

PRESENTATION ON OPIOID RESPONSE



Colorado Attorney General
Phil Weiser

Director of Opioid Response
Heidi Williams





COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF LAW



PHIL WEISER

Colorado Attorney General



HEIDI WILLIAMS

Director, Opioid Response

The Problem

- Colorado has lost over 5000 people to opioid overdose in the past 10 years
- An estimated additional 2000 people have lost their lives to fentanyl and heroin
- Roughly 70% of people who use heroin report they used opioid medications first
- Our state has only around 30% of the total drug treatment capacity we need.

Current proposed settlements with Johnson & Johnson and three large distributors provide significantly more settlement funds to Colorado if local governments join in the settlement.



CDPHE. (n.d.). Counts of drug overdose deaths due to any opioid in Colorado, 2010-2019. Retrieved from https://cohealthviz.dphe.state.co.us/t/PSDVIP-MHPPUBLIC/views/DrugOverdoseDashboard/PoisoningDeathFrequencies?iframeSizedToWindow=true&display_count=n&showAppBanner=false&origin=viz_share_link&showVizHome=n&isGuestRedirectFromVizportal=y&embed=y

Colorado Prescription Drug Abuse Consortium. (n.d.). Heroin in Colorado (p. 3, Rep.). doi:<http://www.corxconsortium.org/wp-content/uploads/Heroin-in-Colorado-FINAL-April-2017.pdf>

Brown, J. (2020, June 28). Opioid crisis in Colorado could get worse amid pandemic. Retrieved August 6, 2020, from <https://apnews.com/bf1c11ac45d63808ffae945c750cd81>

Core Principles for All Colorado Plan Agreement



**MAXIMIZE
SETTLEMENT FUNDS**

**UTILIZE
EXISTING
INFRASTRUCTURE
TO THE EXTENT
POSSIBLE**

**ENSURE
EQUITY FOR ALL
LOCAL
GOVERNMENTS**

ADDRESSING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC



TREATMENT

Evidence-based treatment models

RECOVERY

Evidence-based recovery models

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Innovative treatment, diversion strategies and wrap-around services

PREVENTION, EDUCATION

Widespread prevention and education efforts among communities

HARM REDUCTION

Strategies for reducing or mitigating the negative consequences associated with substance use

Opioid Settlement Funds

Total Colorado Share



Direct Allocation by Formula to Participating Local Governments
***Requirement – Full Transparency**

Opioid Abatement Fund
Formula Allocations to Regions
Regional Committee to formulate and submit a 2-year plan
Regional Committee to implement plan
Reporting and Auditing at end of annual cycle

Infrastructure Fund – State
This fund will support hard hit areas in the state with resource needs

Direct Allocation to State Government
***Requirement – Full Transparency**

Local Governments

State Government

***Local government may direct its share to county or region**

Proposed Governance

Statewide Opioid Abatement Council

6

Local
Government
Appointees

6

Attorney
General
Appointees

1

Chair, non-voting,
except in instance
of a tie

Regional Governance

Voting Members (Recommended List: Participating Local Governments to Decide)

- 1 rep appointed by each county (can be commissioners)
- 1 rep appointed by the rotating city within each county (or other city agreed upon) (can be councilmembers and mayors)
- 1 rep from each public health department within the region
- 1 rep from a county human services department
- At least 1 rep appointed from law enforcement within region (sheriff, police, DA etc.)
- 1 rep from a municipal or county court system within region

*such other reps as participating counties/cities agree on (not to include providers who may be recipients of funds)

Non-Voting Members

- Reps from behavioral health providers
- Reps from health care providers
- Recovery/treatment experts
- Other county or city reps
- AG rep(s)
- Community rep(s)
- Affected persons

Proposed Governance - Draft

Region 1	Region 5	Region 9	Region 13	Region 17
Region 2	Region 6	Region 10	Region 14	Region 18
Region 3	Region 7 (Broomfield)	Region 11 (Denver)	Region 15	Region 19
Region 4	Region 8	Region 12	Region 16	

We Want to Hear from You

**Please tell us about any
successes, challenges, and
gaps related to opioids in
your community.**



Contact Information:

Heidi Williams

Director of Opioid Response

Heidi.Williams@coag.gov

303-819-9722



THANK YOU