

USING DATA AND EVIDENCE TO PROMOTE CHANGE: BUILDING COALITIONS FOR RECOVERY

Chesterfield Fire and EMS



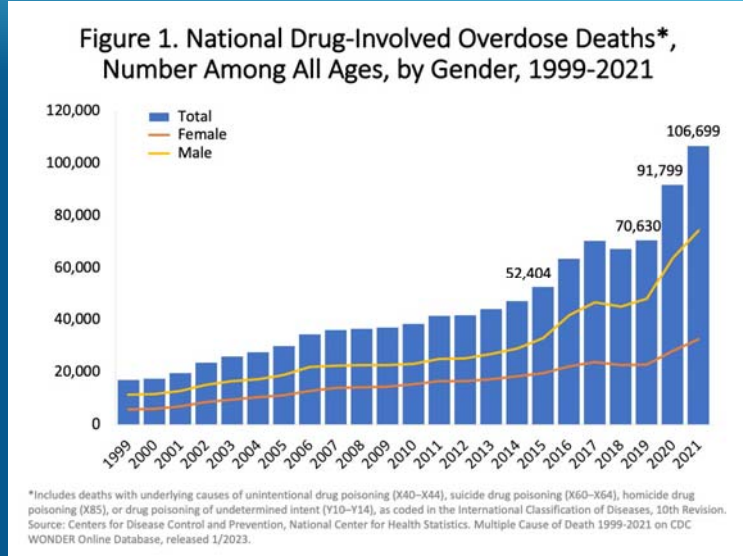
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CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

- ▶ Chesterfield County
 - ▶ Population 381K
 - ▶ Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service at the University of Virginia report indicates Chesterfield County fastest growing locality
 - ▶ Career Fire and EMS department
 - ▶ By 2024, 600+ uniformed personnel

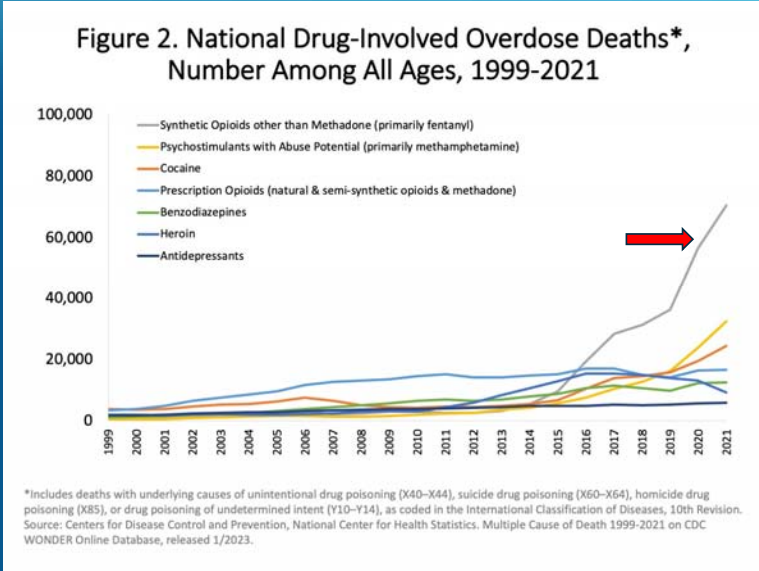


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NATIONAL TREND – ALL OD DEATHS

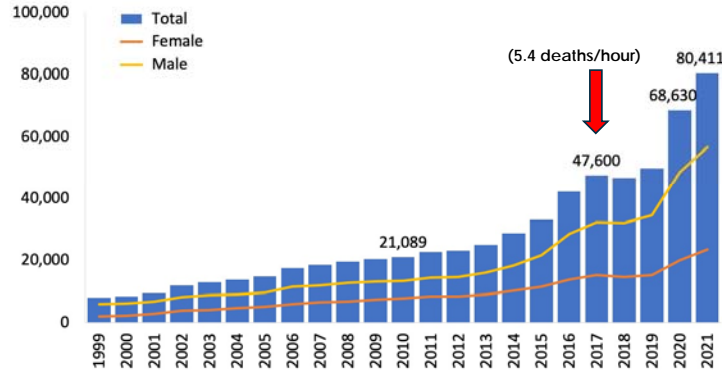
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NATIONAL OD DEATHS BY TYPE

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Figure 3. National Overdose Deaths Involving Any Opioid*, Number Among All Ages, by Gender, 1999-2021



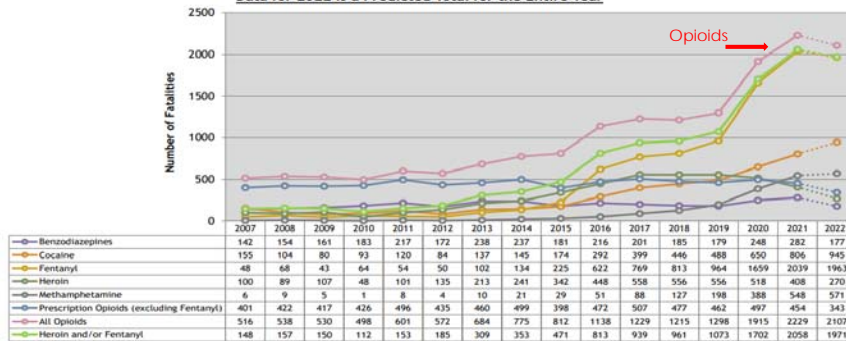
*Among deaths with drug overdose as the underlying cause, the "any opioid" subcategory was determined by the following ICD-10 multiple cause-of-death codes: natural and semi-synthetic opioids (T40.2), methadone (T40.3), other synthetic opioids (other than methadone) (T40.4), or heroin (T40.1). Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2021 on CDC WONDER Online Database, released 1/2023.

NATIONAL OPIOID OD DEATHS

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ALL DRUGS

Total Number of Fatal Drug Overdoses Drug Name/Category and Year of Death, 2007-2022*
Data for 2022 is a Predicted Total for the Entire Year



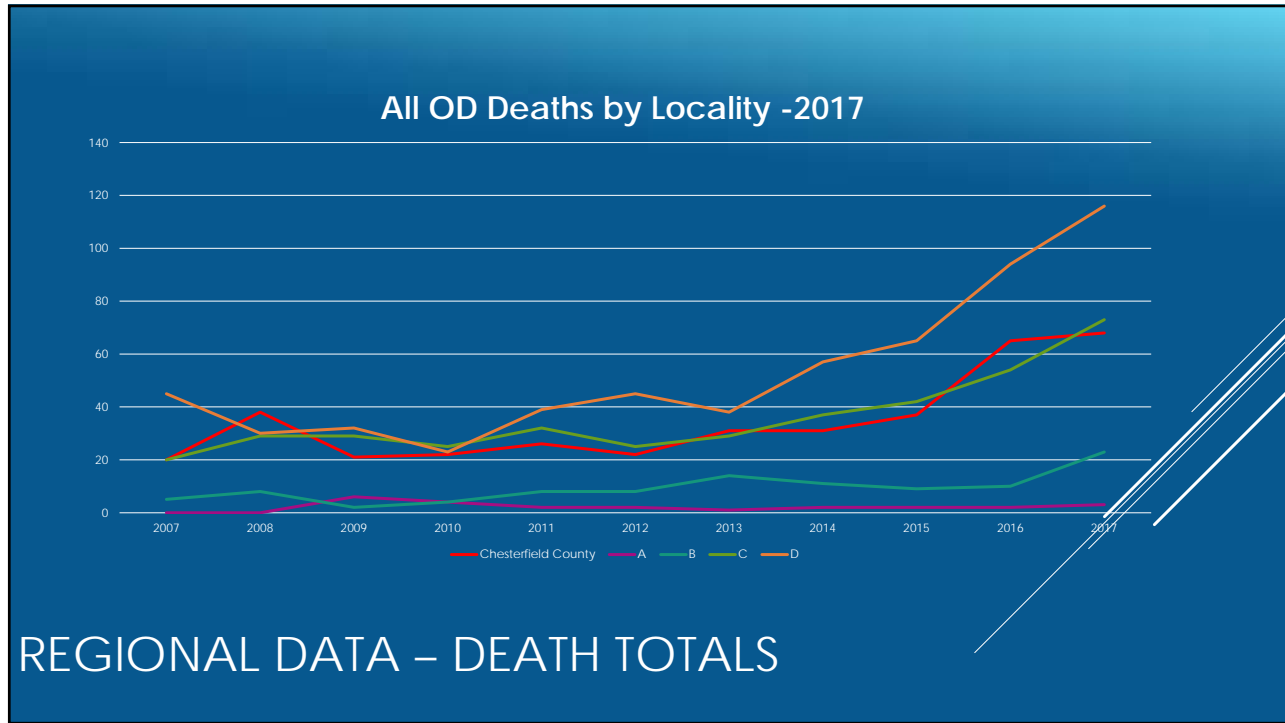
*Deaths may be represented in more than one category due to groupings of drug categories (e.g. heroin)
 * All Opioids* includes all versions of fentanyl, heroin, prescription opioids, U-47700, and opioids unspecified
 * Opioids Unspecified* are a small category of deaths in which the determination of heroin and/or one or more prescription opioids cannot be made due to specific circumstances of the death. Most commonly, these circumstances are a result of death several days after an overdose, in which the OCMC cannot test for toxicology because the substances have been metabolized out of the decedent's system.
 *Historically, fentanyl has been categorized as a prescription opioid because it is mass produced by pharmaceutical companies. However, recent law enforcement investigations and toxicology results have demonstrated that several recent fentanyl seizures have not been pharmaceutically produced, but illicitly produced. This illicit form of fentanyl is produced by international drug traffickers who import the drug into the United States and often, mix it into heroin being sold. This illicitly produced fentanyl has been the biggest contributor to the significant increase in the number of fatal opioid overdoses in Virginia.
 * Illicit and pharmaceutically produced fatal fentanyl overdoses are represented in this analysis. This includes all different types of fentanyl analogs (acetyl fentanyl, furanyl fentanyl, etc.)

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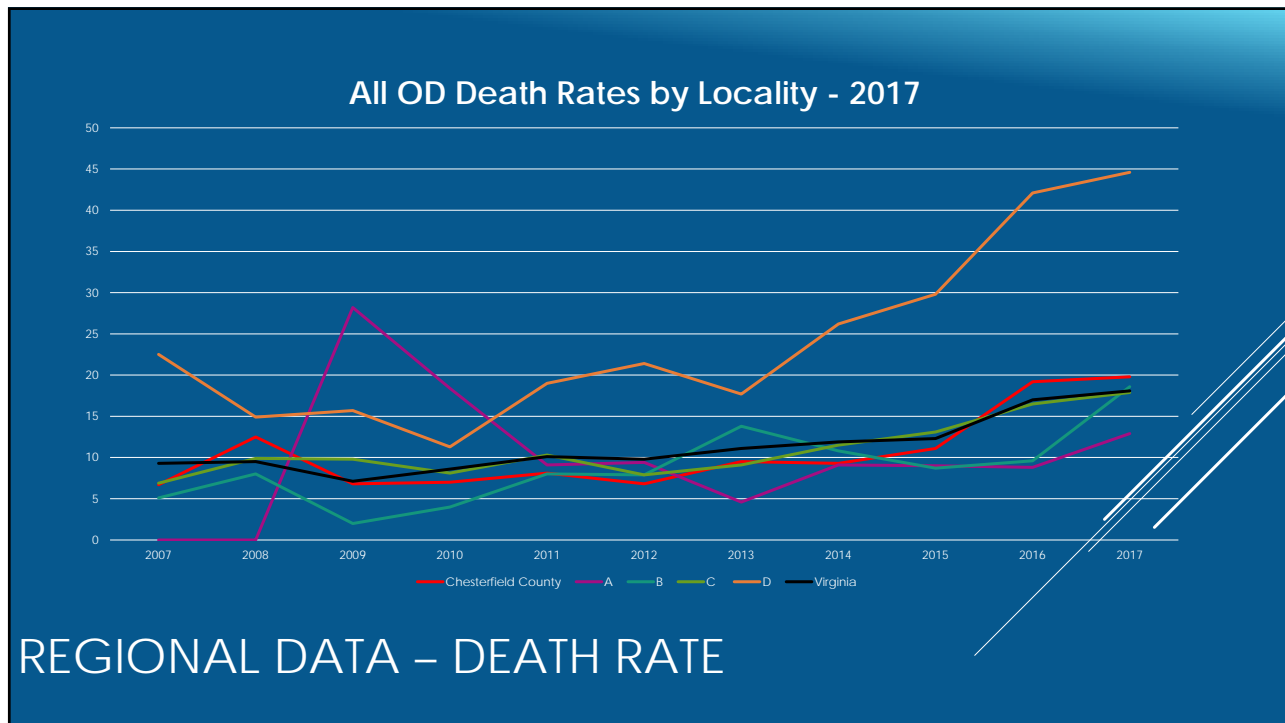


STATE LEVEL DATA - VIRGINIA

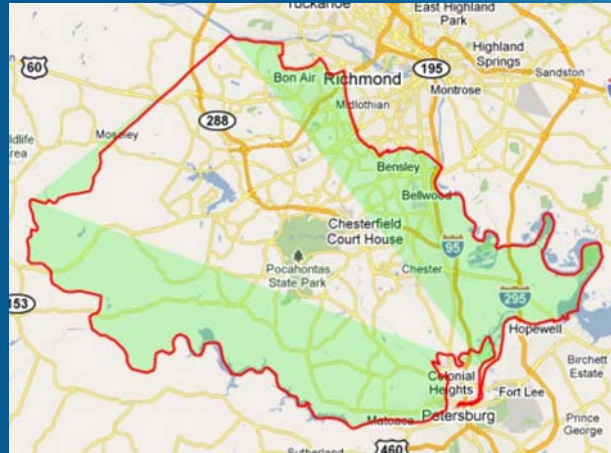
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CHESTERFIELD COUNTY DATA

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- ▶ 68% of 12th graders have tried alcohol
- ▶ 37.4% of 12th graders drank in the last month
- ▶ 23.5% of 10th graders drank in the last month

- ▶ Among high schoolers, within the month they were surveyed
 - ▶ 35% drank some alcohol
 - ▶ 21% binge drank (consuming an excessive amount)
 - ▶ 22% rode in someone's car who'd been drinking
 - ▶ 10% drove after drinking

HIGH SCHOOL ALCOHOL – 2017 AND PRIOR

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▶ Marijuana use

- ▶ 35.1% of 12th graders have smoked pot in the past year
- ▶ 21.3% of 12th graders have smoked pot in the last 30 days
- ▶ 16.6% of 10th graders have smoked pot in the last 30 days
- ▶ 6% of 12th graders say they use marijuana every day
- ▶ 81% of 12th graders say it would be easy to get marijuana
- ▶ Only 32% of 12th graders feel that regular marijuana use is harmful

HIGH SCHOOL MARIJUANA - 2017 AND PRIOR

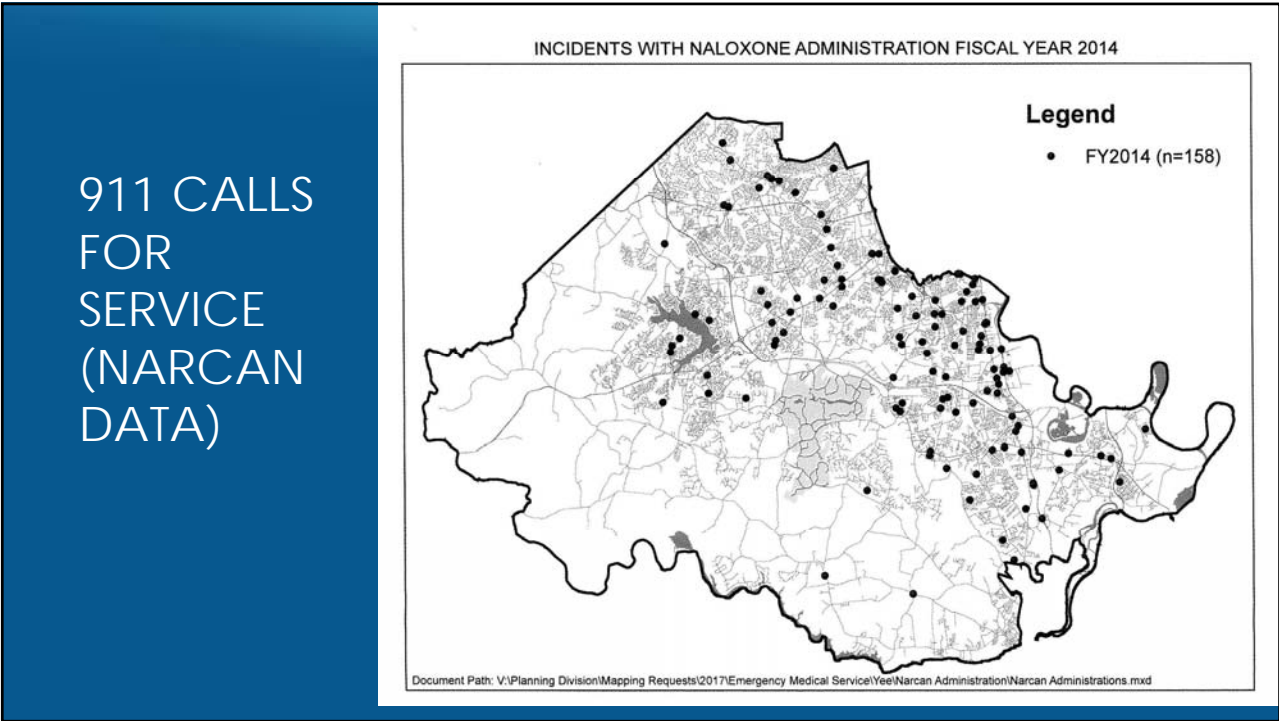
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▶ Nearly 44% of high school students know a classmate who sells drugs. When asked which drugs are sold

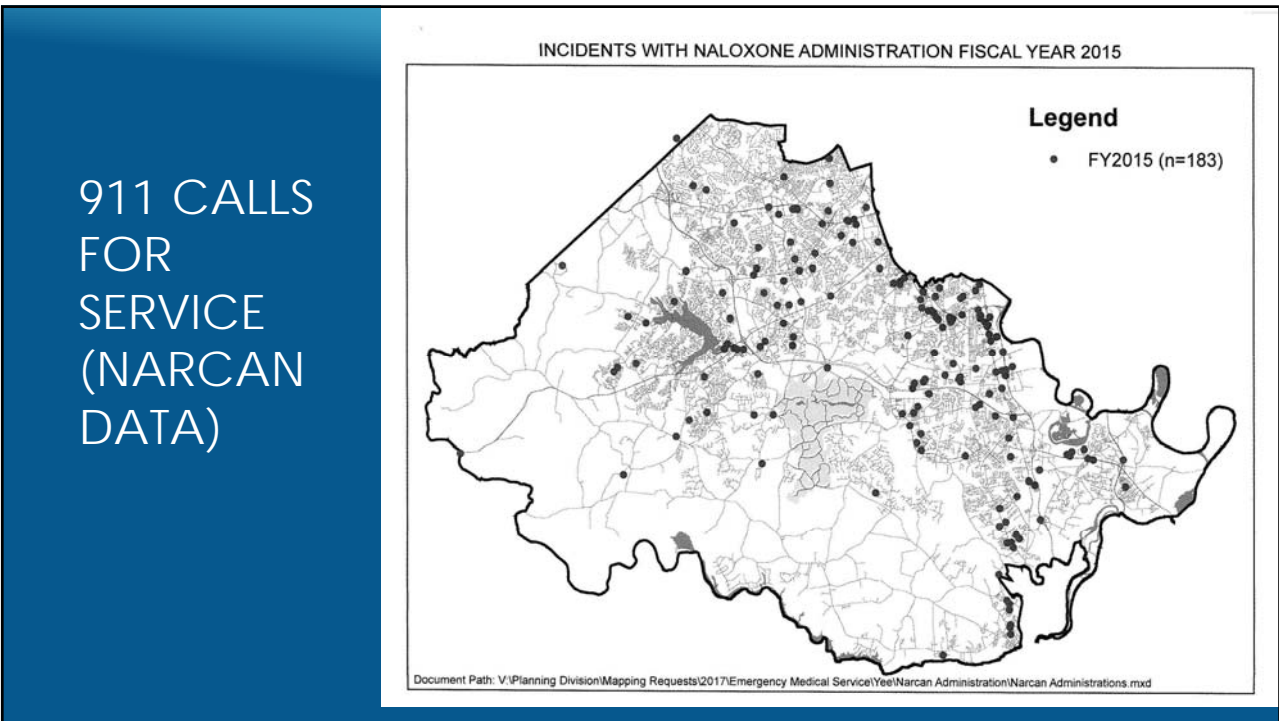
- ▶ 91% said marijuana
- ▶ 24% said prescription drugs
- ▶ 9% said cocaine
- ▶ 7% said ecstasy

ILLICIT DRUG IN HIGH SCHOOLS - 2017 AND PRIOR

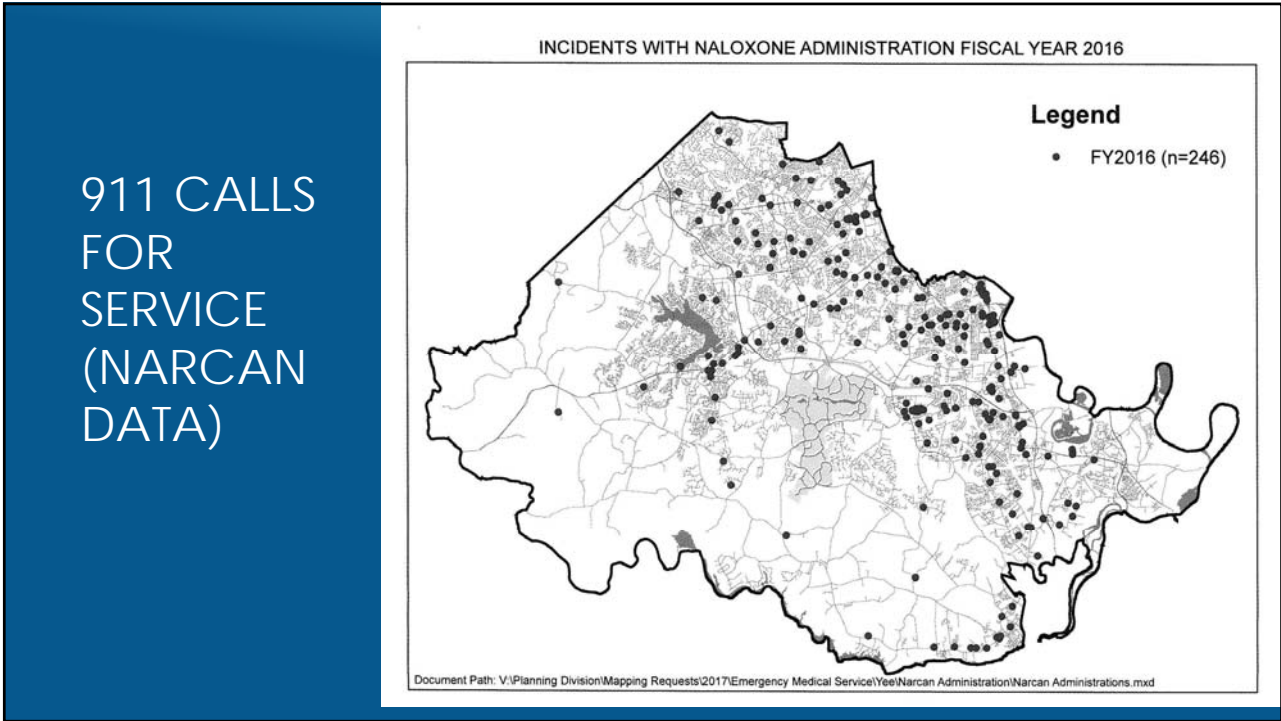
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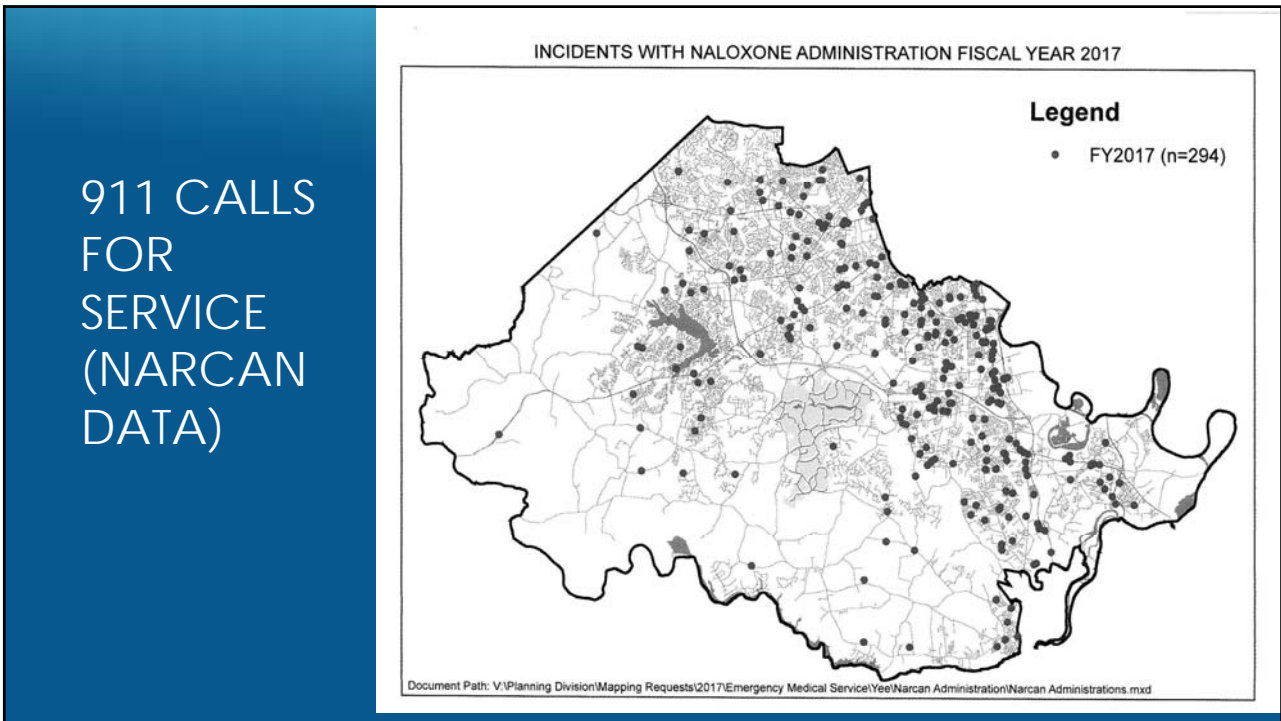
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- Changes in drug supply...Fentanyl is in everything and is leading to many more deaths.
- Pandemic-era increases in loneliness, isolation, secrecy, lack of connection.
- Increased stress, job loss, pandemic-related illnesses and deaths.
- Loss of treatment options derailed recovery efforts of many.

WHAT'S DRIVING THE INCREASE?

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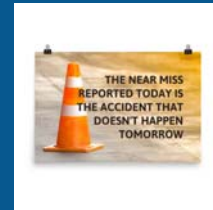
NOW WE KNOW THERE IS A PROBLEM
WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

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CFEMS



- ▶ We knew we had an issue with OD fatalities.
 - ▶ Rate climbing
- ▶ Looked at what each department could do
- ▶ How can we impact it?
 - ▶ Looked at overdoses since it may represent "near miss" and an opportunity to intervene



CHESTERFIELD COUNTY APPROACH

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**HOW DO I
MANAGE
THE GOOD
IDEA FAIRY?**





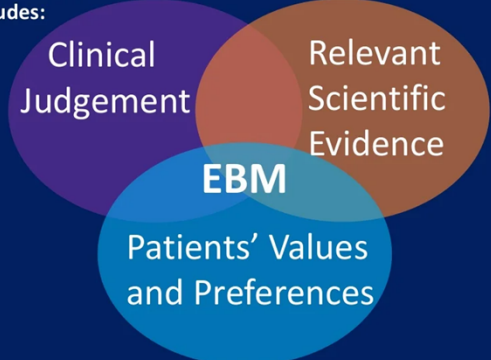
#ASKVINCE

NOW WE KNOW THERE IS A PROBLEM
WHAT DO WE DO NEXT?

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What is Evidence-Based Medicine?

❖ Evidence-based medicine (practice) is a systematic process primarily aimed at improving care of patients → **EBM Triad** includes:



The diagram consists of three overlapping circles: a purple circle on the left labeled 'Clinical Judgement', a brown circle on the right labeled 'Relevant Scientific Evidence', and a blue circle at the bottom labeled 'Patients' Values and Preferences'. The central area where all three circles overlap is labeled 'EBM'. The background is a dark blue gradient with white text.

Redrawn after: Sackett DL, et al. BMJ. 1996; (7023): 71-72. 5

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

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Level	Type of evidence
1A	Systematic review (with homogeneity) of RCTs
1B	Individual RCT (with narrow confidence intervals)
1C	All or none study
2A	Systematic review (with homogeneity) of cohort studies
2B	Individual Cohort study (including low quality RCT, e.g. <80% follow-up)
2C	"Outcomes" research; Ecological studies
3A	Systematic review (with homogeneity) of case-control studies
3B	Individual Case-control study
4	Case series (and poor quality cohort and case-control study)
5	Expert opinion without explicit critical appraisal or based on physiology bench research or "first principles"

LEVELS OF EVIDENCE

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EVIDENCE-BASED RESOURCE GUIDE SERIES


Use of Medication-Assisted Treatment in Emergency Departments

Emergency →

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

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Peer recovery program

Peer-Delivered Recovery Support Services for Addictions in the United States: A Systematic Review

Ellen I. Bassuk ¹, Justine Hanson ², R Neil Greene ², Molly Richard ², Alexandre Laudet ³

Affiliations
PMID: 26882891 DOI: 10.1016/j.jgsat.2016.01.003

Abstract

This systematic review identifies, appraises, and summarizes the evidence on the effectiveness of peer-delivered recovery support services for people in recovery from alcohol and drug addiction. Nine studies met criteria for inclusion in the review. They were assessed for quality and outcomes including substance use and recovery-related factors. Despite significant methodological limitations found in the included studies, the body of evidence suggests salutary effects on participants. Current limitations and recommendations for future research are discussed.

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

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cmaj jamc
Canadian Medical Association Journal / Revue canadienne de médecine générale

CMAJ. 1997 Aug 1; 157(9): 266-262. PMID: 9281385

Needle exchange programs: an economic evaluation of a local experience
M. Goh, A. Gahvi, P. Nalpas, and P. Milton

Abstract

OBJECTIVE: To determine whether providing a needle exchange program to prevent HIV transmission among injection drug users would cost less than the health care consequences of not having such a program. **DESIGN:** Incidence outcome model to estimate the number of cases of HIV infection that this program would prevent over 5 years, assuming that the HIV incidence rate would be 2% with the program and 4% without it, and that an estimated 275 injection drug users would use the service over this time. **SETTING:** Hamilton, Ont. **OUTCOME MEASURES:** Estimated number of cases of HIV infection expected to be prevented with and without the program over 5 years; estimated lifetime health care costs of treating an AIDS patient. The indirect costs of AIDS to society (e.g., lost productivity and informal caregiving) were not included. Projected costs were adjusted (discounted) to reflect their present value. In a sensitivity analysis, 3 parameters were varied: the estimate of the HIV transmission rate if no needle exchange program were provided, the number of injection drug users participating in the program, and the discount rate. **RESULTS:** With very conservative estimates, it was predicted that the Hamilton needle exchange program will prevent 24 cases of HIV infection over 5 years, thereby providing cost savings of \$1.3 million after the program costs are taken into account. This translates into a ratio of cost savings to costs of 4:1. The sensitivity analysis confirmed that these findings are robust. **CONCLUSION:** Needle exchange programs are an efficient use of financial resources.

[Full Text](#)

The Full Text of this article is available as a PDF (152K).

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES

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COUNTY SOLUTION

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- Stigma
 - not only friends, family and society but even from healthcare providers
- Access to treatment
 - MAT
 - Peer recovery specialists
 - IOP
 - Inpatient
- Social determinants of health
- Silos of care
- “Not my problem”, “not our mission”
- Cost of Treatment

PROBLEM: OBSTACLES TO TREATMENT

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- The 911 system is well-positioned to intervene because we have access to individuals at a time that they may be receptive to recovery.
- EMS is well positioned to assist in mitigating effects of and reduce social determinants of health.
- ▶ The window of time to engage these patients in recovery efforts is often small and fleeting.

SOLUTION: EMERGENCY SERVICES

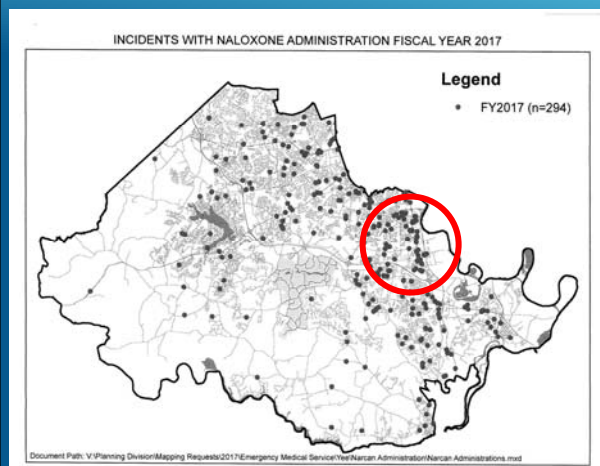
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- ▶ Treating SUD as a disease
- ▶ Treating each patient like a person
- ▶ Incorporation of Peer Recovery Specialist
- ▶ Widespread education and engagement of departmental personnel



SOLUTION: OVERCOMING STIGMA

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- ▶ High risk Community
 - ▶ Lack of access
 - ▶ Higher rate of poverty
 - ▶ High disease burden
- ▶ Health fair
 - ▶ Health screening
 - ▶ Narcan training
 - ▶ Social services for medicaid application, etc
 - ▶ Mental health services
 - ▶ Linkage to SUD services

SOLUTION – SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

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MOBILE INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE

- ▶ Four Firefighter/Paramedics, One Firefighter/EMT, one Lieutenant/Paramedic.
- ▶ Follow up with patients after 911 call and attempt to determine root cause of calls and implement solutions
- ▶ Connect citizens in need with resources such as specialists, Mental Health Support Services, Social Services, home health, non-profits or any other partner able to help meet their needs.

SOLUTION: ACCESS



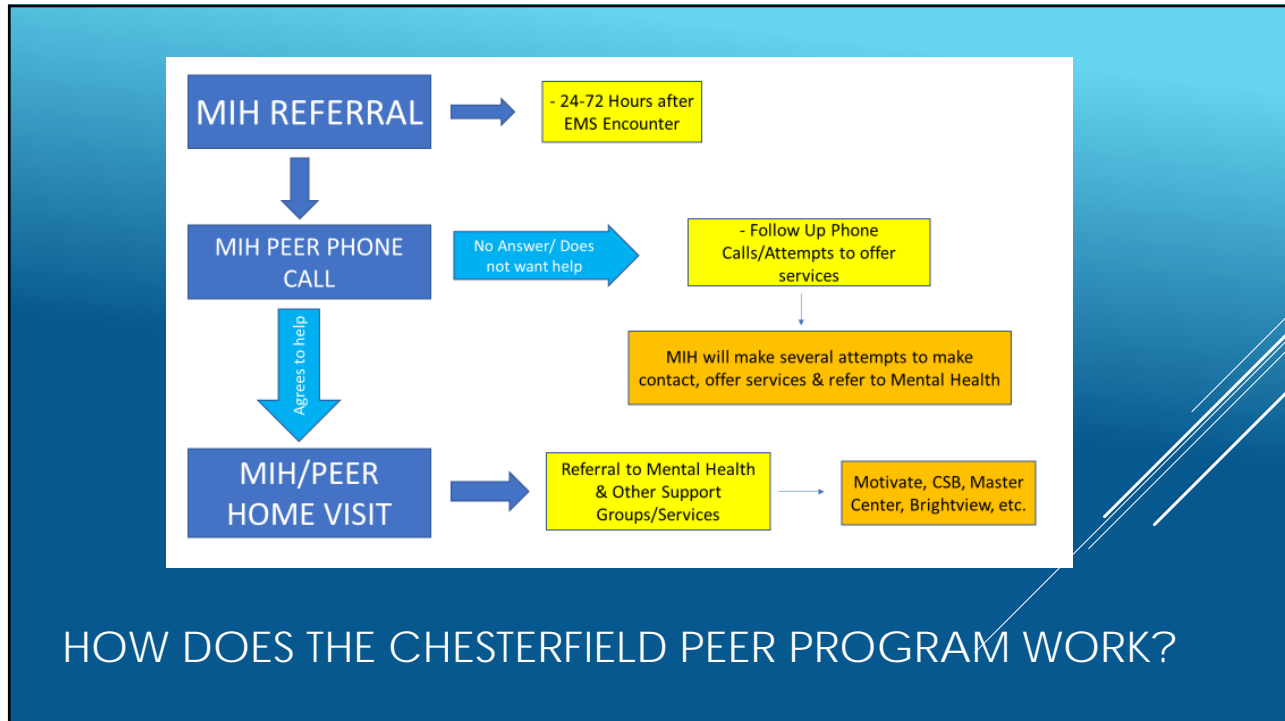
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- ▶ Works as part of a collaborative effort to help citizens dealing with addiction issues.
- ▶ Anytime Naloxone is administered in the field, or a call is coded as an overdose, MIH Program Manager is notified and sets up a case for MIH provider to follow up to attempt to provide resources.
- ▶ Interacts with multiple county and private agencies to assist individuals struggling with addiction.
- ▶ Works with social services for patient to get Medicaid
- ▶ Had access to some grant funding to pay for limited services
 - ▶ Sober living, housing assistance
 - ▶ IOP
 - ▶ MAT
 - ▶ Transportation, child care services, food assistance

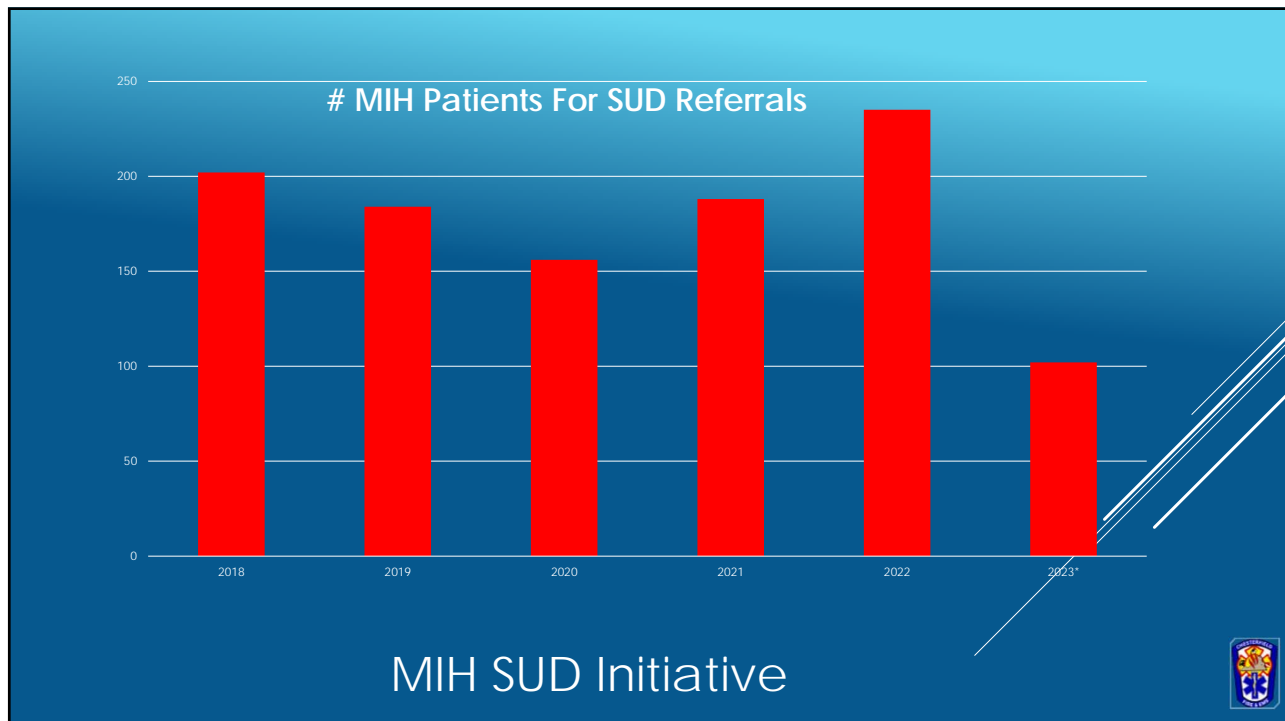
SOLUTION: MIH PROGRAM – SUD INITIATIVE



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RATES OF UNINSURED AND UNDERINSURED WITH SUD

- 83.5% of 364 total Chesterfield Fire and EMS calls where Narcan was administered over a one year period were uninsured.
- 74.8% of those who were transported for SUD-related issues were uninsured.
- 2021 poverty rates for the Chesterfield Health District are shown below:

Locality	Median Income (2021)	Poverty Rate (2021)	% of students eligible for free or reduced school lunch
Chesterfield County	\$88,315	7.4%	48%
Colonial Heights City	\$65,570	9.0%	85%
Petersburg City	\$44,890	21.3%	100%
Powhatan County	\$101,395	6.0%	28%

PROBLEM: ACCESS

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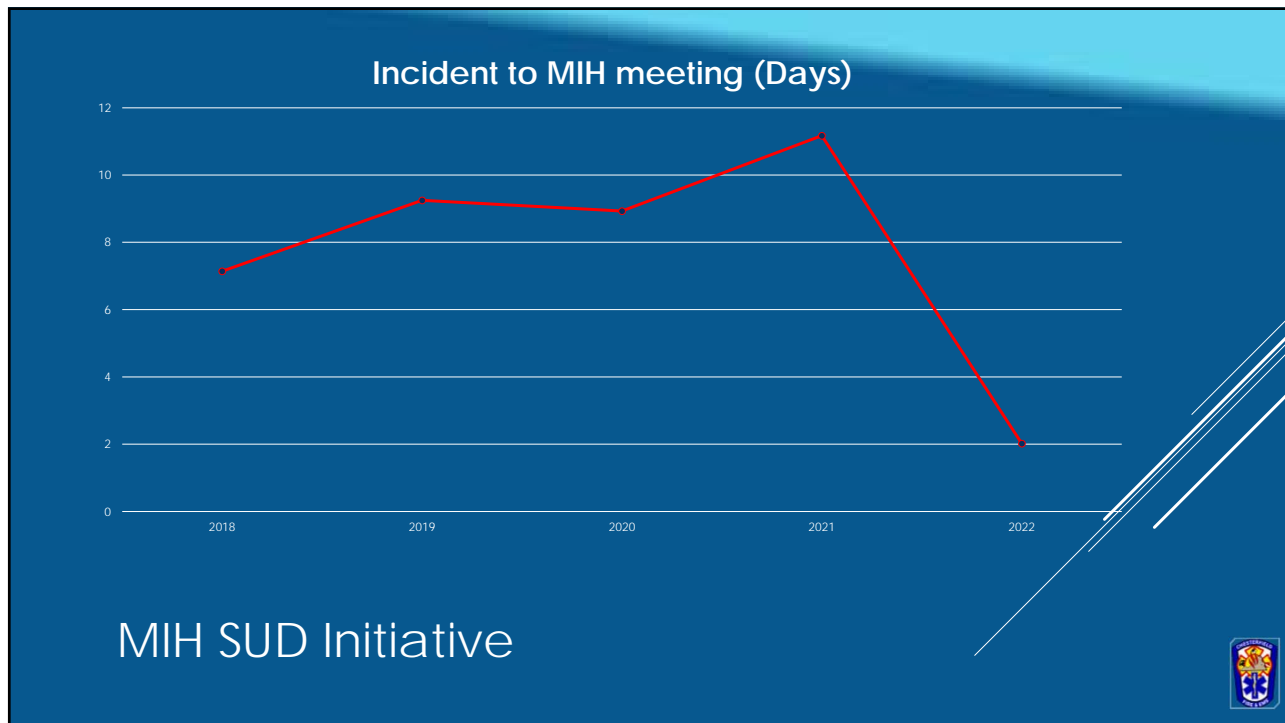
- The window of time to engage those with SUD while they are receptive is often small.
- Evidence-based practices which have been proven to give patients the highest likelihood of success in recovery include connection to MAT and wraparound support services.
- As many of these people do not have access to adequate insurance or resources, recovery funding to act on their behalf is paramount.
- The Opioid Abatement Authority recently approved the allocation of almost \$1,500,000 for the Chesterfield Health District for the addition of Outreach Specialists, Peer Recovery Specialists and funding for wraparound services and harm reduction.

RESOURCES FOR THE UNINSURED AND UNDERINSURED

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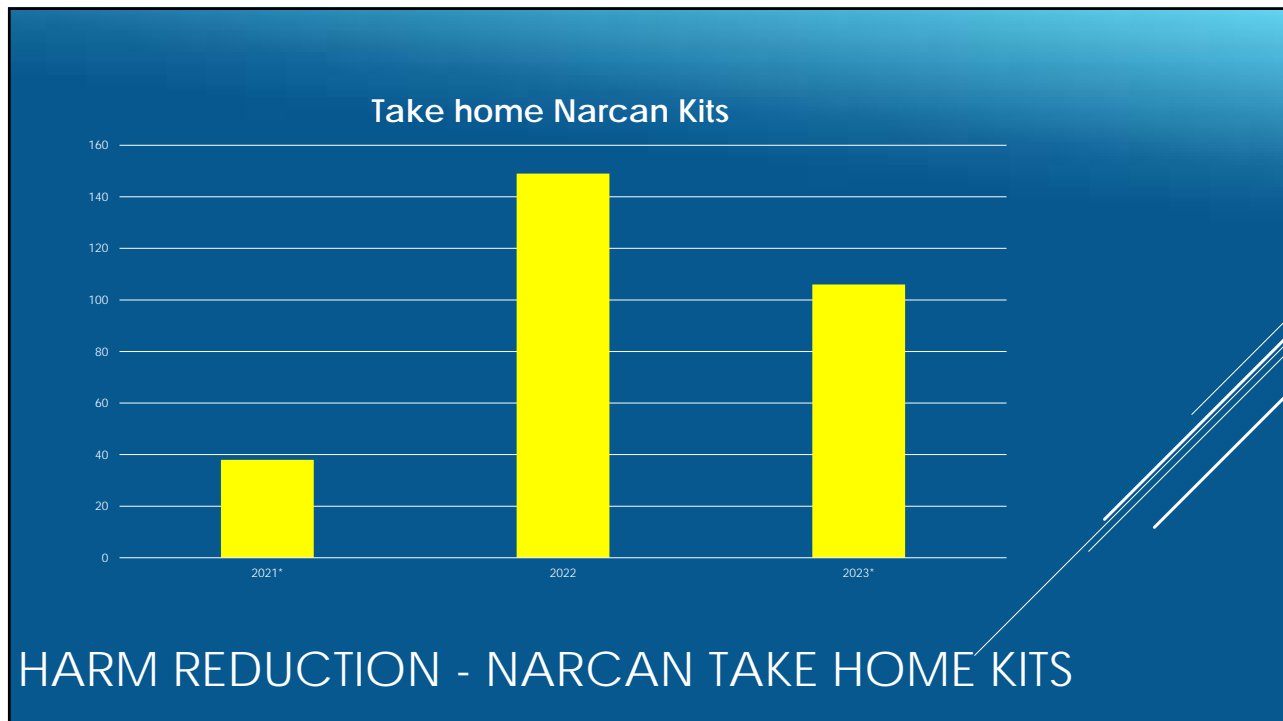
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- Narcan leave-behind program after 911 calls for service where the providers have discretion to give kit to patient or family
- Fire and EMS providers understand that addiction is a disease and we are treating it similarly to other diseases

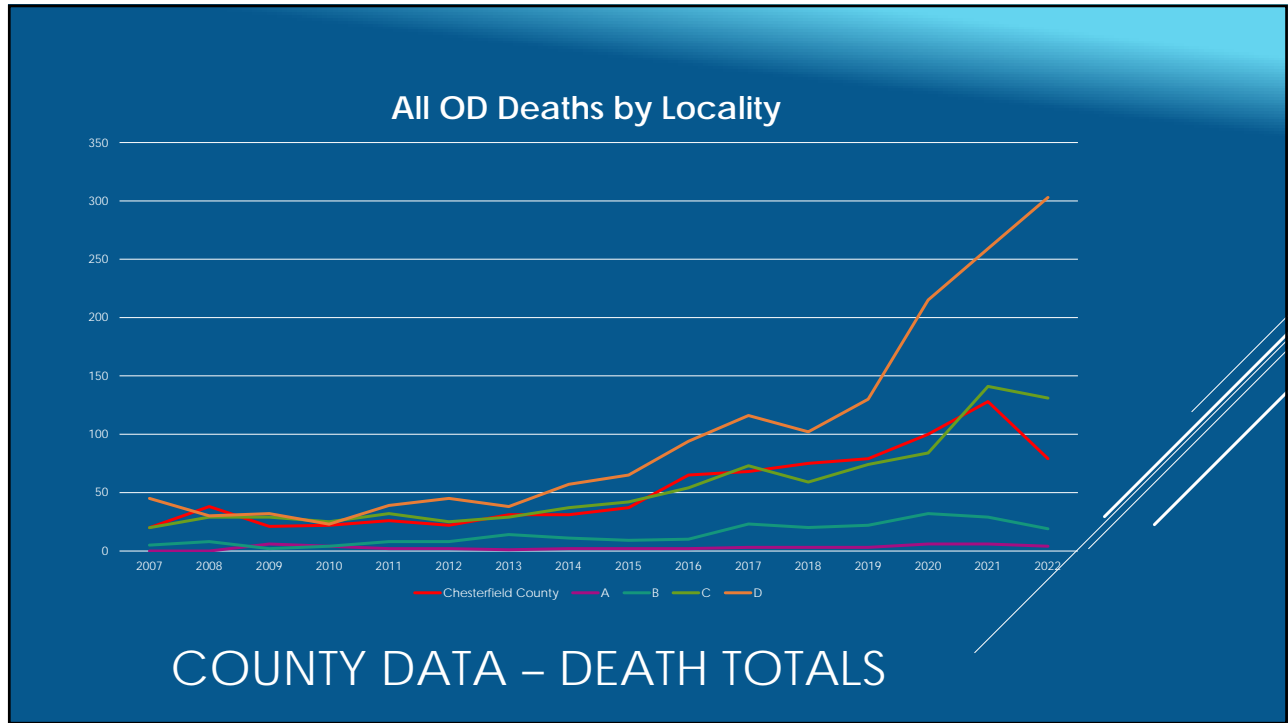


SOLUTION: HARM REDUCTION EFFORTS

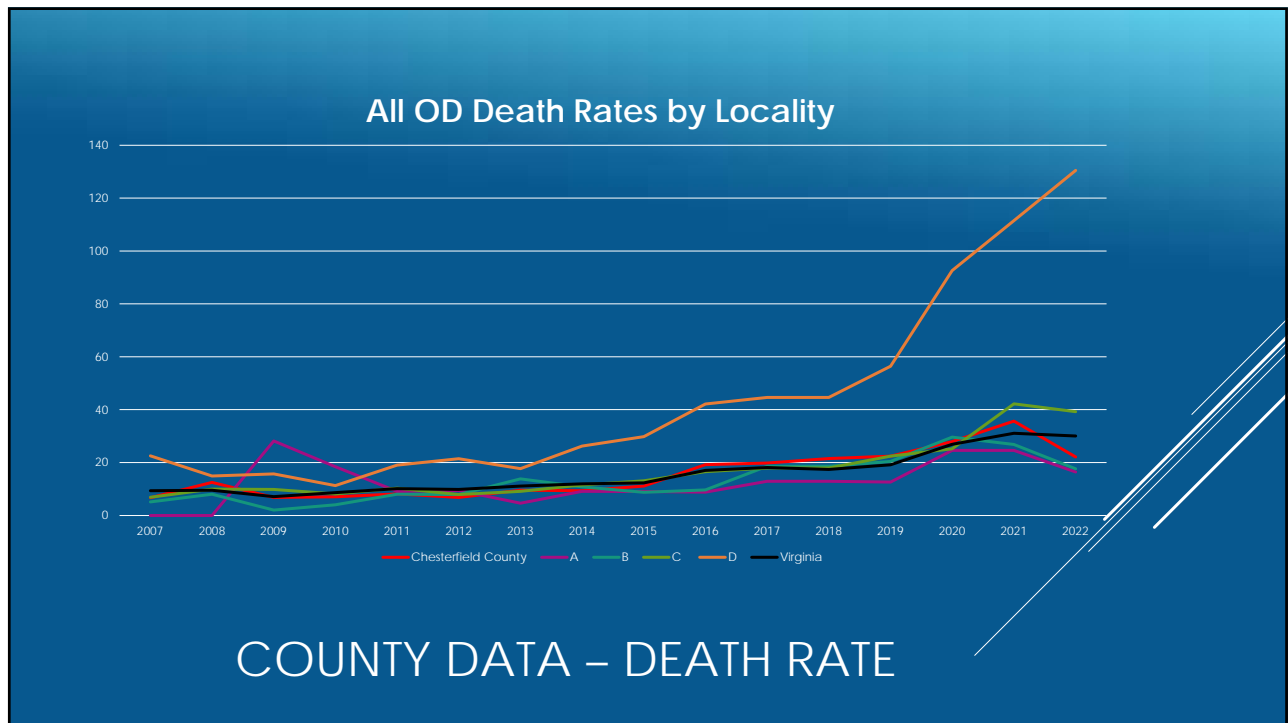
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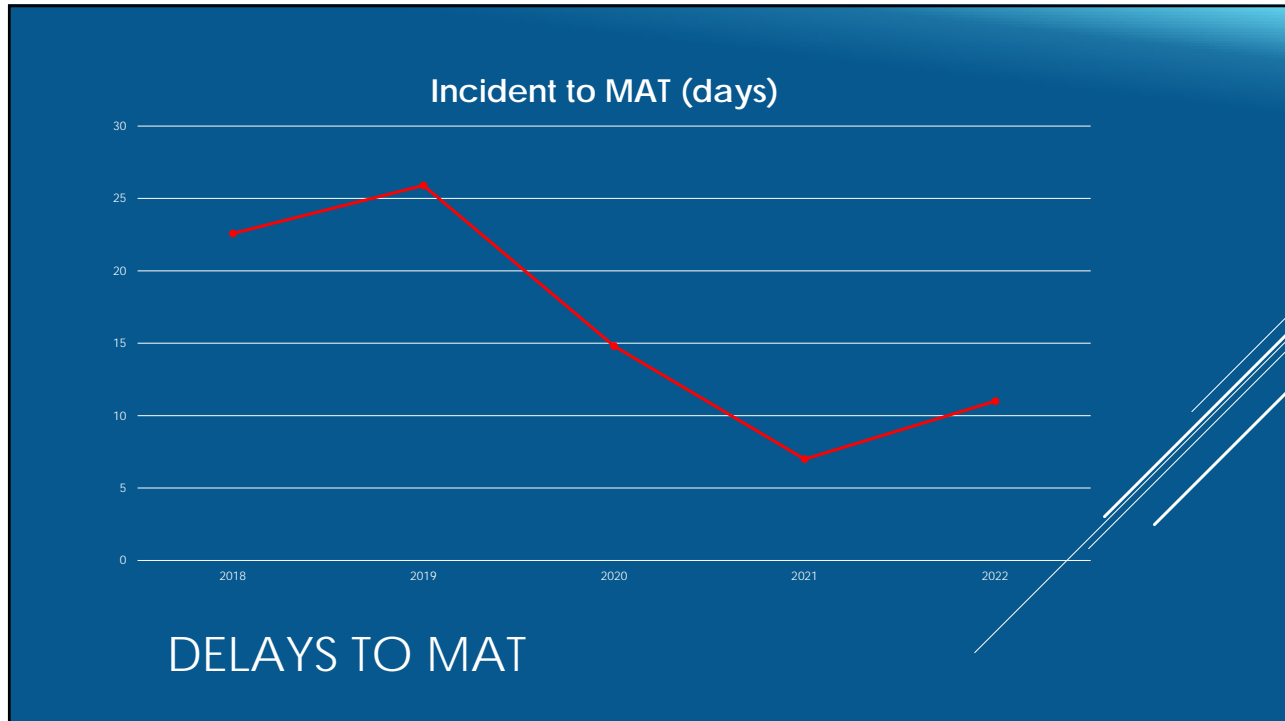
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- ▶ Prehospital Suboxone
 - ▶ Initially via MIH using prescriptions sent to pharmacies after telehealth visit
 - ▶ Will likely start administering Suboxone by MIH personnel after telehealth eval
 - ▶ May eventually start on units in emergency operations during 911 call



FUTURE SOLUTION/ INITIATIVES (ESTIMATED 6/2023)

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- ▶ Designated drop off programs in partnership with ED's
 - ▶ EDs would start Suboxone
 - ▶ MIH will facilitate additional dosing and follow up with IOP

FUTURE INITIATIVES

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- Addiction is a massive public health crisis
- Data shows the needs in your communities
- Data and evidence based practices can prioritize resources and reduce wasteful spending
- Making strides on behalf of those struggling with addiction is going to take a complete multidisciplinary approach with many organizations working together to reach people where they are.
- Despite not being a traditional core function, many departments are positioned to be a key contributor in helping those dealing with addiction get recovery resources.

SUMMARY

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Questions?

