or relative

37.6% prescribed by a healthcare provider. Only 2% received from >1 provider

NSDUH, 2018 Data; published Aug. 2019
PROPORTION OF DEATHS RELATED TO OPIOIDS

“The Burden of Opioid-Related Mortality in the United States”

June 2018
“Right now, we have more children between birth and five in shelters and in group care than we’ve ever had… and that may very well be a function of opioids,” said Larry Rein, the Executive Director of ChildNet.

TANF, child support, and related programs can help families affected by OUD find economic stability

Head Start and child care providers can provide education to families and a safe, loving environment for children

NEWBORN VICTIMS OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Outcomes in the Fetus
• Growth restriction
• Prematurity
• Death

Outcomes in the Newborn
• Low birthweight
• Small head circumference
• Neonatal abstinence syndrome

Outcomes in the Child
• Developmental disorders

Source: AHRQ HCUP State Inpatient Databases

McQueen, NEJM 2016
MENTAL DISORDERS AMONG CHILDREN BORN WITH NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME (NAS) (%)

- Any mental disorder
- Specific delays in development
- Disturbance of conduct
- Hyperkinetic syndrome of childhood
- Adjustment reaction
- Acute reaction to stress
- Neurotic disorders

Other Births (N=269,726) vs. NAS Births (N=1,046)

Sherman, Psychiatric Services 2018; 00:1; doi: 10.1176/appi.ps.201800341
INFECTION CONSEQUENCES OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

- HIV
- Hepatitis C
- Hepatitis B
- Endocarditis
- Skin, bone, and joint infections

National Academies Workshop
Sponsored by OASH, Report July 2018
HHS 5-POINT STRATEGY TO COMBAT THE OPIOIDS CRISIS

1. Better addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services
2. Better data
3. Better pain management
4. Better targeting of overdose reversing drugs
5. Better research

https://www.hhs.gov/opioids/
U.S. DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS
THE MOST CRITICAL PUBLIC HEALTH CHALLENGE OF OUR TIME

Deaths Decreased 5% from 2017 to 2018

SOURCE: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System, Mortality
WHAT IS EVIDENCE-BASED TREATMENT?

- FDA-approved Medication (MAT)
  - **Naltrexone**: once a month injectable medication, blocks effects of opioids (any prescriber)
  - **Buprenorphine** (usually with naloxone): once daily/once monthly, partial agonist opioid from prescribers (DATA 2000 waivered prescribers)
  - **Methadone**: long acting, once-daily, opioid from specially licensed programs (OTP programs only)

- Psychosocial Therapies
  - Contingency management, family therapy, cognitive behavioral therapy, others

- **Recovery Services - Rebuilding One’s Life**
  - Social supports to welcome into a healthy community: family, friends, peers, faith-based supports
  - Assistance with needs that can impact treatment - recovery housing, transportation and child care
  - Employment/vocational training/education

- **Naloxone**
TRANSFORM TO A SUSTAINABLE MODEL

Transition from a “crisis framework” into an integrated, sustainable, predictable, and resilient public health system for preventing and treating substance use and other behavioral health disorders.
MATERNAL OPIOID MISUSE MODEL

The primary goals of the MOM Model are to:
- Improve quality of care and reduce costs for pregnant and postpartum women with OUD and their infants
- Expand access, service-delivery capacity, and infrastructure based on state-specific needs
- Create sustainable coverage and payment strategies that support ongoing coordination and integration of care

Requires
- Comprehensive care management
- Care coordination
- Health promotion
- Individual and family support
- Referral to family and social services
THE FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN SERVICE ISSUE

We must understand, engage, and remedy the underlying root causes of addiction, suicides, and other behavioral health issues.

Science

RESEARCH ARTICLE SUMMARY

PUBLIC HEALTH  Sept 21, 2018

Changing dynamics of the drug overdose epidemic in the United States from 1979 through 2016

Hawre Jalal, Jeanise M. Buchanich, Mark S. Roberts, Lauren C. Balmert, Kun Zhang, Donald S. Burke

O F F I C E O F T H E A S S I S T A N T S E C R E T A R Y F O R H E A L T H