



# Overdose Fatality Review in Wisconsin: A tool for overdose prevention

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# Overdose Fatalities

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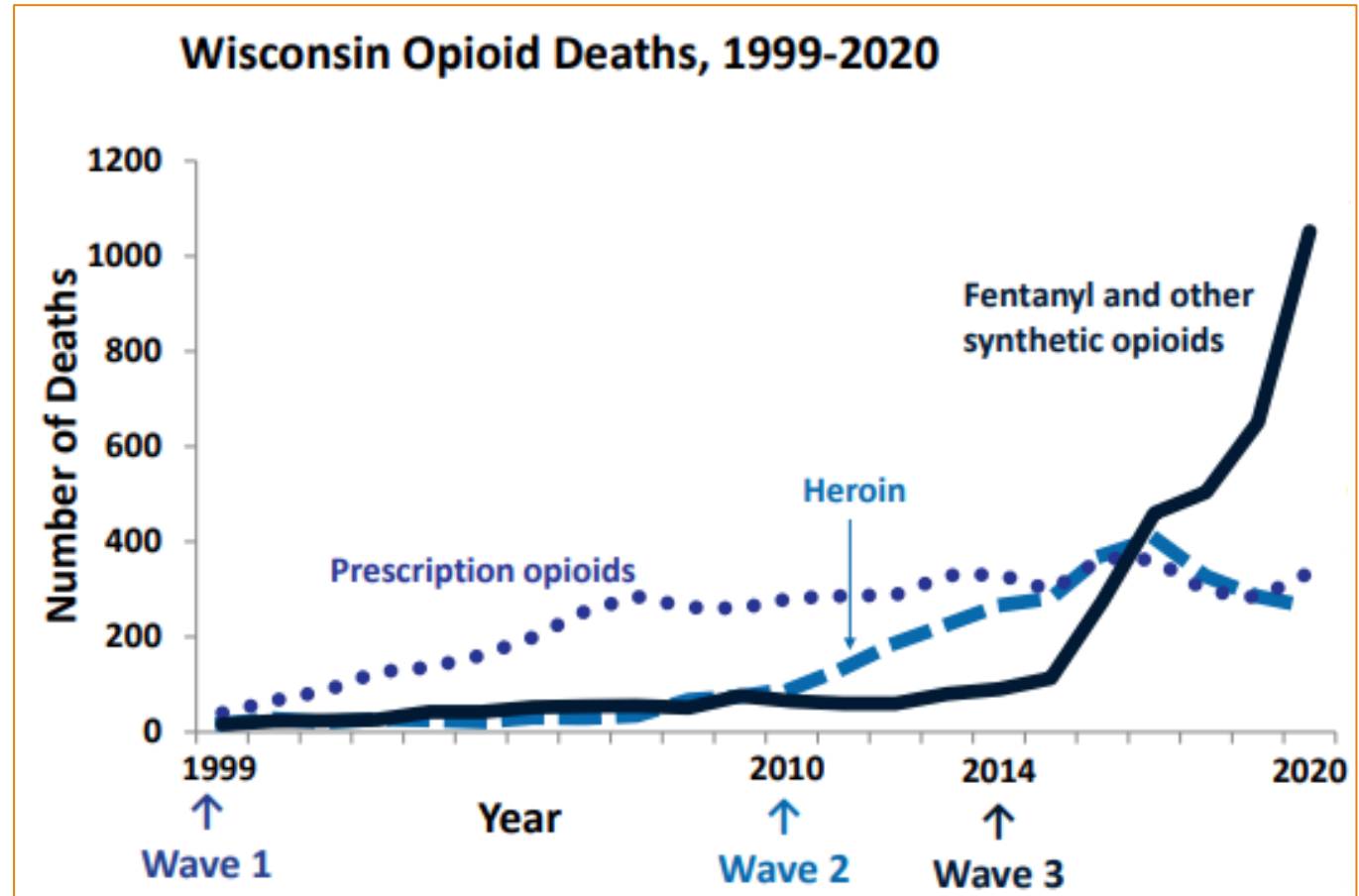
NATIONAL AND STATE DATA

# The opioid epidemic has occurred in three waves in Wisconsin and nationally.

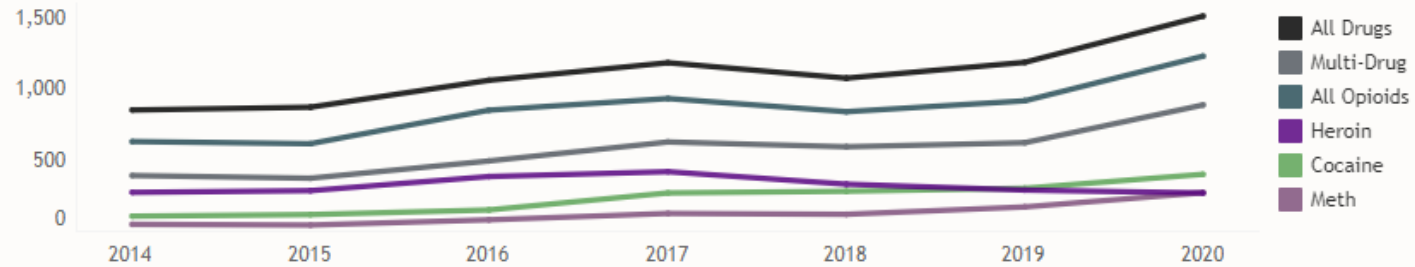
Wave 1 – prescription opioids

Wave 2 – heroin

Wave 3 – fentanyl and other synthetic opioids

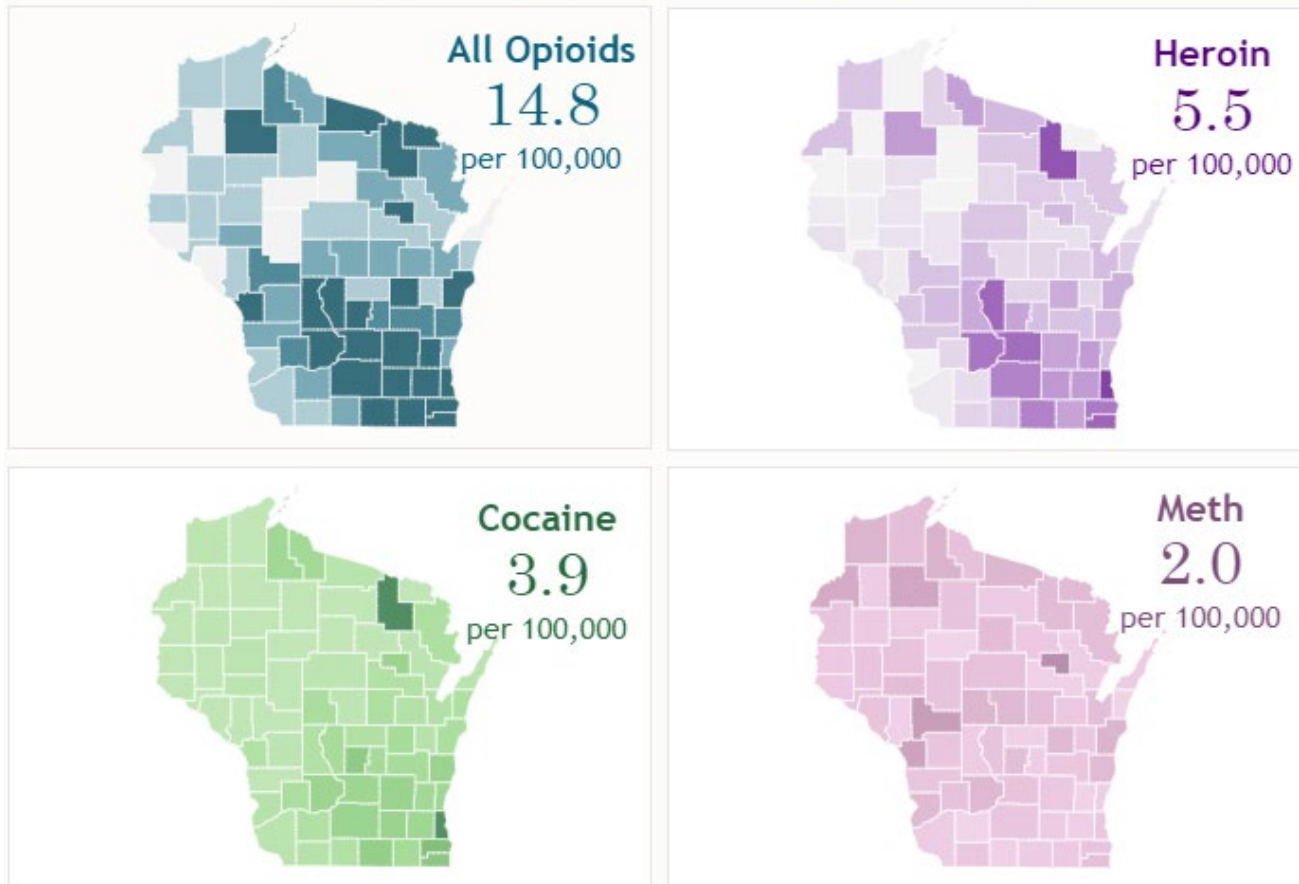


## Drug Deaths Over Time



## Wisconsin Drug Overdose Deaths Dashboard, 2014 -2020

### Rate of Drug Deaths by County 2014-2020



Helpful dashboards:

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aoda/drug-overdose-deaths.htm>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/data-reports-studies.htm>

<https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/aoda/stimulants-hospitalizations.htm>

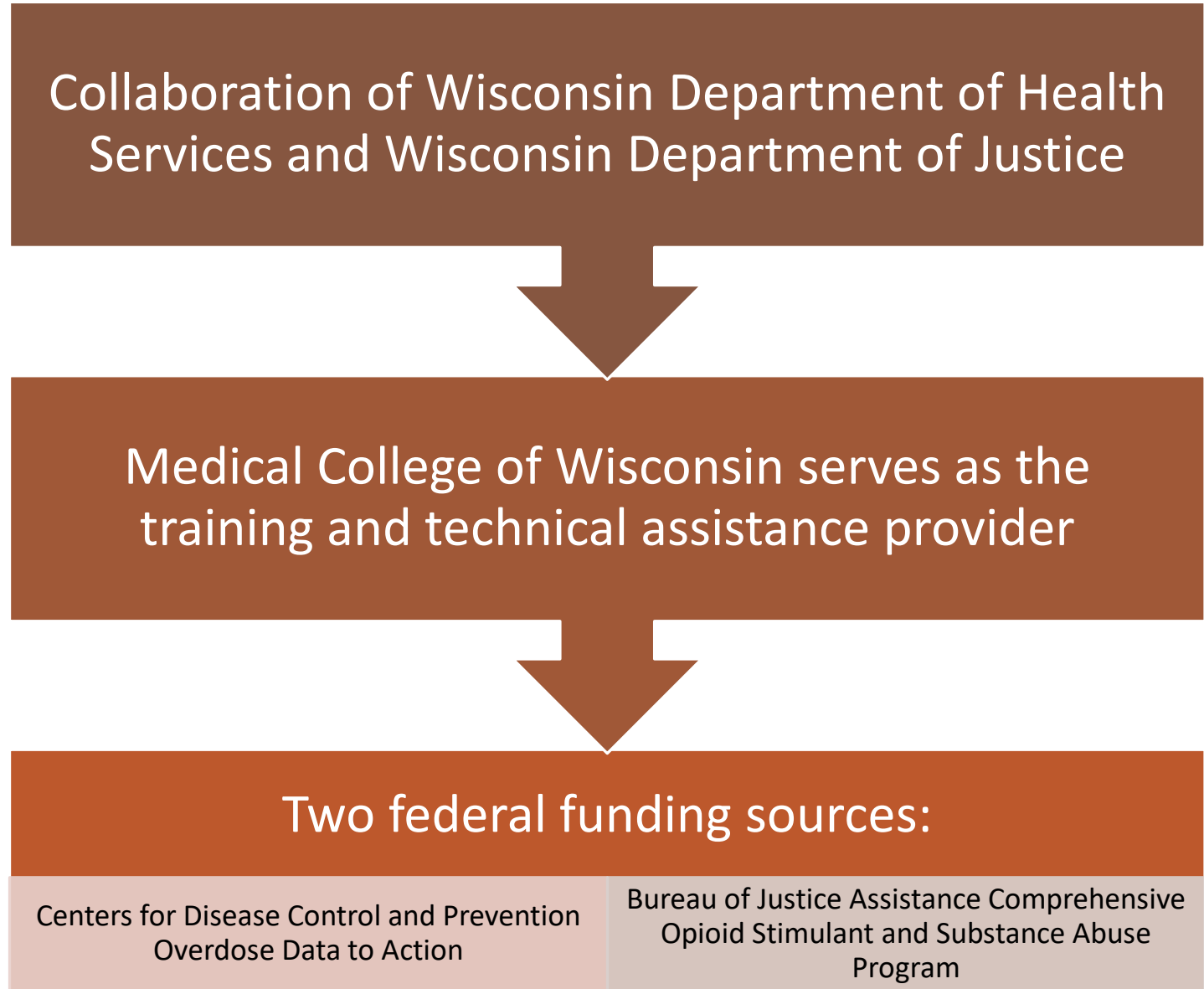
# What is an overdose fatality review?

A locally based, multi-disciplinary process for understanding risk factors and circumstances leading to fatal overdoses and identifying opportunities to prevent future overdoses.

Typical team membership includes:

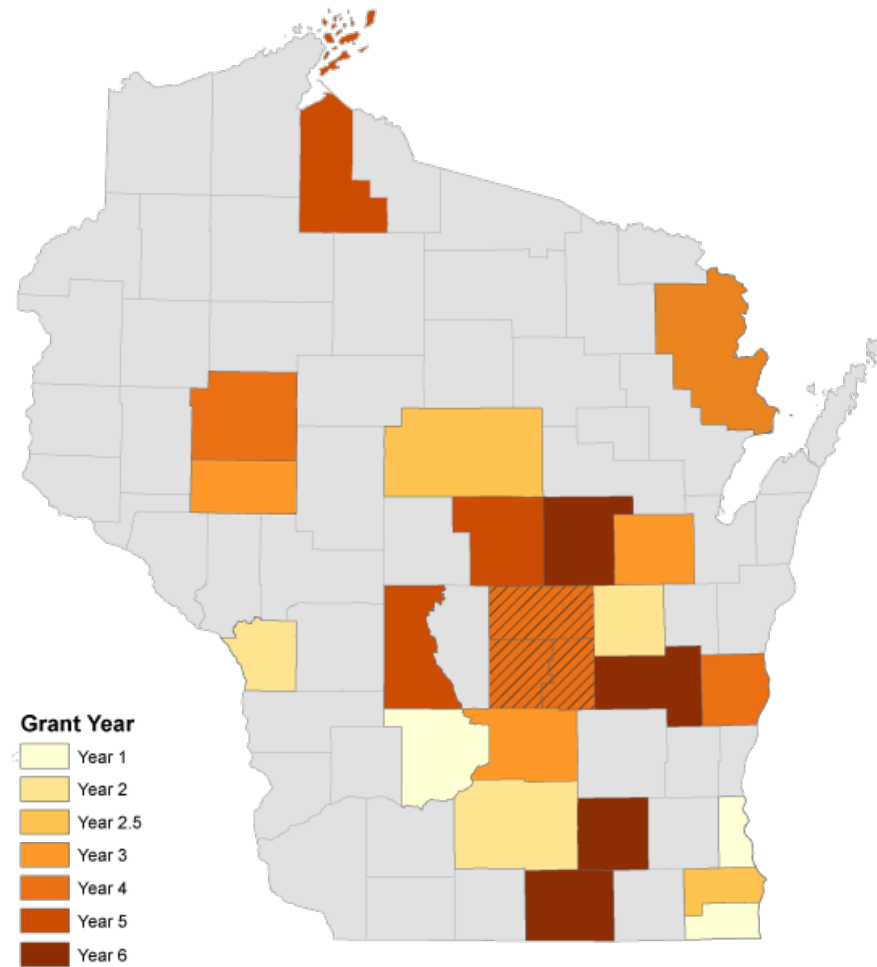
- Public health
- Law enforcement (municipal police and/or sheriff)
- Coroner or medical examiner
- Emergency medical services
- Corrections
- District attorney's office
- Behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment providers
- Individuals with lived experience
- Healthcare

# Overdose Fatality Review in Wisconsin



# Wisconsin Overdose Fatality Review Program Sites

September 2016- August 2022



Last updated 8/16/2022

## OFR Teams

- Ashland
- Chippewa
- Columbia
- Dane
- Eau Claire
- Fond du Lac
- Jefferson
- Juneau
- Kenosha
- La Crosse
- Marinette
- Marathon
- Milwaukee
- Outagamie
- Portage
- Racine
- Rock
- Sauk
- Sheboygan
- Tri-county (Waushara, Marquette & Green Lake)
- Waupaca
- Winnebago

Local health dept. teams in Milw. Co.

- Greenfield
- North Shore
- South Shore
- West Allis

# OFR purpose

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*OFRs utilize a systematic, multi-disciplinary review process to prevent future overdose fatalities through improvement in organizational policy or practice or refinement of public policies or systems' operations to enhance community health and safety.*



# Goals of OFR

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To better understand the nature of overdose fatalities through **comprehensive information sharing**

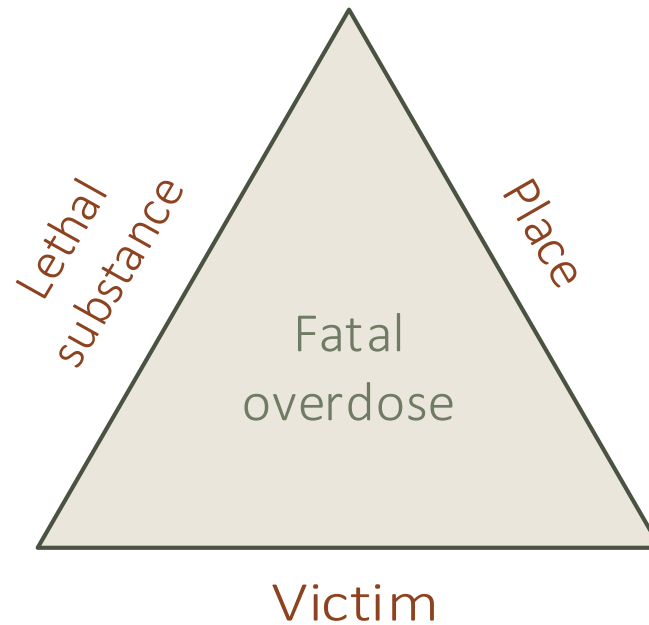
To develop innovative, **proactive** responses

To **strategically** focus limited enforcement and intervention activities on identifiable risks

# OFR principle

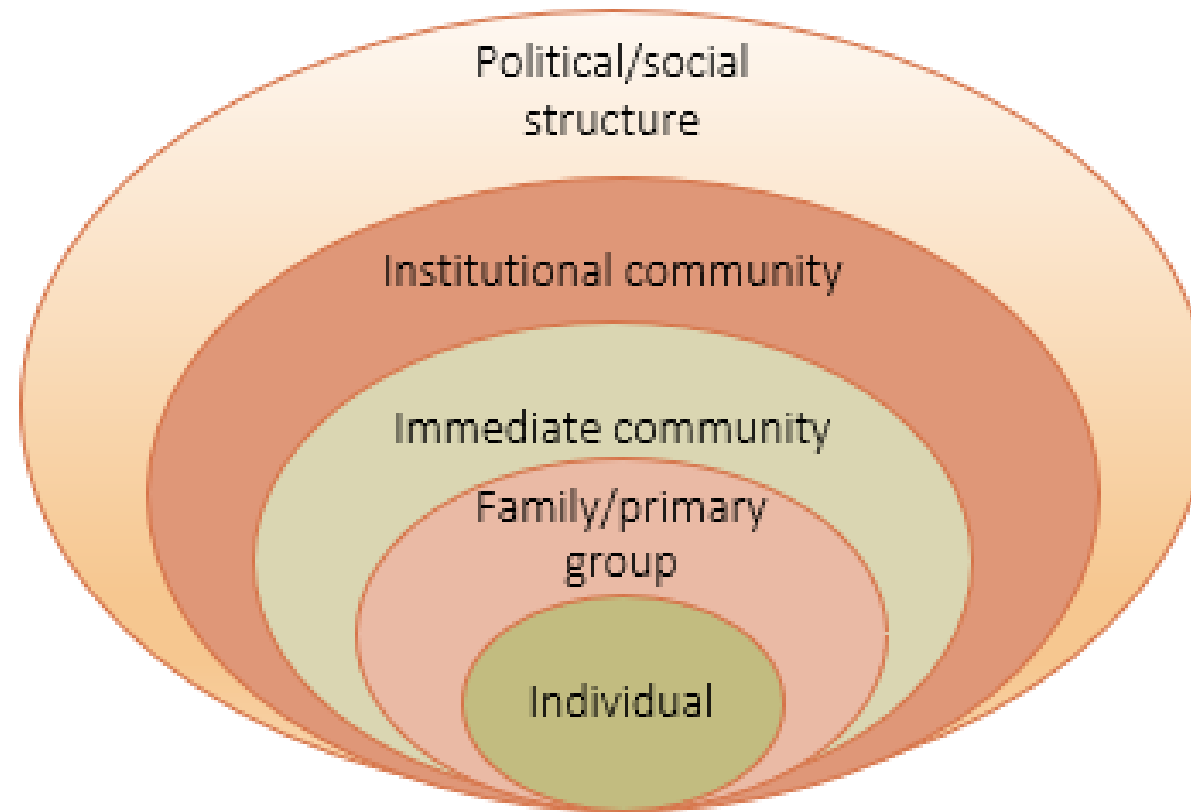
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Overdose fatalities are preventable.



# Overdose fatalities are about more than individual behaviors

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# OFR Recommendations

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# Types of recommendations

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## LOCAL

Strategies to improve communication and coordination across agencies

Training opportunities

Update and streamline agency policies and procedures

Identify gaps in service or barriers to care for people with substance use disorder

## STATE

Policy changes for state agencies

Changes to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

Improved monitoring of programs or services for individuals with SUD

\* An OFR State Advisory Group receives state-level recommendations from OFR teams

# Examples of local recommendations

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Increase the number of mental health clinicians who are competent in providing integrated mental health and substance use services.

Increase the number of positive/sober housing options with that will accept people with criminal records and previous drug offenses.

Individuals, particularly children, who witness a fatal overdose, or the investigation of a fatal overdose should be connected to support services to address the trauma experienced.

Expand social supports for people in recovery by offering a mentorship program to people newly released from jail.

Offer training on trauma informed care, peer support, mental health, and substance use to law enforcement and EMS.

Increase use of and access to peer recovery coaches for persons who are at high risk of overdose deaths through coordination of services and cross-system approaches (EMS/ED, law enforcement, post release from jail, friend/family after OD death).

# OFR State Advisory Group

Opioid Response Strategy Team

Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin

University of Wisconsin-Madison

WI Dept of Corrections

WI Dept of Children and Families

WI Dept of Health Services

WI Dept of Justice

WI Dept of Safety and Professional  
Services

WI State Lab of Hygiene

**Mission:** Reduce overdose fatalities in Wisconsin through support of the overdose fatality review process and recommendations of the local multi-disciplinary teams.

**Goals:** OFR State Advisory Group is a multi-disciplinary group which seeks to:

- Promote OFR as a tool for local communities to address the overdose epidemic
- Receive, evaluate, and implement state-level recommendations from local OFR teams
- Address data sharing barriers in understanding the circumstances leading to fatal overdoses

**Began in April 2021**

Tell us about your OFR team,  
particularly the types of agencies  
that are involved?

What benefits have you seen from  
the collaboration between the  
agencies on your team?

How might your OFR team be a  
helpful resource as your county is  
planning for use of its opioid  
settlement funds?

## Panel discussion



# Questions – thank you!

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