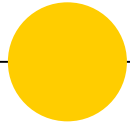


# Wicomico County Response to Opioid Crisis

Lori Brewster, MS, APRN/BC, LCADC  
Health Officer



June 15, 2018

# What Was the Problem?

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- Discussions began in March of 2016 between State's Attorney and Health Officer;
- Seeing a significant rise in both fatal and non-fatal overdoses;
- **44 overdoses per month** in Emergency Department the months of March and April 2016;
- **100 overdoses** in Emergency Dept in 2015;
- Multiple Fentanyl related deaths;
- Knew we could not address with prosecution alone;
- Needed a more comprehensive solution.



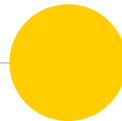
## **What Was the Plan?**

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- **Community Outreach for Addictions Treatment (COAT).**
- **One year Pilot project aimed at reducing overdoses.**
  - **Budget of \$125,000**
- **Goal was to identify individuals in need of education and outreach and provide “bridge” services from point of identification to treatment access.**

# How Did the Program Progress?

- Hired peer support specialists;
- Began to make visits with law enforcement to “hotspot” areas to provide education and outreach in June 2016;
- Made contact with overdose victims to attempt to link with services:
  - Receiving overdose crime data
  - Receiving overdose ED data



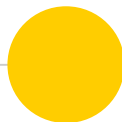
# What are the Outcomes?

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June 2016 – February 2018

- 515 individuals served
- 250 have engaged in treatment
  - Wic residents – 54% engagement
- Several hundred outreach efforts conducted
- 1990 contacts/attempts
- 34% decrease in ED overdoses for 2017

**COAT Program has been designated a Promising Practice** from NACCHO (National Association of City and County Health Officials).





## Additional Outcomes, 1st 9 months of 2017

Comparing 1st 9 months of 2017 to 2016.....Data from  
MDH 2017 Quarterly Report - 3rd Quarter

	Total Drug & Alcohol-Related Deaths	Total Opioid-Related Deaths	Total Fentanyl- Related Deaths
Wicomico County	32% Decrease	42% Decrease	39 % Decrease
Statewide Average	<b>12% Increase</b>	<b>12% Increase</b>	<b>56% Increase</b>



## **Formal Program Evaluation Conducted**

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**Results include:**

- **ROI = \$1:\$6.66**
- **62.68% higher rate than the nation in assisting addicts into rehab**
- **Recommendations**



## Next Steps?

- Leveraging of other funding
  - Safe Streets
  - Substance Exposed Newborns
- Continued level funding from City of Salisbury
- Expanded funding from Wicomico County



# Questions?



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

**Wicomico County  
Health Department**

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