

Allegany County Opioid Intervention Team

Vision: To protect and reduce the impact of opioids on the citizens and visitors of Allegany County

Mission: The mission of the Allegany County Opioid Intervention Team (OIT) is to develop and implement a coordinated approach to address the opioid crisis impacting Allegany County.

Co-Coordinator of OIT: Allegany County Department of Emergency Services, Allegany County Health Department

Opioid Intervention Team: The Opioid Intervention Team is comprised of stakeholders who have a responsibility and/or desire to make an impact on the opioid crisis in Allegany County. The Senior Policy Group.

Implementation Team: Opioid Intervention Implementation Team includes partners that implement OIT projects and are responsible for meeting OIT performance measures.

OIT Implementation Team Projects:

Staff Training

Training is an important component to ensure that Allegany County is addressing the opioid crisis with the most effective strategies. OIT funding will be used to send three Allegany County Health Department staff, the Behavioral Health Director, Outpatient Addictions Director, and Inpatient Addictions Director, to the National Rx Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit. At this summit, staff will learn from experts in the field and connect with other prevention and treatment professionals.

Outreach and Education

Prescribe Change Allegany is an outreach and education campaign in Allegany County (<http://www.prescribchangeallegany.org>). The campaign educates the public on opioid addiction, naloxone, proper storage and disposal of medication, addiction treatment resources, and overdose deaths. The campaign includes multiple strategies including a comprehensive website, community events, outreach materials, billboards, radio ads, and much more. OIT funding will be used to expand the campaign, increasing the reach of the campaign, targeting new and different audiences, and reaching more of the Allegany County community.

OIT funding will also support staff time so behavioral health prevention staff can conduct outreach and education activities, engage the public, collaborate with community partners, and manage the OIT grant.

Increase Community Supply of Naloxone

Naloxone is a powerful tool to prevent overdose deaths. First responders in Allegany County, including EMS and fire companies, are experiencing financial difficulties related to the high cost and increased demand for Naloxone. Grant funds will be used to purchase Naloxone for first responders. In the last fiscal year, OIT funds have been used successfully to provide the Naloxone that first responders need to help prevent overdose deaths.

Reduce Illicit Supply of Opioids

The Allegany County Sheriff's Office, Cumberland City Police, and Maryland State Police will work together to implement drug interdiction events to reduce the supply of illicit opioids in Allegany County. Limited staffing and multiple priorities have limited law enforcement's ability to conduct interdiction events. OIT funds will support overtime pay, detection dogs, and supplies for interdiction events. In FY18, with the assistance of OIT funds, Allegany County law enforcement agencies conducted interdiction events and successfully seized illicit opioids.

Supporting Recovery Services

OIT funds will be used to support recovery services in community.