



For the first time in history, Americans are more likely to die from accidental opioid overdoses than car crashes, according to a recent National Safety Council report. In 2018 in New Jersey, we lost 3,163 individuals to overdose deaths.

The Murphy Administration is committed to a patient-centered, evidence-based approach that is tackling core components of the opioid epidemic.

I. INCREASE ACCESS TO EVIDENCE-BASED PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAMS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

In addition to key policy changes announced by the Governor and Human Services Commissioner Johnson today about the removal of prior authorizations in Medicaid for Medication Assisted Treatment, key programs to advance this strategy are below:

Additionally, DHS will be relaunching the REACH NJ campaign with an updated media campaign, which establishes the hotline as the single point of entry to access addiction services in the state and removes confusion about a plethora of other existing numbers.

PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	LEAD AGENCY
Office-based Opioid Treatment (OBOT)	Training and enhanced payment program for provision of MAT services under Medicaid	DHS
Substance Use Disorder Waiver (federal program)	Significant policy changes that open new and more robust SUD services for patients with federal funding match	DHS
State Opioid Response grant (federal program)	Additional MAT training and support for providers	DHS
MAT in state prisons and county jails	Expansion of MAT options and availability in state prisons and county jails	DOC, DHS, DOH
Naloxone accessibility	Expand availability of overdose medication	DOC, DHS, DOH
Alternatives to Opioids (ALTO) program for hospital emergency departments	Physicians seek and prescribe alternative pain management options to opioids for patients	DOH
Syringe Access Programs (SAP)	Provide sterile syringes, important in prevention of spread of blood borne diseases like HIV and HEP C	DOH
Pregnant women and infants programs	Treatment and support services for pregnant women	DHS

2. SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS ON THEIR PATH TO AND MAINTENANCE OF RECOVERY

Key programs include:

PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	LEAD AGENCY
Housing for individuals and families with an individual (multiple models and programs)	Recovery housing (sober, group living) and permanent supportive housing model for homeless individuals and child welfare involved families	DHS, DCA, DCF
Employment supports	Employer incentives and employment supports for individuals involved and completing treatment	DOL
Peer supports and navigators	Supporting children/ families/incarcerated individuals accessing treatment, peer recovery support and navigator services	DCE, DOC

3. BUILD SOUND DATA SYSTEMS AND STRENGTHEN SYSTEM-WIDE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR THE ADDICTION COMMUNITY

Key programs include:

PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	LEAD AGENCY
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program database	The PDMP tracks information on prescription sales of narcotic painkillers and other habit-forming drugs	AG
Health Information Technology Interoperability Project for community providers	Connect addiction and health providers and hospitals to better integrate physical and behavioral health data through Health Information Technology system modernization	DOH
Opioid Data Dashboard	This dashboard displays opioid and other drug-related overdose indicators for public health practitioners, researchers, policy-makers, and the public	DOH
NJ CARES	A dashboard of opioid related data and information including deaths, naloxone administrations and opioid prescriptions	AG

4. ROBUST LAW ENFORCEMENT TO STEM THE SUPPLY OF ILLICIT DRUGS (AND SUPPORT DIVERSION PROGRAMS)

An aggressive law enforcement strategy is a key component to addressing the opioid epidemic and stemming the supply and distribution of illicit drugs, especially the increased supply of the extremely dangerous drug fentanyl.

Key programs include:

PROGRAM NAME	DESCRIPTION	LEAD AGENCY
Operation Helping Hands	Periodic law enforcement operation to target low level drug offenders through arrest and divert them to SUD treatment	AG
Criminal and civil prosecutions	Holding individuals and organizations fueling the crisis accountable	AG