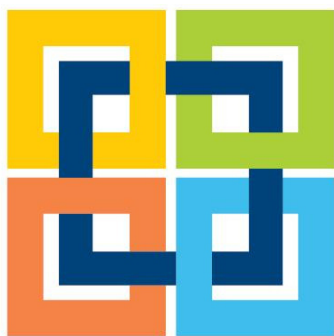




# ANNUAL REPORT

## STATE OF THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC



**Hamilton County  
Addiction Response  
Coalition**

formerly known as the Hamilton County Heroin Coalition

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# HC ARC STEERING COMMITTEE

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## **Executive Chair**

Commissioner Denise Driehaus

## **Director**

John Young

## **Program Administrator**

Meagan Gosney

## **Prevention Committee**

Nicole Schiesler, PreventionFIRST!  
Leah Dennis-Ellsworth, UMADAOP

## **Treatment Committee**

Neil Tilow, Talbert House  
Patrick Tribbe, Mental Health and  
Recovery Services Board

## **Interdiction Committee**

Chief Tom Synan, Village of  
Newtown

District Chief Carstell Winston,  
Cincinnati Fire Department  
Trina Jackson, Hamilton County  
Office of Reentry

## **Harm Reduction Committee**

Dr. Jennifer Mooney, Hamilton  
County Public Health  
Sara Bolton, The Health  
Collaborative

## **Faith Committee**

Rev. Lesley Jones, Truth & Destiny  
Covenant Ministries  
Rev. Dr. Alphonse Allen, Allen  
Temple AME

## **Business Committee**

J.B. Buse, LOTH Holdings, LLC

# EXECUTIVE CHAIR'S STATEMENT



As the COVID-19 Pandemic tore through our nation, bringing new challenges and changes to our very way of life, the epidemic of addiction did not take a break. Pandemic-related stress and isolation made the difficult work of HC ARC more difficult in 2020. Despite those challenges, the members of HC ARC continued to innovate and collaborate to restore lives in Hamilton County.

The HC ARC is an action team that connects people to the right resources and treatments. We address addiction through comprehensive solutions. This inter-system cooperation is built on four pillars: prevention, treatment, interdiction, and harm reduction. These pillars represent the areas of expertise of those serving on the subcommittees of the HC ARC. Additionally, we have engaged local governments, the business community, hospitals, and the faith community to help strengthen our work.

The following document was created using information provided to us from coalition members to give the Hamilton County community insight into the magnitude of the problem of addiction, a better understanding of the work of the HC ARC and its partners, a synopsis of what strategies have led to positive outcomes, and an overview of what we hope to accomplish in the coming year. A special thanks goes to the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners for their ongoing support and commitment to addressing the addiction crisis in our community.

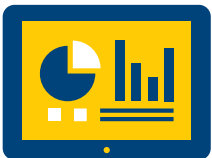
*-Commissioner Denise Driehaus, Executive Chair*

# PREVENTION COMMITTEE

Committee chaired by:  
Nicole Schiesler, PreventionFIRST!  
Leah Dennis-Ellsworth, UMADAOP

The work of the Prevention Committee is focused on four prevention strategies: provide information/public awareness, build skills/education, reduce access/availability, and modify policy.

## Prevention Committee Goals & Initiatives:



Data collection and analysis to better understand the current and local youth opioid, and prescription medication issues in the community.



Change the community norm that youth prescription/opioid consumption is acceptable through community education.



Decrease easy access and availability of prescription drugs and opioids for youth through prescriber education and by increasing awareness and availability of safe storage and prescription drug disposal options.



Improve policy related to effective prevention education for youth in schools.

The HC ARC Prevention Committee through UMADAOP has leveraged SORs (State Opioid Response) funding to expand our community-based outreach messaging campaign. Collaborative strategies increased to reach to 2,500 contacts in 2020 overall.

UMADAOP has continued to pursue its Faith-based and community partnerships to disseminate information and community engagement awareness. This has included community food pop-ups, faith-based drive-in movies with infomercials, faith-based youth series on drug misuse and how to get help, conducted a community council drug education series, executed a 20-week radio campaign (Reducing the Stigma) which yielded 100,722 impressions and 81 subsequent clicks, UMADAOP was a presenter at the 2020 Annual PreventionFIRST! Coalition Academy, and participated in Red Ribbon week through the Cincinnati Recreation Commission (CRC) and reached over 100 people.

Coordinated by prevention consultant, the Faith-based community of New Prospect and Christ Temple Church implemented parent training and SEL (Social Emotion Learning) prevention youth classes for grades second through fifth grade to address COVID-19 and student academic gaps. The fifth grade group is facilitated by UMADAOP prevention staff. Total of 20 students. Classes have continued for 2021.

The Prevention Committee has maintained partnerships with local Hospice organizations and transition centers to distribute Detera bags for safe medication disposal. The Committee promoted Take Charge Ohio - available in partnership with the Ohio Department of Health. The "Take Charge Ohio" materials encourage the safe and responsible use of pain medication to help minimize the risk of drug misuse, dependency, and addiction.

Truth and Destiny Church and the University of Cincinnati AOD Coalition distributed drop box location flyers, promoted monitor/secure/dispose, gave out bags, hosted community events/conversation encouraging the use of evidence-based prevention strategies.

PreventionFIRST! held two of their annual events virtually this year. The first, the Annual PreventionFIRST! Coalition Academy in September with over 100 participants attending and the second, the Annual PreventionFIRST! Youth Summit in December with 32 participants attending.

PreventionFIRST! also implemented "Parenting for Prevention" in Spanish - a training and booklet that teaches caregivers how to discuss the prevention of substance use/misuse with the young people in their lives. 2020 was the first time this training was translated and delivered in Spanish.



# INTERDICTION COMMITTEE

Committee chaired by:

Chief Tom Synan, Village of Newtown

District Chief Carstell Winston, Cincinnati Fire Department

Trina Jackson, Hamilton County Office of Reentry

The Interdiction Committee focuses on law enforcement, including supply reduction and diversion. This committee has undertaken the job of influencing policy change at the local and state level.

## Interdiction Committee Goals & Initiatives:



Expand the One-Stop Resource Center services as well as partner with Northern Kentucky officials and coordinate events so both sides of the river have resources available to those in need.



Expand and Enhance the LEAD project throughout Hamilton County



Continue our partnerships with our federal partners, legislators and Congress supporting laws that assist reducing the amount of fentanyl coming into the United States as well as legislation that increases the capabilities for communities to provide treatment and longer term care.



Continue working with state legislatures to either pass updates to Ohio's version of Casey's Law either in SB3 or a stand alone Bill.



Continue to assist and partner with other communities building coalitions, sharing resources and ideas.



Whether it is first responders saving lives, interventions with the county-wide Quick Response Team (QRT), continuum of care and linkages with the LEAD program or the ongoing support of the Hamilton County One-Stop Resource Center, the Interdiction Committee has grown into the connector to link and maintain care for those with substance use disorder.

The Interdiction Committee's ability to respond promptly and effectively during the COVID-19 pandemic was in large part to the partnerships established under the Coalition. The robust membership of local, state, and federal Coalition partners enabled information sharing as it relates to drug intelligence and helped detect early that as COVID originated out of China, so too did fentanyl and its precursors to make it. This led the Committee to express concerns to HC ARC of the potential drug supply disruptions in regard to fentanyl. The pairing of fentanyl supply disruptions and COVID-19 lockdowns were big "red flags." HC ARC not only had the foresight to recognize but also transition to weekly meetings in order to share intelligence, data, and pertinent information both pre- and post-lockdowns. Meeting weekly allowed for education, adaptation of harm reduction and treatment techniques, and gave us the ability to brace the system for the impacts of COVID-19.

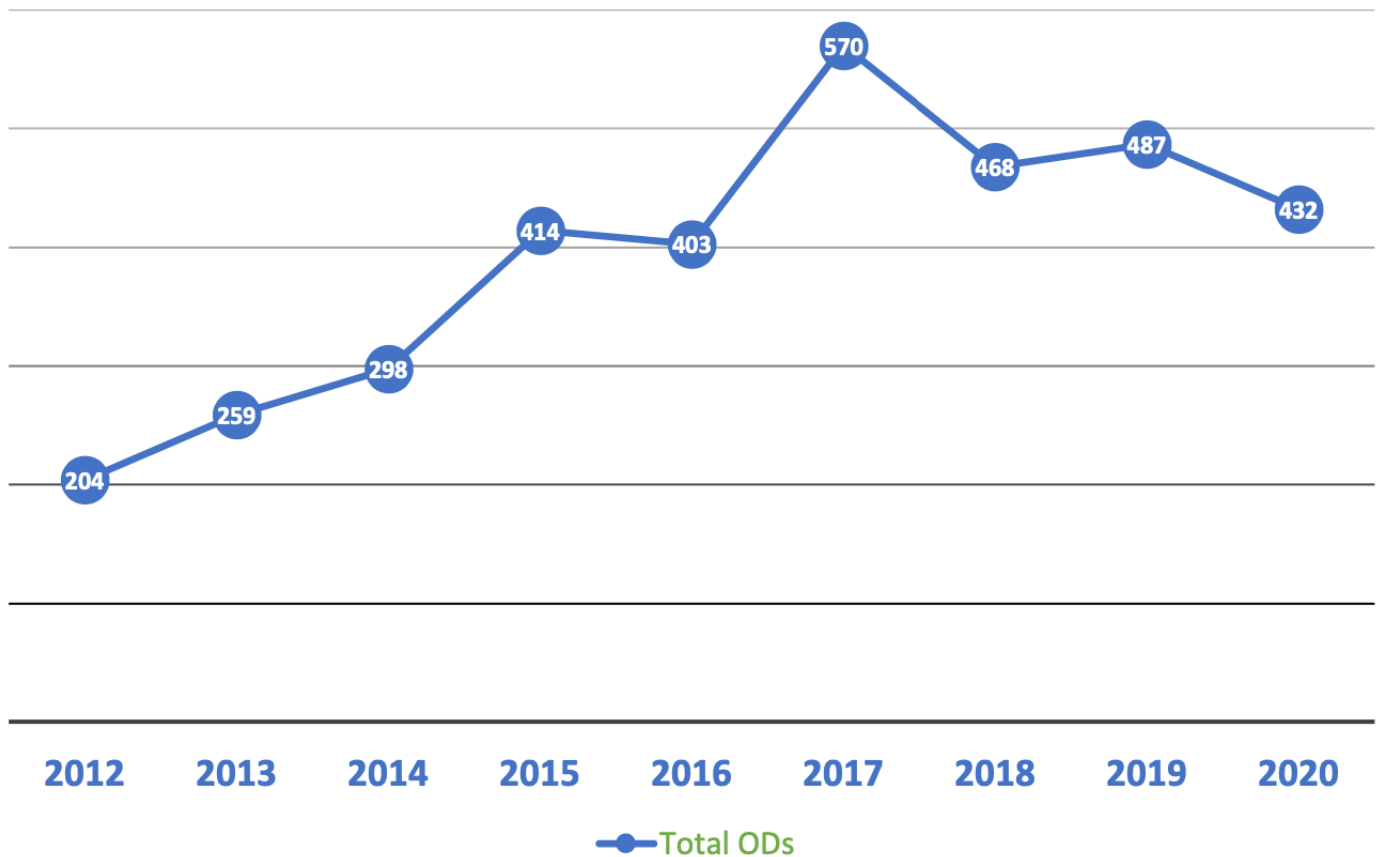
Unfortunately, COVID-19 had an impact on the initiatives housed in the Interdiction Committee such as QRT, LEAD, and the One-Stop Resource Center. However, due to our strong relationships, we have not only bounced back but have also learned valuable lessons and strategies that will enhance current programs and make better system-wide connections in 2021.

In early 2021, the Committee will be finalizing its comprehensive response to expand and enhance current programming, as well as launch the Hotspot Initiative. The Initiative focuses on uniting resources like never before within Hamilton County's hardest hit addiction communities. Although a data subcommittee has already begun sharing raw data, this group will soon transition into a "all resources on deck" committee that will work in tandem, using "actionable data," on planned and coordinated responses in hotspot locations. The Initiative will connect human intervention with actionable data. We will be changing the goal post with an emphasis on success being defined as a reduction in overdoses and overdose deaths, a reduction in the community factors that impact those with substance use disorder and the community, and to get more individuals back into the system of care and into long-term recovery supports. The Hotspot Initiative will do this by sharing data, enhancing current programs, strengthening our partnerships and connecting those partnerships from the front-- in between-- end of the addiction cycle and response.

We are in the final stages of data development and evaluation, committee assignments, and partnership agreements. The Interdiction Committee is confident that the Hotspot Initiative will not work without the great work and collaboration of all of our Coalition partners, who have truly gone above and beyond during the difficult times of COVID-19. We are hoping in 2021 there is more hope we can make a difference in the lives of those we serve.



### Total Overdose Deaths



*\*Total overdose death counts include any overdose death that occurred within Hamilton County, as of February 2021. The count continues to be finalized. This count does not necessarily reflect Hamilton County resident deaths. These statistics are courtesy of the Hamilton County Coroner's Office.*

## Heroin Task Force 2020

### 2020 Investigative Caseload

- 186 cases initiated, a 19% decrease from 2019
- 175 were heroin/opiate overdose death investigations totaling 176 deaths, a 21% decrease from 2019
- 7 were non-fatal overdose investigations
- 4 were heroin/opiate related drug investigations

### 2020 Drugs Recovered

- 30g Fentanyl
- 659.4g Cocaine
- 9.9g Heroin
- 46.6g Acetyl Fentanyl
- 18.3g Acetyl Fentanyl/Heroin Mixture
- 88g Methamphetamine
- 19.5g Other Synthetics

Between the months of March through November there were no drugs seized due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

# COUNTY-WIDE QUICK RESPONSE TEAM PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



The County-wide Quick Response Team (QRT) consists of local law enforcement officers and local fire/paramedic personnel, peer recovery coaches, and social service agencies who provide "In-home" triage and assessment of overdose victims with the immediate goal of connecting the overdose victim with the most appropriate treatment specific to their needs.

The QRT has been in operation since April, 2018. The team visits the Eastside of Hamilton County on Tuesdays and the Westside on Fridays. To date, 58% of contacted individuals have been referred or connected to recovery support services.

## 30-Months of County-wide QRT Activity

1175 Total Eligible Referrals

66% Male

Average Age - 37 years old

## **QRT EXPANSION 2020 COSSAP AWARD NOTIFICATION**

On October 16, 2020, HC ARC was notified by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs that the County's application for funding to enhance and expand our county-wide QRT program, under the FY 20 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program (COSSAP), was approved in the amount of \$1,000,000.

The expansion will provide funds for the current QRT team, which operates two days a week- one day on the East side of the County and one day on the West Side of the County, to transition to a full-time, five day per week program. The expansion will provide traditional QRT outreach as well as targeted hotspot outreach. The expansion can bring QRT to the next level to leverage existing data to make informed decisions about overdose, crime, and other related drug activity hotspots in our community and provide targeted, as well as on-the-ground networking and partnerships with community members.

This, a preventative and proactive approach to the QRT model, may go far to help people not traditionally being reached for services and people who are at risk for overdose--to ultimately reduce overdoses and the subsequent challenges and burdens it places on systems.

The COSSAP Award funding is through September 2023.

# LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTED DIVERSION PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Hamilton County Justice Center was designed for 840 people, yet each month, 1,300 people often occupy the jail daily. A large percentage of these inmates have been arrested and incarcerated multiple times due to addiction, mental illness, or homelessness.

The Hamilton County LEAD initiative aims to stop the cycle of arrest by diverting low-level criminal offenses from the justice system to an intensive case-management program where individuals receive a wide range of support services. Cincinnati Police Officers in District 1 and the Central Business District utilize their discretion to divert low-level, non-violent male and female offenders who may be driven to offend due to untreated addiction, mental health conditions, homelessness, or poverty into the program. Diversions are conducted two ways- arrest diversions or social contact referrals.

LEAD launched in the summer of 2020 and most recently expanded into the Colerain and Norwood areas at the beginning of February. Funding is through September 2021.

## 6-Months of pilot LEAD Activity

69% Social Contact Referrals

To date, 67% of approved LEAD diversions have been referred or connected to recovery support services.

67% Female

22% Minorities

Average Age - 34 years old

## Immediate Needs Breakdown:

44% of LEAD participants identified co-occurring mental health *and* addiction treatment as their immediate need.

11% of LEAD participants identified as needing mental health treatment or recovery supports

11% of LEAD participants identified as needing addiction treatment or recovery supports

33% of LEAD participants identified as homeless or needing shelter



# CINCINNATI FIRE DEPARTMENT ET3 INITIATIVE FOR ADDICTION TREATMENT PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Cincinnati Fire Department intends to focus on stable opioid overdose patients for potential alternative destination transports. We will partner with an opioid use disorder treatment center to provide the potential for 24/7 evaluation and enrollment for patients deemed appropriate to bypass the transitional emergency department pathway. These patients will include patients with no other medical complaints for which they are requesting evaluation, normal vital signs, normal mental status, and a normal blood glucose.

Addiction Service Centers - these centers are ideal for the ET3 Model. Many overdose survivors are transported to emergency departments where the treatment/services they require are not available purely because there are no other options available to 911 responders. This partnership provides this much needed option. After undergoing medical screening for appropriateness, these patients will be transported to a facility capable to continuing basic medical monitoring while providing valuable treatment for substance use disorder, without the unnecessary interim cost of the emergency department.

The Cincinnati Fire Department views this new initiative as a patient centric program that will get patients the help they really need and require.

# TREATMENT COMMITTEE

Committee chaired by:

Neil Tilow, Talbert House

Patrick Tribbe, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board

Ongoing efforts have been made to outreach to individuals and families who need treatment, ensure access to treatment, continue to reduce barriers to treatment and initiate strategies for engagement.

## Treatment Committee Goals & Initiatives:



Maximize access to Federal, state and local funding for community based treatment for addictive disease.



Continue to focus efforts on increasing access to treatment for minority communities.



Continue to work with the AAEW group to assist in community engagement for individuals and families with addictive disorders.



Analyze data related to efficacy of treatment services and routinely report the results to the Coalition.

The Hamilton County Mental Health and Recovery Services Board (HCMHRS) has received \$3,185,980 from OhioMHAS in State Opiate Response (SOR) 2.0 grant funding, with additional authorization to use \$3,146,970 in No Cost Extension funding (NCE).

The SOR 2.0 funds will provide support for individuals with opioid and/or stimulant use disorders and other co-occurring substance use disorders. The NCE funds will provide support for persons with opiate use disorders only.

Funding will be used to sustain, expand and enhance an array of projects supporting our Recovery Oriented System of Care in Hamilton County, to include; prevention, outreach and engagement of under-served communities, core treatment services, medication assisted services, peer supports and recovery housing, workforce innovations, and family supports.

Critical projects such as the Engagement Center, peer support services and expanding medication assisted treatment services in the community will be sustained, but also new projects will be implemented including programming for youth with support for their families, as well as a day program for individuals who are homeless with opiate or stimulant use disorders.

The HCMHRS Board application was \$6,338,775 with 11 different providers and 23 projects and our award was \$6.4M. Funding is through September 2021.





# ENGAGEMENT CENTER PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Engagement Center, operated by Talbert House is a 20 Bed Withdrawal Management (3.2) and Short-Term Residential Treatment (3.1) program opened May of 2018.

The primary goal of the Center is to assist individuals with withdrawal from Opioids and establish long-term treatment options preferably utilizing evidenced based treatment. Including Medication Assisted Treatment. Services include, Withdrawal Management, Primary Care, Individual and Group Therapy, Case Management, Peer Recovery Coaches, and Housing support.

When the Center opened it had a 16 bed capacity and accepted referrals from QRT and hospital ED's. Opportunities with funding and the overall success of the program have led to expanding capacity as well as populations served.

Engagement Center goals and initiatives for 2021 include removing Methamphetamines, Benzodiazepines and Alcohol from our exclusionary list by providing 3.7 Medically Monitored Withdrawal Management (Spring 2021) as well as collaborating with Cincinnati Fire Department to receive direct admissions post overdose (Summer 2021).

## CLIENT PROFILE

709 CLIENTS SERVED

AGE 36

74% MALE

17%  
MINORITIES

45% HOMELESS

AVERAGE  
LENGTH OF  
STAY - 10  
DAYS

72%  
CO-OCCURRING  
MENTAL HEALTH  
DISORDER

CLIENTS REPORT  
AVERAGE OF 5  
OVERDOSES IN  
THEIR LIFETIME

# AFRICAN AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP (AAEW) PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT



## AFRICAN AMERICAN ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP

African American Engagement Workgroup (AAEW) is a working group established by the treatment committee of the Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition.

2020 was a busy year for the workgroup. COVID-19 presented new challenges for our agency partners. But, AAEW did not take their foot off the gas. Black males continue to have the highest rate of overdose deaths.

The AAEW established the goal of creating four coalitions in predominately black neighborhoods. Avondale, Lockland, Bond Hill, and Walnut Hills were chosen in 2019. Progress was made in 2020. Committee members made progress in 2020, engaging key influencers in each of the neighborhoods. As a result, Lockland and Avondale have formed coalitions. Bond Hill and Walnut Hills are working toward that goal.

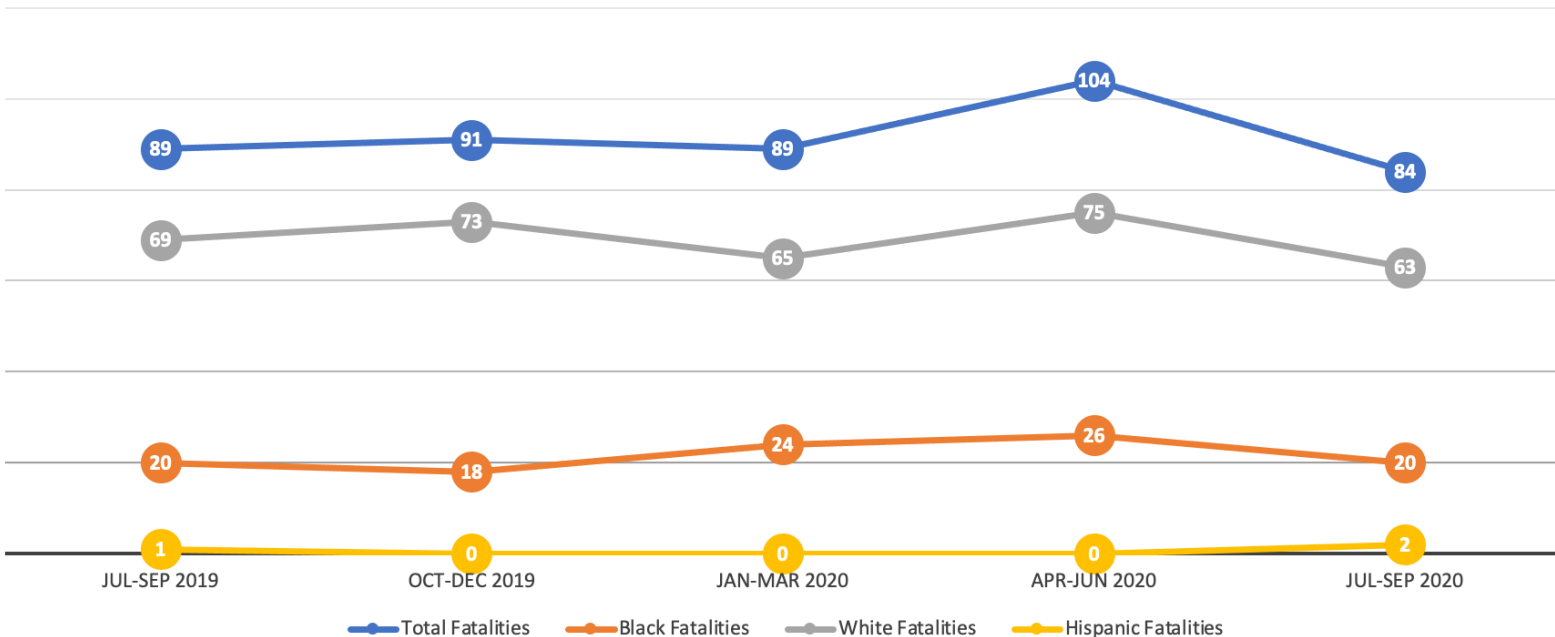
The AAEW decided to work with specific entities in the neighborhoods. Members intentionally chose points where black community members congregate and serve as places of trust. Three churches have received naloxone training by AAEW members and presentations about overdoses.

The AAEW has received a grant to provide naloxone in targeted, Black businesses. AAEW will use this grant to support two individuals trained in naloxone and harm reduction. They will reach out to barbershops, hair salons, and other pre-identified businesses to provide naloxone and educational materials to engage persons in treatment.

AAEW members plan to complete focus groups to learn how to engage more Blacks in treatment and harm reduction services. Not only has the formation of the AAEW been an opportunity to increase our presence in Black neighborhoods, but also receive education about race, access to treatment, harm reduction and share resources.

The AAEW is learning together through open discussion around race and equity to improve the individual committee members' understanding and to ensure the appropriate response to Black communities in Hamilton County.

**Accidental Overdose Fatalities by Quarter by Race  
Hamilton County Residents  
July 2019- September 2020**



Source: Overdose Fatalities – Ohio Department of Health; Population Estimates – United States Census (Excludes Suicides & Homicides)

## NIH HEAL INITIATIVE

### HEALing Communities Study

The National Institute of Health and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration launched the HEALing Communities Study to help find scientific solutions to the national opioid public health crisis. Ohio, Kentucky, Massachusetts and New York were selected as states significantly impacted by the crisis. Sixty-seven counties across the four states were identified as research sites to select and implement three Evidence-Based Practices designed to reduce opioid overdose deaths. Hamilton County was chosen as one of the first nine counties in Ohio to participate in this multi-year study that is being managed and facilitated by the Colleges of Medicine at the University of Cincinnati and The Ohio State University.

The HC ARC Steering Committee is working closely with HCS to identify best opportunities to develop and implement the three Evidence Based Practices within Hamilton County. Under each of the three EBP listed below, approved strategies were chosen and implementation is under way to help reach priority and high-risk populations within healthcare, behavioral health, criminal justice, and other community-based settings.

#### 1. **Opioid Education and Naloxone Distribution(OEND);**

- a. The African American Engagement Workgroup has developed an outreach plan to engage minority populations for Naloxone Education and kit distribution through community partnerships with business and faith organizations.
- b. Active education and distribution of Naloxone kits by Talbert House to clients completing jail-based treatment facilities.
- c. Active education and distribution of Naloxone kits to inmates completing sentences through collaboration of Sheriff's Department, HCPH and One City for Recovery .
- d. The Office of Reentry now has Naloxone kits available for distribution to clients.
- e. Active distribution to shorter-term inmates being released on bond after weekday arraignments.
- f. UC Medical Center Emergency Department developed Naloxone and stigma reduction education for medical personnel and enhanced protocols for distribution of Naloxone kits to patients treated for Substance Use Disorder or overdose.

#### 2. **Effective delivery of medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD);**

- a. Hamilton County QRT is expanding outreach and engagement through peer navigation in data-identified hotspot areas to assist with access to MOUD treatment, barrier reduction and support for active recovery. The strategy includes promoting connectivity among community providers to create a collaborative continuum of care network for those with Substance Use Disorder.
- b. UC Medical Center Emergency Department is enhancing treatment protocols through the development of best practice alerts and professional training to promote science-based medication induction for Substance Use Disorder patients.
- c. UC Medical Center Emergency Department is developing an expanded linkage protocol through staff intervention to assist patients with access to appropriate treatment upon discharge.
- d. HC ARC is collaborating with the Hamilton County Sheriff Office to work toward expanding MOUD treatment capacity for inmates at the HCJC.

#### 3. **Safer Opioid Prescribing, Dispensing and Disposal practices.**

- a. PreventionFIRST! has partnered with HCS to expand distribution of Detera bags for safer opioid disposal in high-risk populations.
- b. UC Medical Center Pharmacists have developed training modules for medical personnel and will expand those efforts for incoming medical residents. UC Medical Center Pharmacists are working with the Pain Stewardship Committee to develop enhanced educational materials for prescribers and for patients with acute and/or chronic pain

# HARM REDUCTION COMMITTEE

Committee chaired by:

Dr. Jennifer Mooney, Hamilton County Public Health

Sara Bolton, The Health Collaborative

Harm Reduction is grounded in human rights and therefore values all human life. The main principles include reducing harm by promoting health and encouraging positive change in communities. Health systems, including public health do this by monitoring and making available real-time data to better inform interventions and practice.

## Harm Reduction Committee Goals & Initiatives:



Expand harm reduction efforts by creating additional service locations for syringe exchange, including piloting “brick and mortar” sites in our county.



A large funding award in our county will allow for a systems level intervention to improve both data surveillance and continuity of care among healthcare and substance use treatment providers.



A real-time data dashboard is currently being built for anyone to access Hamilton County data around overdoses, syringe exchange, Narcan availability, deaths, and hopefully lives saved through the prevention of HIV and Hepatitis C.



The Health Collaborative will be relaunching its behavioral health & addiction action group, leveraging the RecoveryOhio’s eight priority areas as a framework for an aligned regional agenda to increase impact.

Due to COVID-19, 2020 was an extraordinary year for harm reduction efforts that involved a great deal of innovation, outreach, and dedication. Public health staff navigated through the pandemic with client engagement and retention at the forefront of their efforts. Realizing the pandemic might be hiding the true effects of the opioid epidemic, staff developed a mail-order Narcan project to ensure access to the lifesaving drug was not compromised. With this, a texting service for Narcan was also implemented to arrange for pick up or mail order. Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) also partnered with the HEALing Communities Study, Talbert House, and One City for Recovery allowing for a wider distribution of Narcan and access to peer support/care coordination services upon a person's release from the Justice Center.

The post-pandemic need for mental health, wellness, and support services is yet to be fully understood, but HCPH continued to provide Trauma Informed Care trainings throughout 2020 in partnership with IV Charis, a minority-based outreach organization in Hamilton County. The Health Collaborative worked with regional health systems to design a Train the Trainer model for Trauma Informed Care, which will launch in early 2021, ensuring a sustainable and continuous approach.

Harm reduction, from a life course perspective, extends beyond periods of active use into the treatment and recovery phases. The ultimate form of harm reduction is promoting success in those who have successfully moved into the recovery stage and have capacity for mentorship. Workforce development efforts to broaden the pool of quality, work-ready, certified peer supporters in our area through a contract with Easter Seals is underway with HCPH. The program began in October with the goal of having 50 certified peer supporters work-ready within 12 months. To date, without any formal marketing, the program has already enrolled 41 participants and 16 participants have completed the required training and hours needed to achieve certification. Six participants have begun their paid internship and two participants have been offered full-time employment. The pandemic has exacerbated challenges associated with substance use and certified peer supporters will be critical in efforts to mitigate further harm.

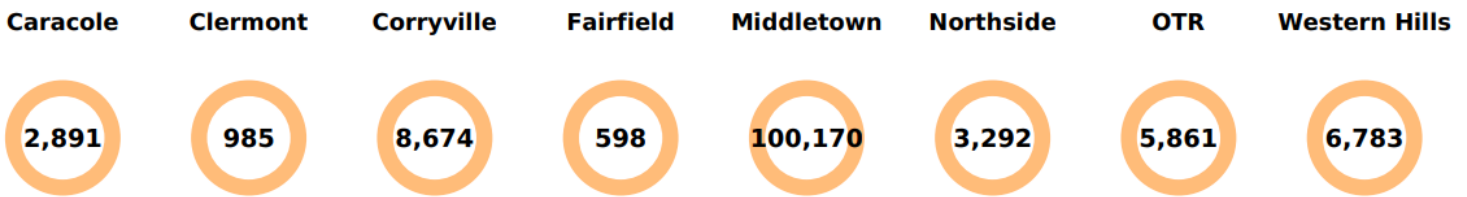
Recognizing the presence of fentanyl in nearly all illicit substances, HCPH developed partnerships with entertainment venues for the distribution of fentanyl test strips and the use of a QR code to provide education and access to safety tools that aid in safer drug use and addiction resources. Many partners in this project welcomed the idea because members of their own bar and restaurant staff had suffered overdoses.

Finally, the search continues for additional syringe service sites for the Exchange Project. HCPH purchased a new van that better facilitates staff's ability to provide safe distribution of harm reduction services while meeting safety standards to address COVID-19 for participants and staff. As the harm reduction team continues to expand the scope of services offered at the Exchange, the team welcomes any potential site ideas to help meet the needs of the community.

# SYRINGE SERVICES PROGRAM

01/01/2020 - 12/31/2020

## Number of Fentanyl Test Strips Given

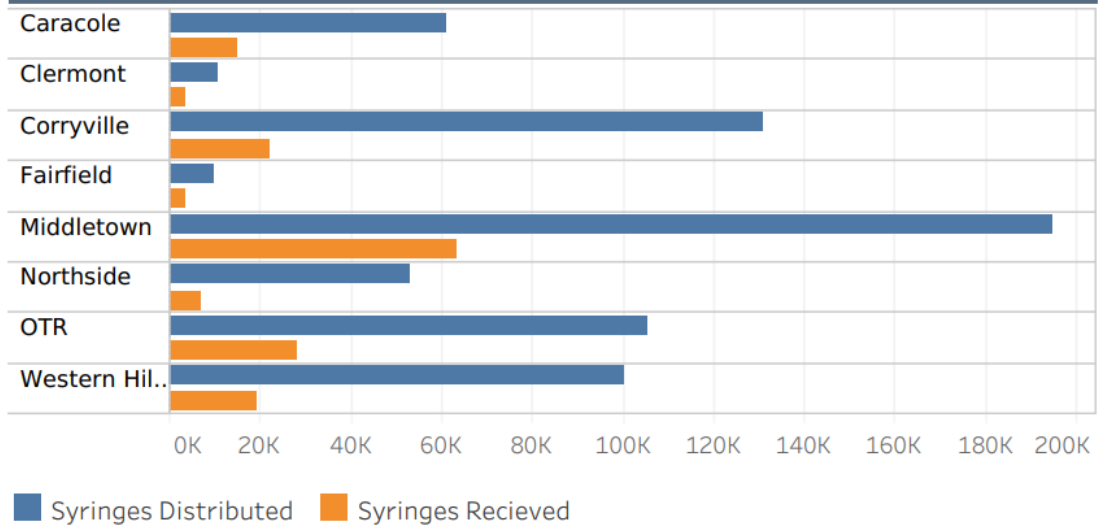


### Client Vists

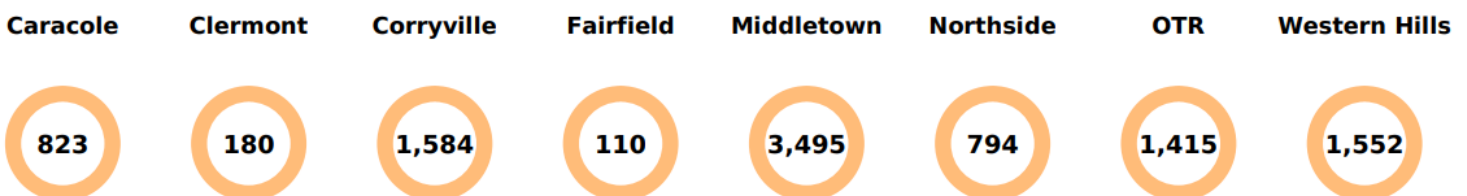
(select a LOCATION NAME to filter)

Caracole	883
Clermont	164
Corryville	1,570
Fairfield	141
Middletown	2,780
Northside	726
OTR	1,491
Western Hills	1,399

### Syringes (Distributed & Recieved)



## Number of Narcan Doses Given





PREVENT. PROMOTE. PROTECT.

## The Exchange Project | Weekly Schedule

Harm Reduction – practical strategies and tools to promote safety, health, and wellness for individuals and the community

### Tuesdays

Middletown

#### Middletown

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
1300 Reynolds Ave.  
Middletown, OH 45044

### Wednesdays

Over-the-Rhine

#### Over-the-Rhine

10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
106 W. McMicken Ave  
Cincinnati, OH 45202

### Thursdays

Clermont County  
Corryville  
& Northside

#### Clermont County

10 a.m. to Noon  
Clermont Mercy Hospital  
3000 Hospital Drive  
Clermont County, OH 45103

#### Corryville

1 to 4 p.m.  
Hamilton County Public Health  
250 William Howard Taft (Rear)  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

#### Northside | Caracole

5 to 7:30 p.m.  
Caracole  
4138 Hamilton Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45223

### Fridays

Western Hills

#### Western Hills

1 to 4 p.m.  
Talbert House (Rear)  
4968 Glenway Avenue  
Cincinnati, OH 45238

#### Questions:

Call/text 513-316-7725

Email: [exchangeproject@hamilton-co.org](mailto:exchangeproject@hamilton-co.org)

Texting Subscription service – text Locations to 22999

Follow us on Facebook – The Exchange Project



## FAITH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

**Committee chaired by:**

**Rev. Lesley Jones, Truth & Destiny Covenant Ministries**

**Rev. Dr. Alphonse Allen, Allen Temple AME**

**Recovery encompasses an individual's whole life, including mind, body, spirit and community. For many, faith is critical to their recovery. The faith community committee helps the Coalition to raise awareness and use their compassion and local understanding to bring hope and healing to those in need.**

### Faith Community Committee Goals & Initiatives:



Expand Committee Membership and Outreach



Create a faith roundtable of clergy and congregational representatives to host quarterly meetings



Recruit 30 congregations to host an Addiction Awareness Event

In 2020, the Faith Community Committee completed a series of initiatives including but not limited to a harm reduction training where deterra bags and medicine lock boxes were distributed. The Faith Community Committee has promoted harm reduction training and resources by distributing 1500+ informational flyers. Flyers were distributed to families through a summer meal program, during drive-thru events in personal care kits, and during worship services. Faith in harm reduction is centered around spiritual care, ritual support, and other spiritual resources to give our community tools to help communities of faith combat the opioid epidemic.



### Prayer for Victims of Addiction & Others:

O blessed Lord, you ministered to all who came to you: Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove from them the fears that beset them; strengthen them in the work of their recovery; and to those who care for them, give patient understanding and persevering love. Amen.

(Book of Common Prayer – Episcopal)

## BUSINESS COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

**Committee chaired by:  
J.B. Buse, LOTH Holdings, LLC**

**The Business Community Committee centers on coordinating public and private-sector efforts to maximize the impact of the Coalition to keep our community healthy and safe. The Business Community focuses on how local businesses can be part of the solution to combating the opioid epidemic in our County.**

### **Business Community Committee Goals & Initiatives:**



Inform the Business Community on the Coalition's mission and pillars by bringing more awareness to business leaders around topics of substance use and addiction



Identify the intersections where business leaders can supply resources, strategies, and institutional knowledge to meet Coalition needs



Promote understanding and engagement with business leaders to increase Coalition involvement and visibility across the region



Create an HC ARC Business Committee Toolkit to distribute to business leaders throughout Hamilton County

The Hamilton County Addiction Response Coalition is looking forward to continuing its momentum with its Business Community Committee into 2021. With the assistance of numerous community partners, such as the Cincinnati USA Regional Chamber, United Way of Greater Cincinnati, Nehemiah Manufacturing, Cincinnati Reds, the Hamilton County Office of Reentry and more, the Business Community Committee began meeting on a regular basis in the summer of 2020.

Over the past year, the Business Community Committee has deliberated and analyzed a variety of different strategies to help businesses utilize their resources, expertise, and networks to create workplace and community solutions to combat the opioid epidemic in Hamilton County. The Committee hopes to pull these strategies together in a "Business Response Toolkit" to distribute to business leaders throughout Hamilton County in the summer of 2021.

After identifying these strategies and updating committee goals, the Coalition began recruiting members for expansion of the Committee. The Coalition hopes to identify business leaders who will set the tone and make it a priority for their company and employees to understand substance use disorders and addiction, its impact, and bring resources and awareness to a pressing issue in Hamilton County- the opioid epidemic. Thus far, the Committee has confirmed participation from 15+ business leaders throughout the region. The Business Community Committee will convene on a quarterly basis starting in March 2021.

For any organizations or businesses that are interested in joining the Business Committee's work, please reach out to Social Program Administrator, Meagan Gosney at [Meagan.gosney@hamilton-co.org](mailto:Meagan.gosney@hamilton-co.org) for more information.

