

# Opioid Reduction Resources

## GRANT AND CONTRACT OPPORTUNITIES

MHA engages in grants and contracts to support members in building capacity, capability, resources and knowledge to achieve the Triple Aim of better care, lower costs and better health. Through these funding sources, MHA provides robust technical support to hospitals and communities to achieve reductions in harm and readmissions, improve care processes, provide staff education and certifications, offer annual and regional meetings, and collaborate with innovative tools and resources for little to no cost to the hospital.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the Missouri Department of Mental Health offer federal funding to reduce overdose and deaths related to opioid use disorder.

- The [Missouri Opioid State Targeted Response](#) (Opioid STR) project (2017-2019) expands access to integrated prevention, treatment and recovery support services for individuals with opioid use disorder throughout the state.
- SAMHSA will continue to support a comprehensive response to the opioid epidemic, established under the Opioid STR, through the State Opioid Response funding through 2020.

Through these federal grants, MHA is a partner in the following initiatives.

## PERINATAL HEALTH AND NEONATAL ABSTINENCE SYNDROME

Pregnant women represent a unique, vulnerable population with increasing rates of OUD. Opioid use, and abuse and use of other substances during the prenatal period has led to a startling increase in Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome, a group of

physiologic and neurobehavioral signs of withdrawal that may occur in a newborn exposed to certain substances in utero. Several specific initiatives including medication-assisted treatment and recovery services are provided to promote safe care of mom and baby together.

## MEDICATION FIRST MODEL FOR MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT OF OUD

Through a collaborative approach with MHA as a key partner, the Missouri Department of Mental Health is leading statewide Medication First Model integration efforts to ensure rapid and ongoing patient access to evidence-based treatments for OUD. The Medication First Model facilitates the following.

- patients with OUD receive timely pharmacotherapy treatment – before lengthy assessments or treatment plan development
- maintenance pharmacotherapy is delivered without contraindicated tapering or time limits
- individualized psychosocial services are offered and encouraged but not required as a condition of pharmacotherapy
- medication only is discontinued if it is clearly worsening the patient's condition

**In addition to federal grants, MHA is a key partner in other state initiatives including the following.**

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM

In 2017, the [St. Louis County Department of Public Health](#) launched a county-based PDMP that currently includes coverage for more than 80 percent of Missouri's population.

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MHA provides support of the PDMP through these resources and expertise.

- data, presentations and guidance to support passage of local ordinances to participate in the St. Louis County Department of Public Health
- enrolling and using the St. Louis County PDMP
- analysis and education to further PDMP utilization

## VOLUNTARY GUIDELINES FOR PRESCRIBING OPIOIDS IN HOSPITAL SETTINGS, INCLUDING EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

In 2015, MHA facilitated consensus with four other Missouri provider associations to implement voluntary emergency department opioid prescribing [guidelines](#) that have been adopted by more than 70 percent of Missouri's EDs.

## CLINICAL RESOURCES

MHA compiled and developed multiple resources to help understand and address the opioid crisis. The following are just a few. All resources are found at [MHA.net/opioids](http://MHA.net/opioids).

- The [Opioid Toolkit](#) continuously is updated to synthesize current research, policy and practice approaches to reduce opioid-related overdoses and deaths.

- Guidance documents
  - » Quality Issue Brief, September 2018, Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome [guidance](#) to improve coding and documentation
  - » *Trajectories*, September 2018, [issue](#) introduces the medication-first model to treat OUD
  - » *Trajectories*, July 2017 [issue](#) discusses the problem of opioid use and abuse
  - » *Trajectories*, March 2016 [issue](#) discusses how opioids are a population health dilemma
- Patient education materials including Spanish translations for
  - » [Disposal of opioids](#)
  - » [Prescribing opioids](#)
  - » [Pain management](#)

## MHA ANALYSIS AND POLICY BRIEFS

MHA and HIDI staff conducted extensive analysis to better understand the epidemic implications in Missouri. The following are just a few examples.

- [Reducing Neonatal In-Utero Exposure](#)
- [Overdose Deaths, Hospital Visits and Unfilled Jobs](#)
- [Comparison of Fatalities Between Drug Overdose and Motor Vehicles](#)