
COMMUNITY EDUCATION & TRAINING IN OPIOID USE REDUCTION (CETOUR)

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PARTNERS: HIGHLAND RIVERS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH, GEORGIA MOUNTAIN HEALTH SERVICES, GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



BACKGROUND

- Opioids are a class of drugs that include the illegal drug heroin, synthetic opioids such as fentanyl, and pain relievers available legally by prescription, such as oxycodone (OxyContin®), hydrocodone (Vicodin®), codeine, morphine, and many others
- 2010 to 2017, the total number of opioid-related overdose deaths increased by 245% (GADPH)
- As of 2019, Georgia ranked 13th with the most drug deaths
- Rural Communities
 - Access to treatment is inadequate
 - Significant workforce shortages
 - Gaps in the availability of substance use treatment services, in particular medication assisted therapy services

MISSION

- *To use a technology-offer enhanced community-centered resources on prevention, treatment, and recovery to address barriers in Substance Use Disorder and Opioid Use Disorder*
- *Driven, integrated, multidisciplinary approach to education to Further the aims of, the 5-Point HHS Strategy to Combat Opioid Abuse, Misuse, and Overdose*

PARTNERS & TARGET COUNTIES

Highland
Rivers Health

Georgia
Mountain
Health
Services

GADPH



- All three counties have been designated by the Georgia Department of Public Health as “highest vulnerability” for opioid overdose.
- All three counties are designated by the Health Resources and Services Administration as Health Professional Shortage Areas.

APPALACHIAN OPIOID COALITION

- Identifying strategies to reduce opioid use, implement strategies, and provide referral to opioid services
- Coalition members: health care, social services, mental health and substance abuse providers, drug court, law enforcement, the state public health department, and the faith-based community
- Goal:
 - To Reduce the prevalence of opioid use disorder in rural north Georgia
- Monthly meetings second Tuesday of each month @ 3:30-5pm

TELEMEDICINE & PROJECT ECHO

- Efficient and effective means of reducing the incidences of OUD and other substance abuse disorders
- Project ECHO is a widely adopted approach that uses videoconferencing and subject matter specialists to provide iterative clinical training and mentorship through case-based learning.
- MSM Project ECHO Series in Partnership with GADPH: Treatment & Prevention of OUD in Rural & Urban Communities
 - Collaborative learning format that includes a short presentation from a subject matter expert followed by discussion of real, topic-related cases brought by the participants.

NEXT STEPS

Appalachian Opioid Coalition

- Monthly meetings Feb 8th, 2022 | Mar 8th, 2022 | Apr 12th, 2022 | May 10th, 2022 | June 14th, 2022 | July 12th, 2022 | Aug 9th, 2022 | Sep 13th, 2022 | Oct 11, 2022 | Nov 8, 2022 | Dec 13th, 2022 @ 3:30-5pm

MSM GADPH Project ECHO Series: Treatment & Prevention of OUD in Rural & Urban Communities | All sessions held virtually at 12pm

- Medication Assisted Treatment for OUD in Rural & Urban Communities Aug 25th, 2021
- Treatment & Prevention of OUD in Primary Care Offices Oct 27th, 2021
- Pharmacists Role in the Treatment & Prevention of OUD Jan 26th, 2022
- Management of OUD Among Special Populations – Youth Mar 30th, 2022
- Management of OUD Among Special Populations - Maternal Health May 25th, 2022
- Management of OUD Among Special Populations – Elderly Aug 31st, 2022
- Management of OUD Among Special Populations - Incarcerated population Oct 26th, 2022

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