



# STATE OPIOID RESPONSE GRANT

In October 2018, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded Pennsylvania \$55.9 million in federal grant funding for the state's response to the opioid epidemic. The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs, along with Governor Wolf's office, led the application effort with multiple state agencies now charged with implementing and tracking each initiative. The planned initiatives focus on prevention, treatment, recovery, education, and training, which are broken into three overarching "buckets." The buckets include housing supports and assistance, criminal justice and law enforcement initiatives with a focus on reentrant supports and prevention, and workforce development strategies.

## Housing

**\$15 million**

### Opioid Housing Initiative

Through this initiative, the Department of Human Services will fund pilot projects in eligible urban and rural communities throughout the commonwealth to help individuals to become and remain engaged in evidence-based treatment interventions, provide individuals with the necessary support services to maintain housing stability, and provide pre-tenancy education services.

**\$2 million**

### Health Homes for Pregnant Women with OUD and Perinatal Quality Collaborative

The funding will be used to establish 5 health homes to provide comprehensive physical and behavioral health care to pregnant women with opioid use disorder (OUD). These Health Homes will improve access to high-quality, person-centered care for pregnant women living with OUD.

## Criminal Justice/ Law Enforcement

**\$3 million**

### MAT expansion in Correctional Facilities

The Department of Corrections will significantly expand access to FDA-approved medication-assisted treatment (MAT) to re-entrants and support the agency's efforts to hire an in-house addiction medicine specialist.

Complementing this significant federal investment DDAP received \$26.5 million grants over the past two years from SAMHSA as part of the 21st Century CURES Act. With the new SAMHSA grant, Pennsylvania received a total of \$108 million in federal funding to fight the opioid epidemic.

## Workforce

**\$5 million**

### OUD Loan Repayment Program

The Department of Health will lead the establishment of a Pennsylvania OUD Loan Repayment Program to provide loan repayment for eligible health care practitioners who work in Health Professional Shortage Areas and specialize in treating individuals with OUD.

**\$3 million**

### Recruitment and Training of Certified Recovery Specialists

This funding will be used to retain Certified Recovery Specialists in the workforce by providing paid apprenticeships, integration into physical health organizations, and certification reimbursements.



## Prevention

**\$425,000**

### **Training and Prevention for Veterans with OUD**

The Department of Military and Veterans Affairs will lead this initiative to expand the Opioid Awareness Training through the PA Counterdrug Joint Task Force online. The expansion will allow the tool to reach law enforcement, students and National Guard members anywhere. Additionally, the project will develop regional programs focusing on the education, prevention, and identification of OUD in veterans and their families and caregivers.

**\$550,000**

### **Opioid Stewardship and MAT Summits**

The Department of Health will utilize this funding to coordinate regional training summits focusing on recruiting and educating physicians on MAT, as well as prescribing and available wrap around services and supports.

**\$2.5 million**

### **Student Prevention Initiative**

With this initiative the administration will support a three-part strategy to implement two evidence-based prevention models in schools throughout the commonwealth, deliver prevention programs for families, and use the EPISCenter at Penn State for data support and training of prevention programs.

## Existing Initiatives

**\$4 million**

### **Pennsylvania Coordinated Medication Assisted Treatment (PAC-MAT)**

The PAC-MAT initiative, established through the 21st Century Cures Grant, expands access to medication-assisted treatment to uninsured, underinsured, and privately insured patients who are suffering from OUD. This funding will support the original four PAC-MAT programs in continuing the hub and spoke model in rural and underserved areas of the commonwealth.

**\$1 million**

### **Public Awareness**

Statewide awareness campaigns will be launched to increase the general public's understanding of substance use disorder (SUD), to decrease stigma, and to increase knowledge about how to access treatment services.

**\$11 million**

### **Prevention and Treatment for Uninsured and Underinsured**

The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs has formulated allocations for its 47 single county authorities (SCAs) to assist in securing treatment and support services for individuals who are uninsured and underinsured. SCAs are responsible for the oversight of substance use disorder services delivered at the local level. In addition to enhancing treatment services for medication assisted treatment and full continuum of care, funding will be utilized to increase care coordination provided by the SCAs or their contracted case management and recovery support providers.

The SCAs will continue coordinating funding services at the local level. For funding opportunities, visit [ddap.pa.gov](http://ddap.pa.gov) to find your local SCA's contact information.