



HOPE TASKFORCE

COMMUNITY OPIOID RESPONSE FRAMEWORK:

1. Reduce Access to Drugs.
2. Reduce Opioid Use and Misuse.
3. Increase Overdose Response.
4. Integrate mental health and substance use disorder treatment and recovery.
5. Substance use prevention and education.

Recommend Continuing:

1. Drug disposal efforts through the RxBox Program and other programs.
2. Support for law enforcement interdiction and strong prosecution of those responsible for sales and distribution of illicit drugs in DuPage County.
3. Reduce the number of opiates prescribed to DuPage County residents.
4. Promote the use of the Illinois Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.
5. Promote and provide safe-prescriber training.
6. Assure the availability of naloxone to first responders.
7. Increase the number of residents trained and equipped to use naloxone in the community.
8. Promote a communication campaign regarding legal and treatment resources currently available.
9. Enhance and promote prevention efforts.
10. Disseminate a substance use disorder stigma reduction campaign to address barriers to treatment.

Expansion Opportunities:

1. Additional locations for drug collection and disposal efforts throughout the healthcare systems in DuPage County.
2. Additional training and education to residents on the importance of disposing medications properly.
3. Education of consumers about identifying opioid medications and advocating for alternatives.
4. Promoting consistent safe prescribing messages, policies and practices used by healthcare providers and health systems.
5. Increase substance use disorder screening among primary care and other health care providers to improve early identification and linkage to treatment.
6. Increase the availability of medication-assisted treatment and treatment opportunities across the community.

Recommendations for County Board Funding:

1. Expand overdose follow-up provided to individuals in order to more effectively link individuals into treatment services.
2. Coordinate with the criminal justice system (law enforcement, EMS, courts) partners to increase screening and referrals to treatment.



HEROIN OPIOID PREVENTION & EDUCATION

HOPE TASKFORCE



The DuPage County Heroin Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) Taskforce was formed in January 2018 as a joint operation of the DuPage County Board and DuPage County Board of Health. The Taskforce is comprised of 18 appointed members across many sectors of our community including mental health, law enforcement, adjudication, substance use treatment, prevention, and education. The Taskforce is responsible for advising DuPage County elected leaders on needed program development, supporting infrastructure, and policy recommendations to address the opioid crisis. In 2018, the DuPage County Board supported the Taskforce with \$100,000. The recommendations below identify the first two projects to be funded. This funding supplements existing local, state and federal grants that support the projects identified on the front page. As additional resources become available, the Taskforce will make additional recommendations on how to best utilize that funding.

Strategy #1:

Substance Use Treatment Navigation

Expand services to more effectively
link individuals to treatment services.

Lead Agency:
DuPage County Health Department

Funding: \$50,000 + In Kind

Planning, Training and Implementation of the following objectives:

1. Define a network of participating substance use agencies for all levels of care.
2. Partner with law enforcement and other community providers to identify individuals seeking treatment.
3. Establish a 24/7 central resource for screening individuals seeking treatment and identify the appropriate level of care.
4. Link individuals seeking treatment to appropriate provider.
5. Monitor outcomes and quality assurance of process to ensure individuals have access to care.
6. Evaluate and develop sustainability plan to continue and expand services.
7. Coordinate more closely with treatment providers to ensure thorough, effective and frequent communication between providers.

Strategy #2:

Specialty Court for First Time Drug Offenders

Coordinate with criminal justice system
partners and treatment providers to increase the
screening, oversight, education and treatment
referrals for first-time drug offenders.

Lead Agency:
DuPage County 18th Judicial Circuit Court

Funding: \$50,000 + In Kind

Planning, Training and Implementation of the following objectives:

1. Develop a Specialty First-Offender Drug Court.
2. Educate and train judges on the issues related to substance use disorder, mental health and evidence-based best practices to address these concerns.
3. Educate and train staff, including probation officers, assistant state's attorneys, and public defenders on the issues related to substance use disorder, mental health and evidence-based best practices to address these concerns.
4. Establish an education component with knowledgeable and experienced speakers to address first-time offenders regarding heroin/opioid abuse from the perspectives of those in the medical, legal, business, education and family/community fields.
5. Coordinate more closely with treatment providers to ensure thorough, effective and frequent communication between providers and the court system.