Governor Raimondo’s Task Force on Overdose Prevention and Intervention
April 10, 2019

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
Fatal Overdoses in Rhode Island: Data Highlights

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Director of Health

April 10, 2019
Fatal Drug Overdose Trends

Source: Office of the State Medical Examiners (OSME), Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)
Note: Percent decrease in all drug overdose was 3.6% between 2016 and 2017 and 3.1% between 2017 and 2018. Data reflect accidental drug overdose deaths and do not include suicides, homicides, or undetermined deaths.
The percent of accidental drug overdose deaths where fentanyl contributed to the cause of death increased from 5% in 2009 to 72% in 2018.

Source: Office of the State Medical Examiners (OSME), Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)
Note: Data reflect accidental drug overdose deaths and do not include suicides, homicides, or undetermined deaths.
Between 2016 and 2018, the decrease in accidental overdose deaths was not consistent across all age groups. The rate of fatal overdoses in persons ages 35-44 and 55+ increased during this time.


Note: Data reflect accidental drug overdose deaths and do not include suicides, homicides, or undetermined deaths
Approximately four out of five (79% in 2018) overdose deaths occurred in males.

The rate of overdoses by gender did not change substantially between 2016 and 2018.

Source: Office of the State Medical Examiners (OSME), Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH).
Note: Data reflect accidental drug overdose deaths and do not include suicides, homicides, or undetermined deaths.
A majority of drug overdose deaths occurred in the white population.

- **White**: 91.4%
- **Black**: 8.0%
- **Asian**: 0.6%

The rate of overdose deaths among black persons fluctuated between 2009 and 2018 but, on average, was slightly lower than the rate among whites.

A majority of drug overdose deaths occurred among non-Hispanics.

- **Non-Hispanic**: 75.5%
- **Unknown**: 12.7%
- **Hispanic**: 11.8%

Between 2009 and 2018, the rate of overdose deaths, on average, was slightly lower among Hispanics.


Note: Data reflect accidental drug overdose deaths and do not include suicides, homicides, or undetermined deaths.
Fatal Drug Overdose Counts by City/Town of Residence, 2018

Highest counts:
- Providence
- Pawtucket
- Cranston
- Warwick

Highest rates:
- Charlestown
- West Warwick
- Providence

Seven towns had ZERO overdose deaths among their residents in 2018

Source: OSME, RIDOH; RIGIS; Census 2010
Note: Data reflect accidental drug overdose deaths and do not include suicides, homicides, or undetermined deaths. Of 314 drug overdose deaths, 36 are not displayed on the map: 24 were out of state, 8 were homeless, and 4 had unknown city of residence.
Strategic Plan Update: Overview

Keep focus on saving lives and go upstream to prevent deaths.

• Keeps our strategic pillars—prevention, rescue, treatment, and recovery.

• Adds new core principles to act as bridges between each of the pillars—important, cross-cutting workstreams aimed at addressing the problems that caused the overdose crisis.

• Puts new emphasis on prevention and recovery—or going upstream and downstream while maintaining our focus on saving lives through robust rescue and treatment resources.

• Aligns with new funding sources—State Opioid Response grant from SAMHSA, the CDC-SURGE grant, the Dislocated Worker Grant from the Department of Labor, and grants from the Department of Justice to support the HOPE Initiative.
We need to change the social conditions that cause substance use disorder and that keep people with substance use disorder from getting effective support.

- Strategic pillars outline the Task Force’s day-to-day actions and goals, but **there are important, cross-cutting principles that inform our work.**
- To keep the bigger picture in mind, this plan created five **core principles** to guide the work of the Task Force:

  - Integrating Data to Inform Crisis Response
  - Meeting, Engaging and Serving Diverse Communities
  - Changing Negative Public Attitudes on Addiction and Recovery
  - Universal Incorporation of Harm-Reduction
  - Confronting the Social Determinants of Health
Based on the 2018 data and our new Strategic Plan, how will we move forward to continue to drive down overdoses and save lives?
Over the Dose RI:
An Evidence-Based Public
Awareness Campaign to Reduce the
Misuse of Opioid Prescription Pain
Medications

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Over the Dose RI: Partnerships

Rhode Island Department of Health

Over The Dose

Rescue
The Behavior Change Agency

Vermont Department of Health
Reduce prescription opioid misuse among people at a higher risk for opioid use by communicating the real risks of using opioids not as prescribed.
This campaign aims to **reduce prescription opioid misuse** by increasing knowledge of what prescription opioids are, how they affect your body, and how they affect other substances like alcohol.

[https://youtu.be/byvyEOX8nM4](https://youtu.be/byvyEOX8nM4)
Over the Dose RI: Campaign Overview

Interactive website will live on PreventOverdoseRI.org and health.ri.gov

Four Facebook Live Events

Paid and organic social media campaign on Facebook and Instagram

Target Audience: Rhode Island adults ages 18–50

Campaign Duration: April 8 to June 17 (10-weeks)
“Microsite” will live on PreventOverdoseRI.org and health.ri.gov
FACEBOOK + INSTAGRAM
MAIN AD COPY: Tap to learn these 5 ESSENTIAL opioid facts.

[FACEBOOK ONLY]
HEADLINE COPY: Opioids Made Easy
DESCRIPTION: Which drugs are opioids? What do they do? Why do doctors prescribe them? Click here to learn the facts.
Over the Dose RI: 
Paid Social Media Banner Ads
What You Can Do: Share and Spread the Word

Facebook: Rhode Island Department of Health
Instagram: ridohealth
Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Development Disabilities, and Hospitals

REGIONAL PREVENTION TASK FORCE COALITIONS
Prevention matters!
Prevention

Delivered prior to the onset of a diagnosis, interventions intended to prevent or reduce the risk of developing a behavioral health problem such as underage alcohol use, prescription drug misuse, and illicit drug use.

Strategies

- **Universal** – Reaches entire population without regard to individual risk factors.
- **Selective** – Target subgroups at risk for substance use.
- **Indicated** – Identifies individuals who are experiencing early signs of substance abuse and target them with special programs.
Institute of Medicine-Continuum of Care
Why is Prevention Important?

11.9% of high school students have a substance use disorder.

Tobacco, alcohol, and other drug users tend to have worse grades and poorer school attendance than non-substance users.

Just a few years of heavy alcohol or marijuana consumption by youth can adversely affect their brain functions.

Prevention focuses on helping people develop the knowledge, attitudes, and skills they need to make good choices or change harmful behaviors.

If we start early, we can prevent the onset of substance use disorders for the majority of the population!
BHDDH Prevention System

- Rhode Island Substance Abuse Prevention Act (RISAPA)
- Regional Prevention Task Forces (RPTF)
- Student Assistance Program (SAP) – Project Success
- Partnership for Success 2018 (PFS)
- State Opioid Response Grant (SOR)
- Rhode Island Prevention Resource Center (RIPRC)
Regional Prevention Task Forces (RPTF)

- Funds seven Regions
- Promotes comprehensive community prevention programming
- Local needs assessment
- Planning and implementation of evidence-based programs
- Evaluation of strategies, policies, and programs to produce long-term reduction of substance use and abuse and wellness promotion across the lifespan
#1: Southern Providence County
Cranston, Foster, Gloucester, Scituate, North Providence, Smithfield, and Johnston

#2: Northern Providence County/Blackstone Valley
Burrillville, Woonsocket, Cumberland, Lincoln, Pawtucket, North Smithfield, and Central Falls

#3: Providence

#4: Kent County
Coventry, Exeter, West Greenwich, East Greenwich, West Warwick, and Warwick

#5: East Bay
East Providence, Barrington, Warren, Bristol

#6: Newport County
Portsmouth, Tiverton, Little Compton, Jamestown, Middletown, and Newport

#7: South County
North Kingstown, Narragansett, South Kingstown, Hopkinton, Richmond, Charlestown, Westerly, and New Shoreham
Coalition Sector Representation

- Business
- Medicine/Health
- Government
- Education
- Safety
- Community/Family Supports
Strategic Prevention Framework

**Assessment** of community
**Capacity** of your agency/coalition

**Planning** (needs/gaps)
- Risk factors
- Protective factors
- Prioritizing risk and protective factors

**Implementation**
- Involves the use of a logic model

**Evaluation**
- Monitor program implementation
- Identify areas that need improvement
- Highlight areas for sustainability
Evidence-Based Prevention Strategies

Information Dissemination
Brochures, Media Campaigns, PSA

Education
Classroom, Parenting

Alternatives
Drug-Free Events, Youth and Adult Leadership Opportunities

Environmental
Big P, Little P

Community-Based
Community and Volunteer Training

Problem Identification
Strategic Plan

Reduce the US of alcohol by youth 12-25
Reduce the percent of high school aged youth reporting 30-day use of marijuana
Reduce the non-medical use of prescription drugs
Increase support and advocate for treatment for mental health
Capacity building
Coalition Events and Programs

- Count It! Lock It! Drop It!
- Hidden in Plain Sight
- Talk Early. Talk Often. Listen.
- Sidelined
- Change Direction campaign
- Vaping/ENDS Education/Policy
- Red Ribbon Campaigns and National Drug Facts week
Drug Take-Back Day

- April 27, 2019 and October 2019
- Provides a convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs.
- Educational opportunity: Reducing access to potentially dangerous or addictive medicines.
Permanent Drug Take-Back Boxes at Police Stations

Barrington  Narragansett
Burrillville  Tribal
Charlestown  North Kingstown
East Greenwich  Providence
Foster  Richmond
Hopkinton  Tiverton
Jamestown  Warwick
Little Compton  Westerly
Middletown  Woonsocket
Movie Theatre Public Service Announcement
Facing the Challenges Ahead

Alcohol & Youth
Still the Most-Used Substance by Youth

Marijuana & Youth
Perception of Harm
Use by Youth

Tobacco & Youth
Cigarette Use
E-Cigarette Use

Opioids
Over 300 Opioid Overdose Deaths in RI Annually

Addiction
1 in 6 Youth Will Develop a Substance Use Disorder

Mental Illness
1 in 5 Adults have Mental Illness and Suicide Rate on the Rise
State Opioid Response Grant (SOR)

- Opioid Solution Grants
- Reduction of Statewide Opioid Usage
- Collaboration with Recovery and Family Supports
- Collaboration with Health Equity Zones
Prevention Successes

- Reduction of tobacco use among youth
- Reduction in underage drinking rates
- Rhode Island Student Survey administered to more than 22,000 students in 2018
- Seven Regional Prevention Coalitions
- Student Assistance Counselors in 47 of the 64 middle and high schools

**Next Steps:**
- Increased perception of risk of harm for marijuana use among youth
- Reduction of youth marijuana use
- Reduction of youth use of electronic cigarettes/vaping
- Continue to educate on harmful effects of underage drinking
Questions?

Join your Regional Coalition. Together, we can create safe and healthy communities!

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PUBLIC COMMENT