

# Agenda

**Sign on** – (9:50 – 10am)

**Welcome, housekeeping, introduction of agenda** – (10 – 10:05am)

**Workgroup report out** – 5 – 10 minutes each (10:05 – 11:20am)

- Community Education and Prevention – Barb Burns
- Treatment Providers – John Grieco, Jen Seib
- REAP – Thomas Diina, Chief of Community Reintegration, ECSO
- Hospitals and Emergency Departments – Dr. Lynch
- Providers – Dr. Burstein
- Naloxone – Cheryll Moore
- Family and Consumers – Deb Smith

**Updates** – (11:20 – 11:45am)

- DHHS SAMHSA funding – Elizabeth Terranova, Project Coordinator – SUD
- Opioid Mortality Review Board – Kelly Sipolo
- COAP funding – Category 3 – Probation Opioid unit – Anita Robillard
- Healing Communities Study – Taylor Winter, Project Coordinator – SUD
- COSSAP award – increase Peers and New York MATTERS (Medication Assisted Treatment and Emergency Referrals) with local police departments and department of probation in a fully virtual way

**Response to questions in the Chat**, (11:45am – 12 noon)

Thank you! – next meeting: **Monday, May 2, 2022**

# Erie County Opiate Task Force

## Community Education and Prevention Committee

# Goals

- Educate the community about the current status of the opioid epidemic in Western New York and addiction in general
- Provide awareness, guidance, and direction to those directly and indirectly impacted by the crisis
- AND promote, encourage and educate the community about prevention

# What's Going On?

- Who's doing what?
- Promote

# What's Going On?

- PSA update
- Partnering with the Genesee/Orleans Council on Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, or GCASA, on a PSA focusing on pain, how to speak with your doctor and what resources are available.
- Draft complete.
- Participants secured.
- Filming scheduled for March.

Thank you and best wishes to Dr. Bob!



**Erie County**  
**Opiate Epidemic**  
***Task Force***  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**February 7, 2022**

**Treatment Workgroup**

**Acting Co-Chair:**

**John Grieco, MS CRC**

Assistant Commissioner

Erie County Dept of Mental Health

**Co-Chair:**

**Jennifer Seib, LMHC, CASAC**

Vice President of Strategic Initiatives & Integration

BestSelf Behavioral Health, Inc.





## Treatment Provider Workgroup

- ❑ The work group continues to meet monthly with representation of treatment and prevention providers, family members, peers, hospitals, treatment court representation, managed care representation, Erie County staff as well as representation from NYS OASAS.
- ❑ Meetings are generally monthly; face to face and/or conference calls.





# Treatment Committee 3 current workgroups

- Increase access to SUD Housing
- Increase access to MAT in Community with focus on primary care
- Education and Training- **NEW!**



## Committee Updates:

- **Increase access to SUD Housing**

- **Facilitator: John Grieco, [john.grieco@erie.gov](mailto:john.grieco@erie.gov)**

- Continue to meet approximately every 3 months via conference call. Next meeting via WebEx [March 28th](#) at 1:00.

- **Recent Updates:**

- Community projects discussed at the last quarterly meeting continue to be in process and we will provide additional updates as progress warrants.
- [Erie County Department of Mental Health](#) has awarded funding to [Evergreen Health](#) to provide 12 beds of Transitional Supported Housing for those with a primary diagnosis of SUD whose documented housing status clearly and specifically indicates that it is not supportive of recovery and unlikely to become so.
- “The Adult Single Point of Access and Accountability (A-SPOA) is now including information pertaining to substance use treatment the vulnerability score to inform housing placement. A-SPOA staff plans to do outreach and education with high volume referral sources to ensure that such information is being included when the person being served consents to it.”
- Governor’s proposed State budget offers the promise of additional resources. Including but not limited to, expansion of mobile methadone services and a voluntary certification process for recovery-supportive housing.



# Committee Updates:

## **Training and Education**

**Facilitator: Amy Rockwood; [Amy.Rockwood@erie.gov](mailto:Amy.Rockwood@erie.gov)**

Selected as an area of focus by the SUD Treatment Committee at our September 2021 meeting.

Group focus has evolved and pursuing two paths:

- Harm Reduction - planning for this topic in ECDMH Monthly Training Series
- Exploring creating partnerships with churches in the minority community to support church leaders and provide trainings to leaders and congregations

Next meeting TBD: hope to meet again by end of February via WebEx.

**Those interested in participating please email Amy at [Amy.Rockwood@erie.gov](mailto:Amy.Rockwood@erie.gov)**



# Committee Updates:

- **Improve access to Medication Assisted Treatment in the Community**
  - **Facilitator: Jennifer Seib, [JSeib@bestselfwny.org](mailto:JSeib@bestselfwny.org)**

On going challenges to [improve access at Primary Care](#) remain. Some of which includes:

- [Reimbursement](#) for primary care doctors
- Lack of [funding to develop an “outreach/resource team”](#) that would provide in-reach education to primary care and serve as a resource for those seeking consultation.
- System challenges exist at a higher level.

Group is focusing on how to better support primary care in being able to assess and identify substance use concerns and how to easily be able to partner substance use providers, who are providing medication for substance use disorders.

The group wants to provide support to primary care and their patients without adding more work that they are not able take on given their own system constraints

Meets Monthly – next meeting scheduled for March 2, 2022 @ 12:00pm



# Medication for Opioid Use Disorder in Erie County: Methadone Maintenance Access Trends

- **Census Trends:**

- January 2016: 1272
- January 2018: 1834
- April 28, 2020: 2544
- July 29, 2020: 2378
- October 29, 2020: 2397
- January 26-28, 2021: 2426
- July, 2021: 2483
- October 2021: 2467
- January 2022: 2474

- **Waitlist information:**

- November 2017: 228
- January 27, 2020: 127
- April 28, 2020: ~ 220
- July 29, 2020: 114
- October 29, 2020: 124
- January 26-28, 2021: ~101
- July, 2021: 93
- October 2021: 175
- January 2022: **256**



**ERIE COUNTY ADDICTION HOTLINE  
831-7007**

**Operated by Crisis Services 24/7**

- Provides information, referral, linkage to treatment and support.
- Education on MATs & Motivational Interviewing is woven into phone counselor script to facilitate referrals for callers.
- Integrate into Substance Use Disorder Treatment system
- Call volume **thru 2021 Year-end: 730**



## *Introducing:*

# **Julianna Everdyke, LMSW**

- **Director of Dual Recovery and Community Integration**  
for the Erie County Department of Mental Health
- (716) 858-7374
- [Julianna.Everdyke@erie.gov](mailto:Julianna.Everdyke@erie.gov)



120 West Eagle  
Buffalo, NY 14202

716-858-1SLS (1757)

Monday-Friday 9a-3p

## Service Link Stop updates







## Onsite Agencies

Spectrum

ERUS program

Parole Case Managers

Pathstone

Back to Basics

Evergreen \*

Community Access Services \*

BestSelf

New Dawn program

SUDRI program

Health Homes

Blue Cross Blue Shield/Highmark

Independent Health

Fidelis

Health Insurance representative

SOAR program

Osborne Association/Family Works

Daemen

## Guest Agencies

SNAP-Ed

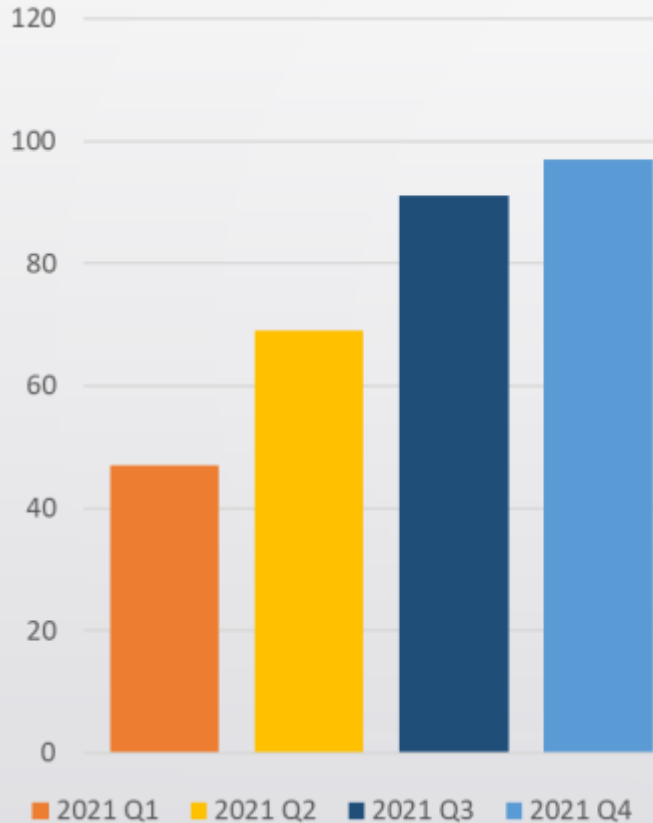
## New Linkages

Accessible Academics

ECMC Help Center

Human Trafficking Intervention Court

# Total Participant Data - 2021



2021 Q1 47 participants

2021 Q2 69 participants

2021 Q3 91 participants

2021 Q4 97 participants

**304 participants**



## Areas of Need

Housing **39.4%**

Mental Health Treatment **28.6%**

Benefits (SSI/SSD, Medicaid,  
Medicare, SNAP) **26.6%**

Food Support **26.3%**

Employment **18.7%**

Identification **16.1%**

Job Training **15.4%**

Substance Use Treatment **12.5%**

Health Insurance **10.2%**



# Current Progress

## Workgroups

- Policies and Procedures
- Outreach and Promotions
- Daily Operations

Onsite Agency staff review

Interagency Education Day – 2/23/2022 at SLS

Continual Collaboration

**716-858-1757(1SLS)**



**Next meeting:**

**2/28, 10:30-12 via WebEx**



Thank you for  
your support  
& dedication



# ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE



Sheriff John C. Garcia

Undersheriff William Cooley

Superintendent Michael Phillips

Chief of Community Reintegration

Thomas Diina

ERIE COUNTY JAILS

# New Dawn Initiative

A step today toward a brighter tomorrow



ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
SHERIFF JOHN C. GARCIA  
CHIEF OF COMMUNITY REINTEGRATION  
THOMAS DIINA

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



## ADMINISTRATION & RESOURCES

- ⚙ Grant Title: SCA Improving Reentry for Adults with CSAMI
- ⚙ Award: \$1,000,000 over 4 years
- ⚙ Lead Agency: Erie County Sheriff's Office
- ⚙ Contracted Partners: BestSelf Behavioral Health, Inc.  
University at Buffalo Primary Care Research Institute

## TARGET POPULATION

- ⚙ 50 males and females annually
- ⚙ Diagnosed with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders
- ⚙ Medium to high risk for MH, SUD & criminogenic risk

## PROGRAM GOALS

- ⚙ Provide universal screening for mental illness and substance use
- ⚙ Assessment for individuals with possible CSAMI – MH, SUD & criminogenic risk
- ⚙ Comprehensive case management pre- & post-release – up to 1 year post-release
- ⚙ Data collection, performance measurement & evaluation
- ⚙ Enhance provision of reentry services to reduce recidivism & increase public safety







Project Blue

For more information on the referral process, contact Lindsey Allen at [lallen@peaceprintswny.org](mailto:lallen@peaceprintswny.org)



# Project Blue

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Partnership between Peaceprints of WNY and:

- Erie County Sheriff's Office, Jail Management Division
- Erie County Court-Judge Eagan
- Erie County Probation
- Buffalo City Court
- Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network
- The Homeless Alliance of WNY
- Literacy Buffalo
- And More!

# Performance Metrics

- Funded by:
  - Bureau of Justice Assistance - Second Chance Act Community-based Adult Reentry
  - Mother Cabrini Health Foundation
  - Bureau of Justice Assistance - Evaluation Participation Support Program
- 3 Program Goals:
  1. Increase employability of our participants
  2. Increase county level reentry linkages for our participants
  3. Decrease recidivism in Erie County



# Services

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- Intensive pre- and post-release case management
- Court advocacy
- In jail programming (NA, AA, Restorative Circles, Fatherhood Programming, Financial Literacy & more!)
- Mentoring
- Hygiene kits
- Cell phones
- Bus passes
- Clothing vouchers
- Meal boxes



**NEW YORK**  
**MATTERS**  
Medication Assisted Treatment & Emergency Referrals

**JOSHUA J. LYNCH, DO, EMT-P, FACEP**

TECHNICAL ADVISOR | NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR | UNIVERSITY AT BUFFALO DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY  
MEDICINE

FOUNDER & MEDICAL DIRECTOR | NEW YORK MATTERS

**CALEIGH LOUGHRAN, BA**

PROGRAM MANAGER | NEW YORK MATTERS

# Expansion Efforts



# Leadership Team



**Joshua Lynch, DO**  
Founder & Medical Director



**Michael O'Brien, MD**  
Director of Consult Services



**Renoj Varughese, MD**  
Director of Telemedicine Services



**Caleigh Loughran, BA**  
Program Manager



**Brian Clemency, DO**  
Director of Research &  
External Funding



**Lucy Connery, MPH**  
Community Engagement  
Specialist



**Robert McCormack, MD**  
Physician Advisor



**John McNamara, DO**  
Buprenorphine Education  
Specialist



**Chantazia Bronson, MPH**  
Program Coordinator

# Regional Care Coordinators



**Candace Ellis**  
Capital Region



**Michelle McDonough, BSW**  
Finger Lakes



**Michael Korzelius, LMSW**  
Western New York



**Sharon Thomas, MSW**  
Hudson Valley



**Sarah Santos, BA**  
Hudson Valley



**Jaie Breedlove**  
North Country



**Kurt Kleefeld, M.Ed**  
Southern Tier



# MATTERS Program Coordinator



**Chantazia Bronson, MPH**

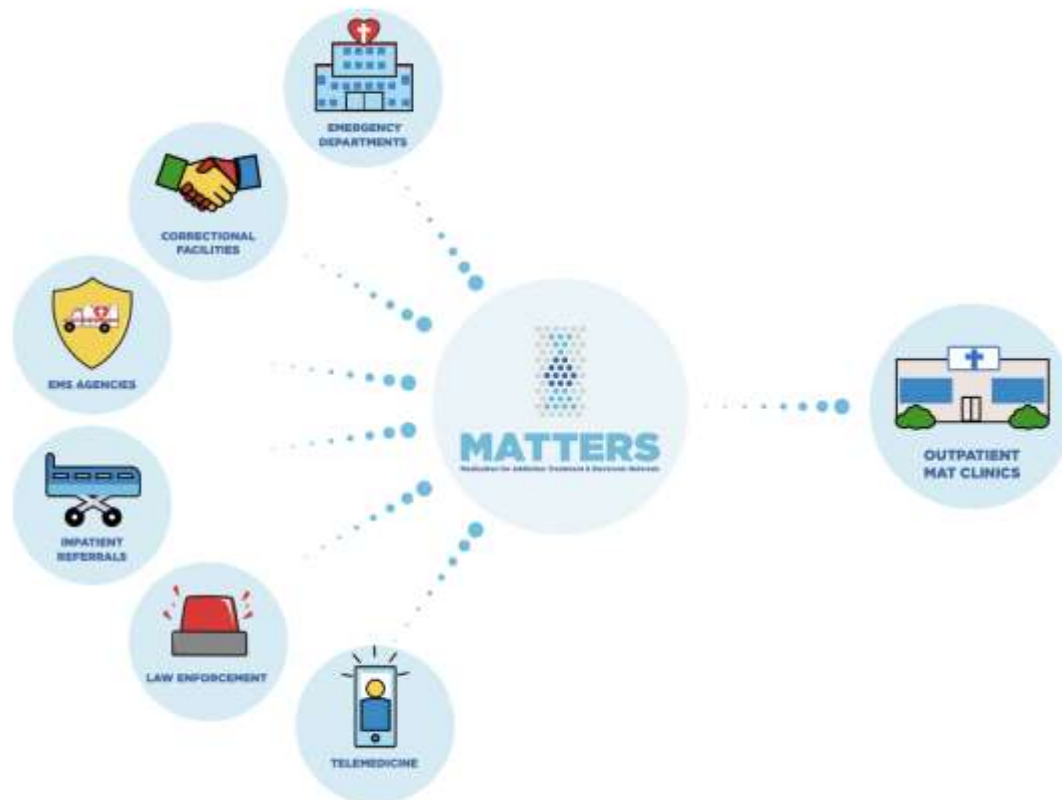
Chantazia came to Buffalo in 2013 to attend Daemen College, where she obtained a Bachelors in Health Promotion and a Masters in Public Health. With a public health background, Chantazia has experience working as a Pediatric Care Coordinator for a local health home agency. This experience has allowed her to engage in various community health settings. Chantazia also has management experience working as a Patient Experience Liaison at ECMC. Currently, Chantazia works as a Program Coordinator for New York MATTERS.

# WNY Regional Care Coordinator




**Michael Korzelius, LMSW**

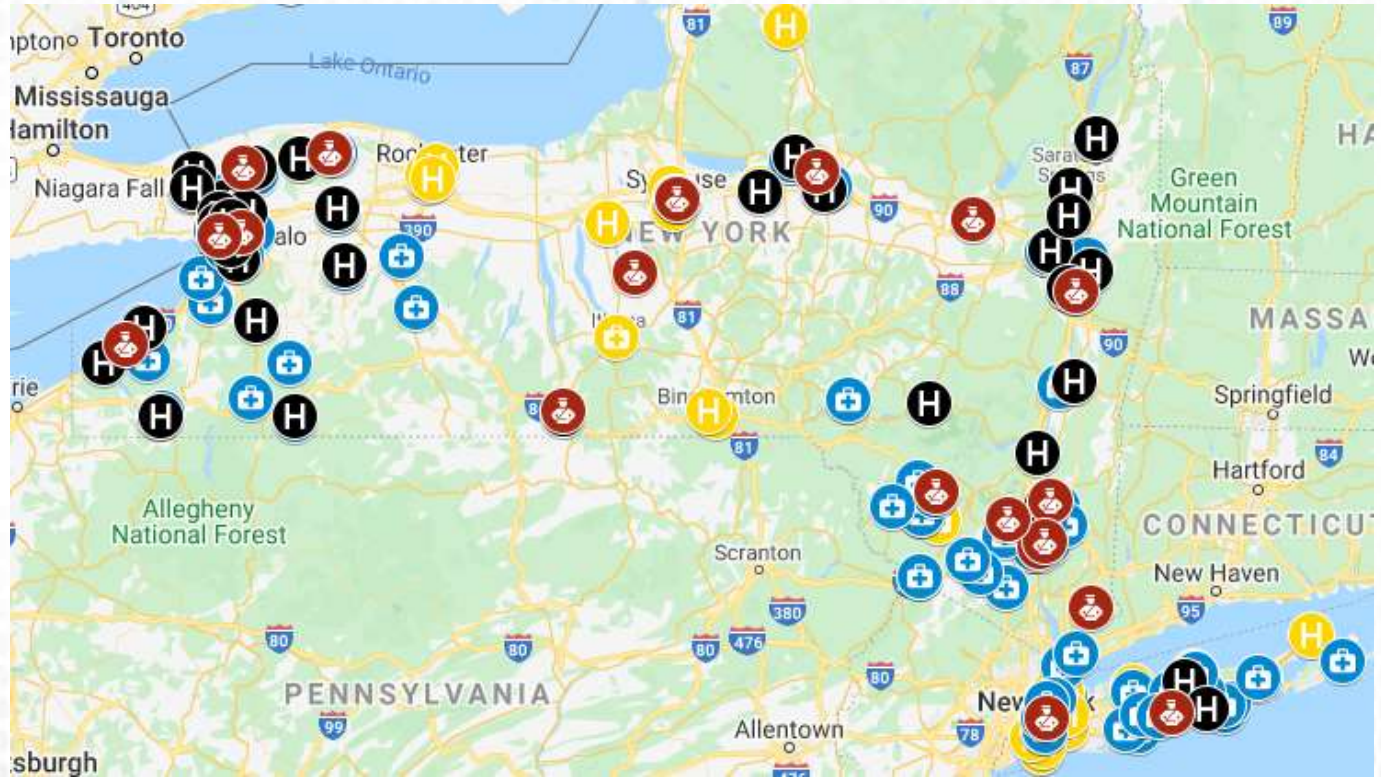
Michael Korzelius is the Referral Coordinator for Evergreen Health Services Harm Reduction Center. Michael is a Licensed Master of Social Work in the state of New York. Michael recently received his Master of Social Work from University at Buffalo. Michael has a background working with kids with developmental disabilities, the forensic population and in Student Affairs. Michael is passionate about public health, LGBTQ+ issues, and other various macro social work topics. Michael enjoys playing video games, hiking and nature. Michael also enjoys spending time with his boyfriend and their cat, Bailey.



# NY MATTERS Partners

## MAP LEGEND:

-  Clinic
-  Referral Site
-  Future Referral Site
-  Future Clinic
-  Law Enforcement / Corrections Partner





**NEW YORK**  
**MATTERS**  
Medication Assisted Treatment & Emergency Referrals

**Snap this to refer a  
patient for opioid use  
disorder treatment!**



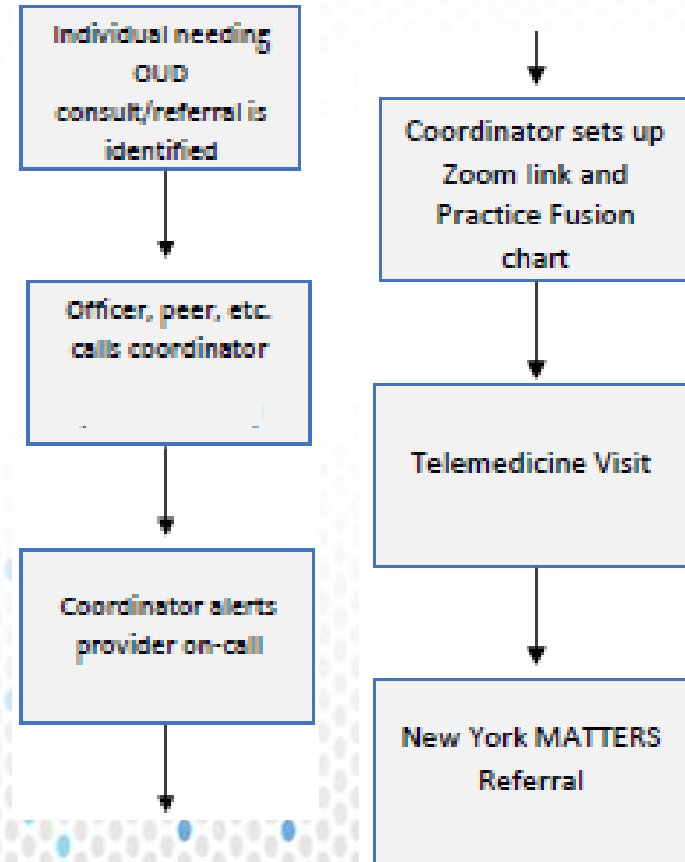
**Referral stickers  
available for any  
participating  
hospitals!**

# New Projects



# Direct Referrals to Telemedicine

- Buffalo Police Department
- Tonawanda Police Department \*\*Coming soon
- Cheektowaga Police Department
- Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH)
- Probation
- WNY Independent Living (Erie, Genesee, Niagara)
- WNY Mobile Overdose Prevention Services
- UB HEALS
- Chautauqua City Mission
- Mental Health Association of Chautauqua
- Peaceprints of WNY



# Cheektowaga Police Department & NY MATTERS

- Ongoing partnership between Cheektowaga PD & NY MATTERS
  - All arrestees are given substance use survey
  - Any arrestees who self-disclose a substance use disorder are offered a NY MATTERS referral



# Referral Platform Updates





Make a follow-up appointment with the Clinic

- Coming soon:
- Mental health
  - Hep/HIV
  - Other SUD
  - COVID testing/vax

List

Enter an address to filter results. **10 found**

14215 10 Search Reset

Best Self Central Intake - 951 Niagara Street Buffalo

- Methadone: X
- Naltrexone: ✓
- Buprenorphine: ✓

Select Date

Map Satellite

14c data ©2021 Google Terms of Use

The image shows a screenshot of a web application interface for finding treatment centers. At the top, there is a search bar with the address "14215" entered and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, a map of Buffalo, New York, is displayed with several red location pins. A white information box is overlaid on the map, pointing to a specific location. The box contains the name of the center, "Best Self Central Intake - 951 Niagara Street Buffalo", and a list of services: Methadone (marked with an 'X'), Naltrexone (marked with a checkmark), and Buprenorphine (marked with a checkmark). There is also a "Select Date" button in the box. The map interface includes a "List" button, a search bar with "14215" and "10 found" results, and a "Map Satellite" toggle at the bottom right.

**Sign up for our newsletter!**

[www.mattersnetwork.org](http://www.mattersnetwork.org)

The screenshot shows the website for New York MATTERS. At the top, there is a blue navigation bar with social media icons and links for "Professional Referrals", "EMS (Leave behind Malzone)", "Voucher Verification", and "Checkcoverage PD". The main header includes the "NEW YORK MATTERS" logo and a menu icon. A central banner features a video player with a play button and a map of the New York region. Overlaid on this is a "Get our updates by email!" sign-up form with fields for "Name" and "Email", and a "Submit" button. To the right of the form, the text "New York MATTERS: Explained" is visible. At the bottom, a light blue bar contains the text "Navigate the map to explore our hospital, clinic and pharmacy partner locations." and a map interface with a search bar containing "New York MATTERS" and a map showing locations like Montreal, Ottawa, and Sherbrooke.

Feel free to reach out with any further questions!



[www.newyorkmatters.org](http://www.newyorkmatters.org)

**Caleigh Loughran**  
[cloughran@mattersnetwork.org](mailto:cloughran@mattersnetwork.org)

**Chantazia Bronson**  
[cbronson@mattersnetwork.org](mailto:cbronson@mattersnetwork.org)

**Lucy Connery**  
[lconnery@mattersnetwork.org](mailto:lconnery@mattersnetwork.org)



@matters\_network



@matters\_network



@New York MATTERS



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



**Erie County**  
**Opiate Epidemic**  
*Task Force*

# **ERIE COUNTY OPIOID OVERDOSE DATA**

**HEALTH CARE PROVIDER EDUCATION  
AND POLICY REFORM ACTIVITIES  
ACTIVITIES UPDATE**



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**

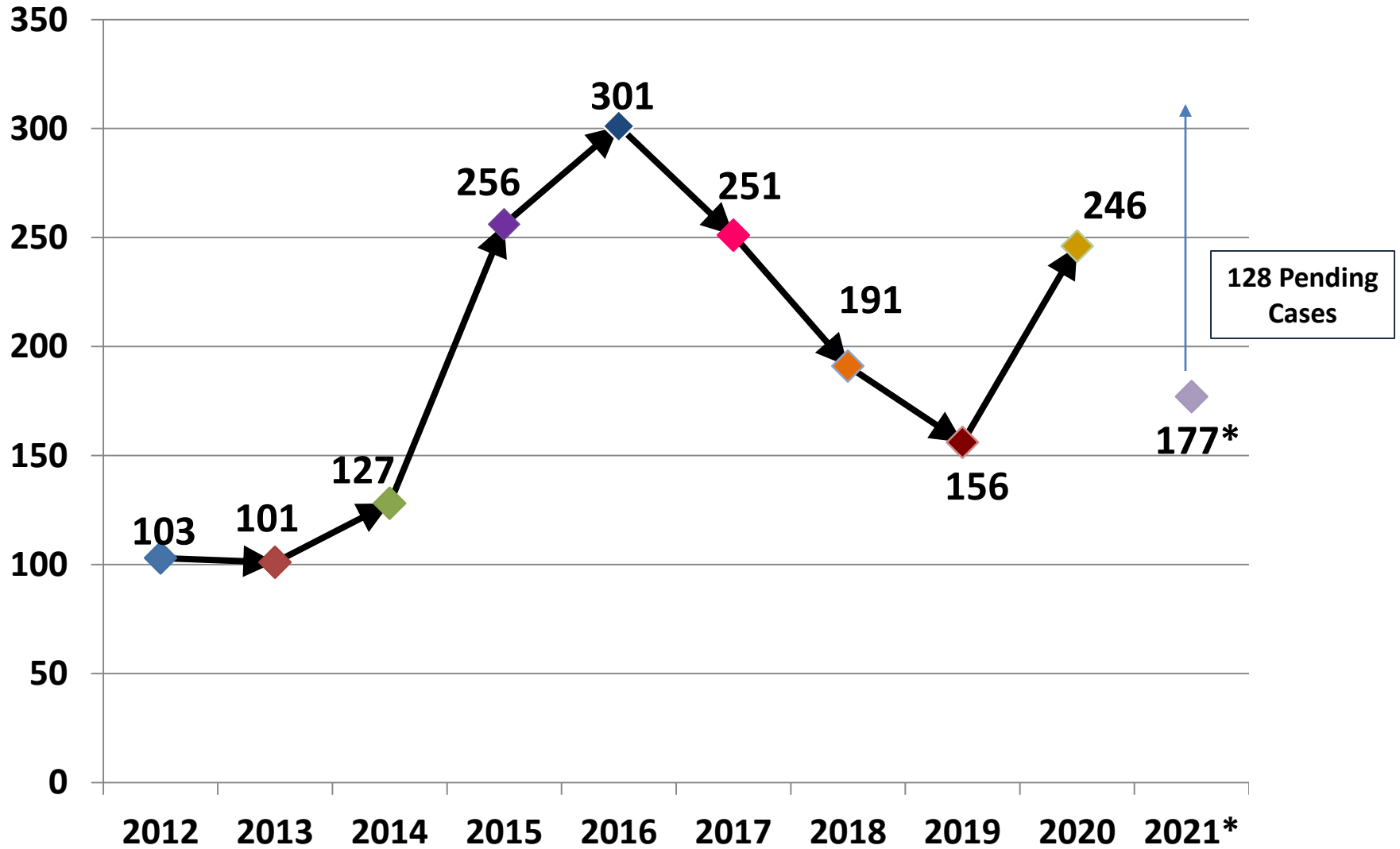


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# OPIOID RELATED DEATHS ERIE COUNTY

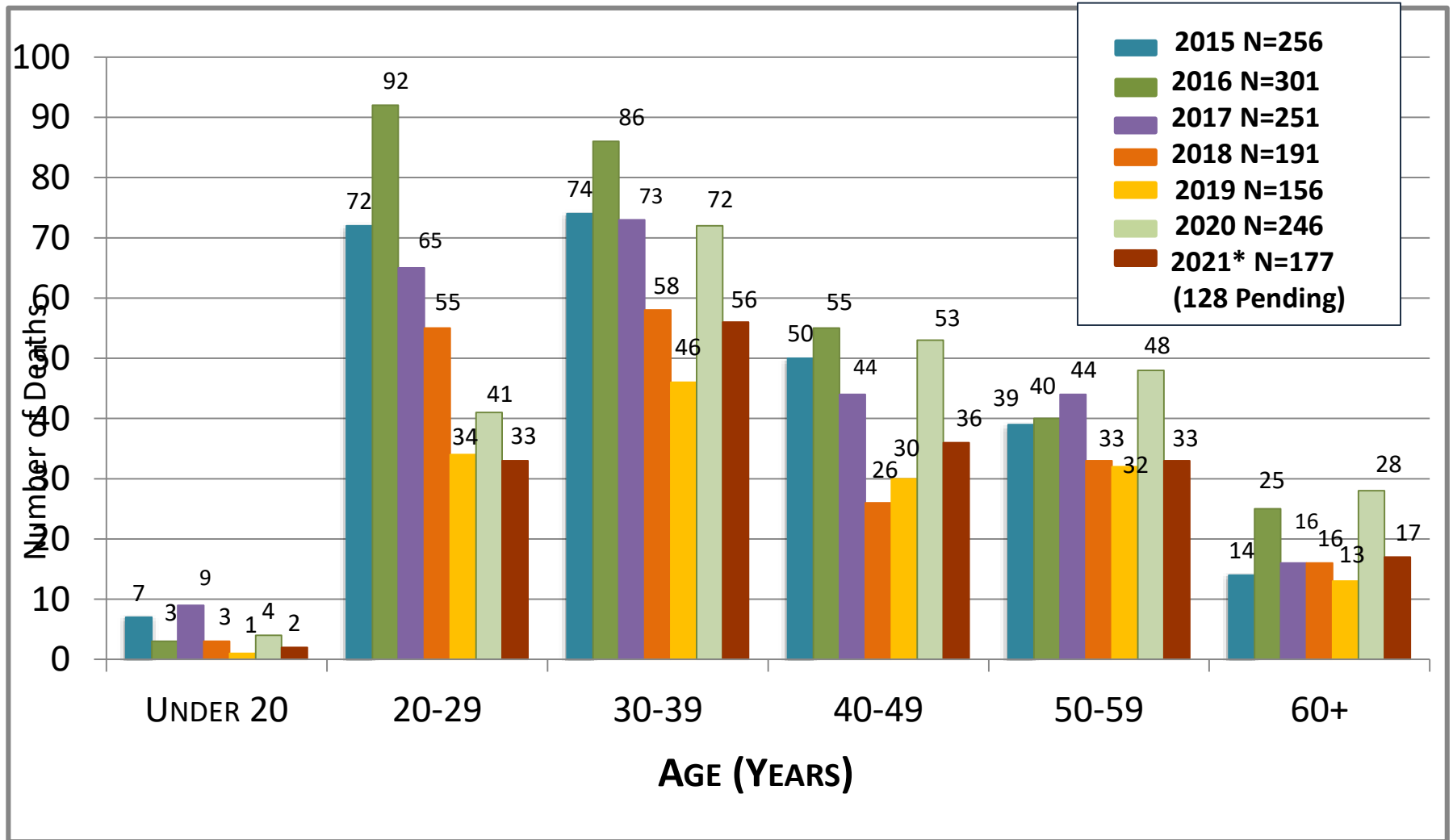
As of 2/2/2022

# 2012 – 2021\* OPIOID RELATED DEATHS ERIE COUNTY



SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, \*CLOSED CASES REPORTED THRU 2/2/2022

# 2015 – 2021\* ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS BY AGE



SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, \*CLOSED CASES REPORTED THRU 2/2/2022



# Erie County Census Estimate

# Erie County Opioid Overdoses

	Population % (N=919,719)	2018 Overdose % (N=191)	2019 Overdose % (N=156)	2020 Overdose % (N=246 )	2021 Overdose % (N=177) (128 Pending)
Race/Ethnicity					
White	<b>81%</b>	<b>79%</b>	<b>78%</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>67%</b>
Black or African American	<b>15%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>24%</b>
Other	<b>5%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>2%</b>
Hispanic	<b>6%</b>	<b>7%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>7%</b>
Gender					
Female	<b>52%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>28%</b>
Male	<b>48%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>72%</b>
Age					
20-29	<b>14%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>22%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>19%</b>
30-39	<b>13%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>32%</b>
40-49	<b>11%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>20%</b>
50-59	<b>14%</b>	<b>17%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>19%</b>
60+	<b>25%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>

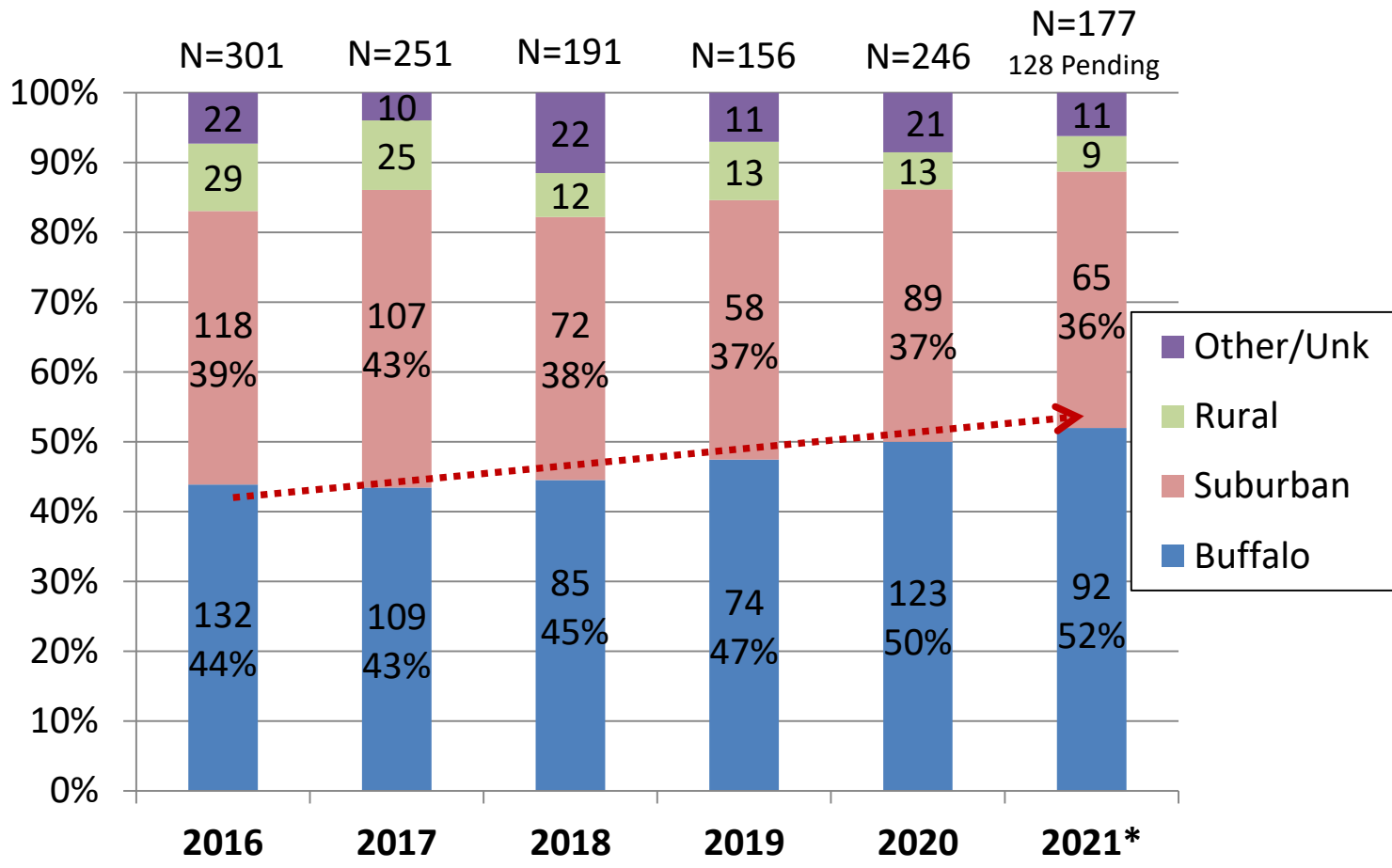
# 2016 – 2021\* PERCENT OF ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS BY RESIDENCE



*Buffalo*  
28% of persons who live in Erie County reside in the City of Buffalo

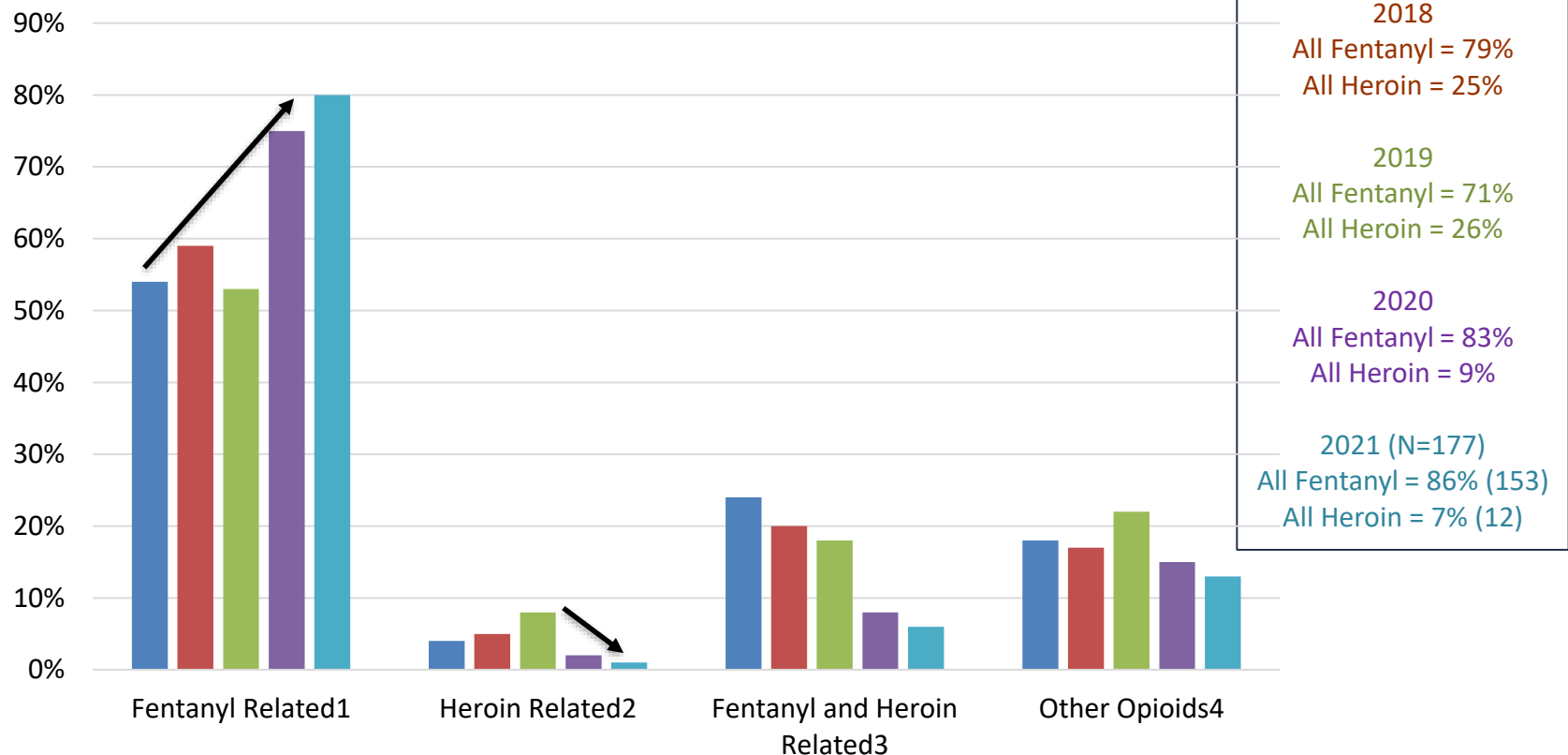
- SUBURBAN TOWNS:**
- AMHERST
  - CHEEKTOWAGA
  - CLARENCE
  - GRAND ISLAND
  - HAMBURG
  - LACKAWANNA
  - LANCASTER
  - ORCHARD PARK
  - TONAWANDA
  - WEST SENECA

- RURAL TOWNS:**
- ALDEN
  - AURORA
  - COLDEN
  - COLLINS
  - CONCORD
  - EDEN
  - ELMA
  - EVANS
  - GOWANDA
  - HOLLAND
  - MARILLA
  - NEWSTEAD
  - NORTH COLLINS
  - SARDINIA



SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, \*CLOSED CASES REPORTED THRU 2/2/2022

# 2017 – 2021\* PERCENT OF ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS BY TYPE OF OPIOID



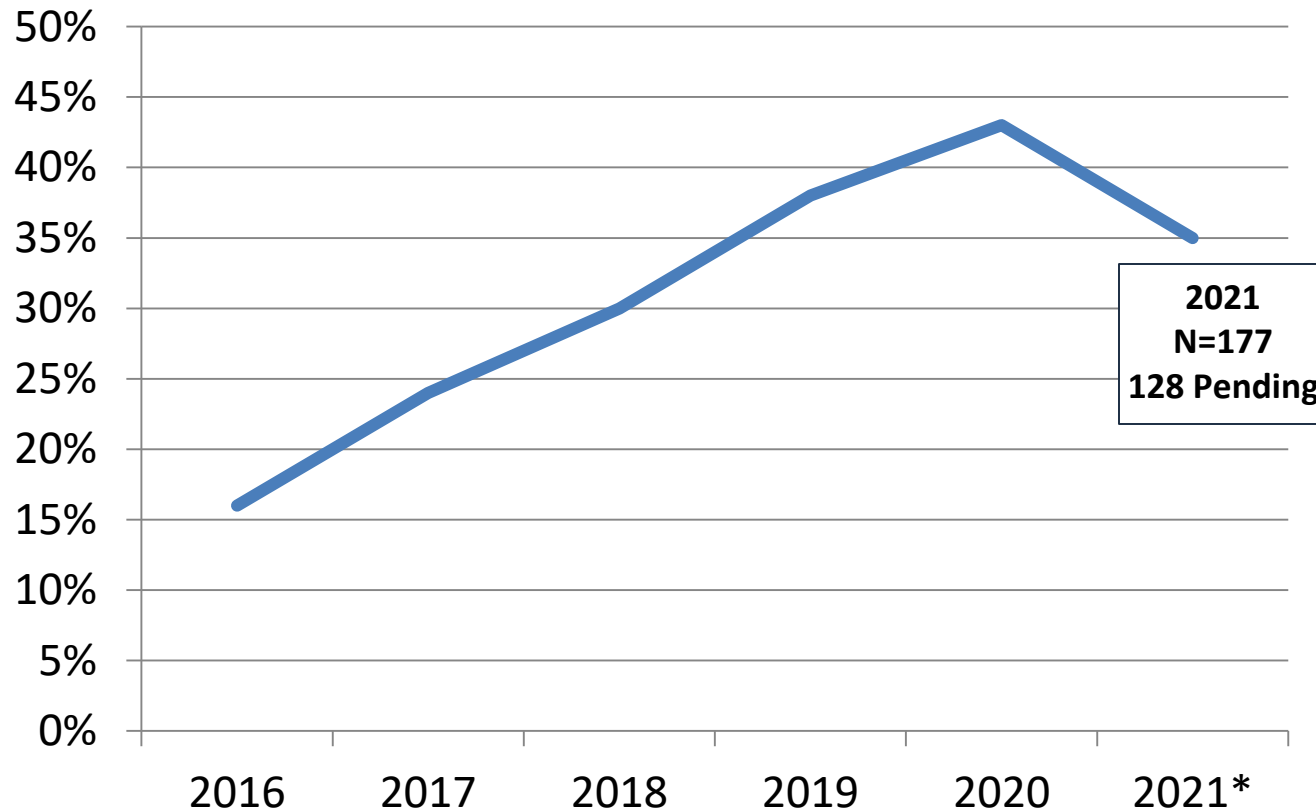
<sup>1</sup> NO HEROIN; POSSIBLE OTHER DRUGS INVOLVED

<sup>2</sup> NO FENTANYL; POSSIBLE OTHER DRUGS INVOLVED

<sup>3</sup> POSSIBLE OTHER DRUGS INVOLVED

<sup>4</sup> NO FENTANYL OR HEROIN; POSSIBLE OTHER DRUGS INVOLVED

# 2016 – 2021\* PERCENT OF ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH FENTANYL<sup>1</sup> AND COCAINE



**2020: 48% (118/246) of opioid related deaths involved cocaine**  
**2021\*: 39% (69/177) of opioid related deaths involved cocaine (128 deaths pending)**

<sup>1</sup>Includes all Fentanyl related deaths.

# Primary Care Champions Project

- UB|MD Family Medicine (Dr. Tilda Doscher) leading 5 year HRSA grant dedicated to training primary care practitioners to incorporate OUD treatment into their practices:
  - Working with Horizon and Endeavor as Hubs to connect to Spoke physicians.
- Recruiting for 3<sup>rd</sup> provider cohort for a 1 year project



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Comments and Questions

# Opiate Epidemic Task Force: Naloxone Workgroup

Erie County Health Department

February 7, 2022



## Narcan Trainings and deployment this quarter (10.1.2021 – 12.31.2021)

- Continued naloxone trainings and medication deployment conducted by the department, many are virtual or on the spot:
  - Law enforcement – 28
  - Fire fighters – 168
  - EMS/Healthcare Providers – 38
  - School Personnel – 82
  - Library Staff - 38
  - Business Staff – 62
  - Individuals released from prison - 93
  - Community outreach – Opioid grant staff reach – 721
  - Community members – 1360
  - Total kits distributed this quarter including mailing, virtual trainings and refills – 2660 kits





# Expanded Syringe Access Program (ESAP) Client Surveys: Ongoing Findings

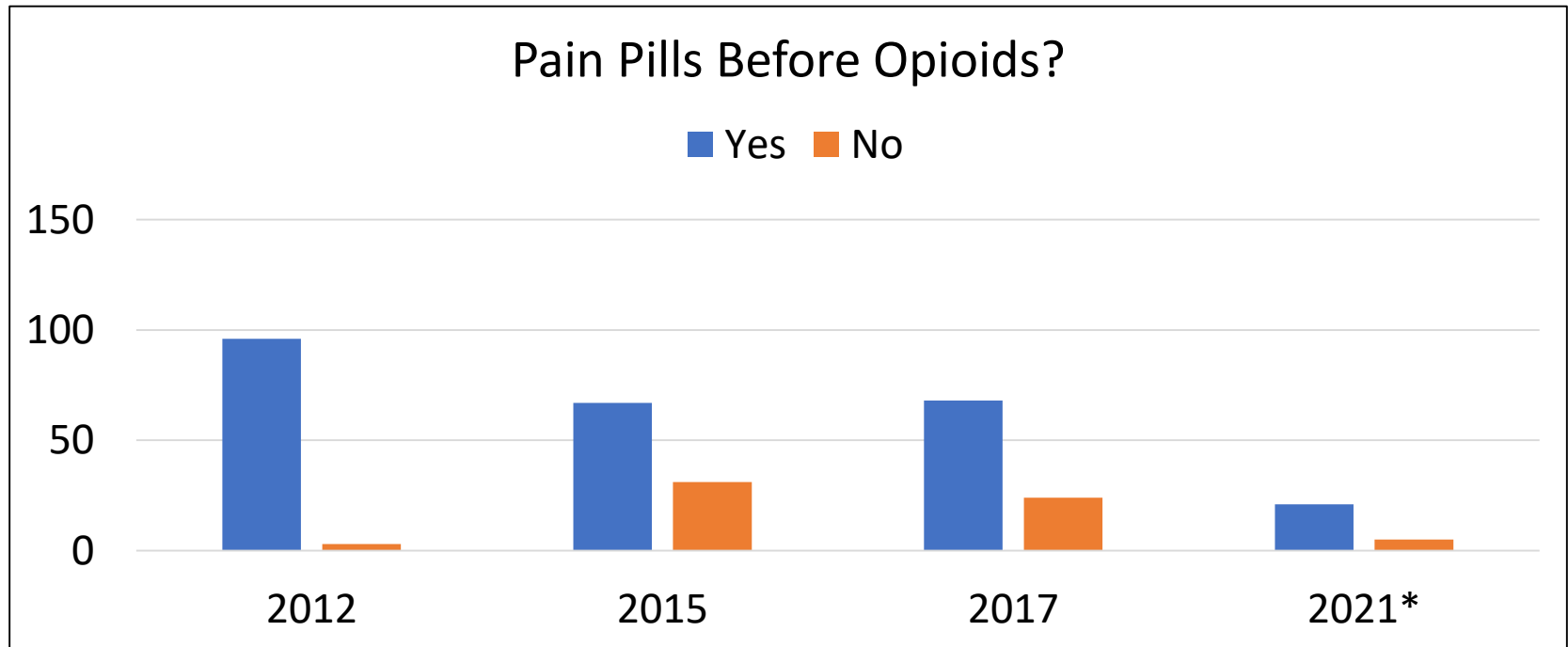
November 2021

Opiate Epidemic Task Force

# Background Information

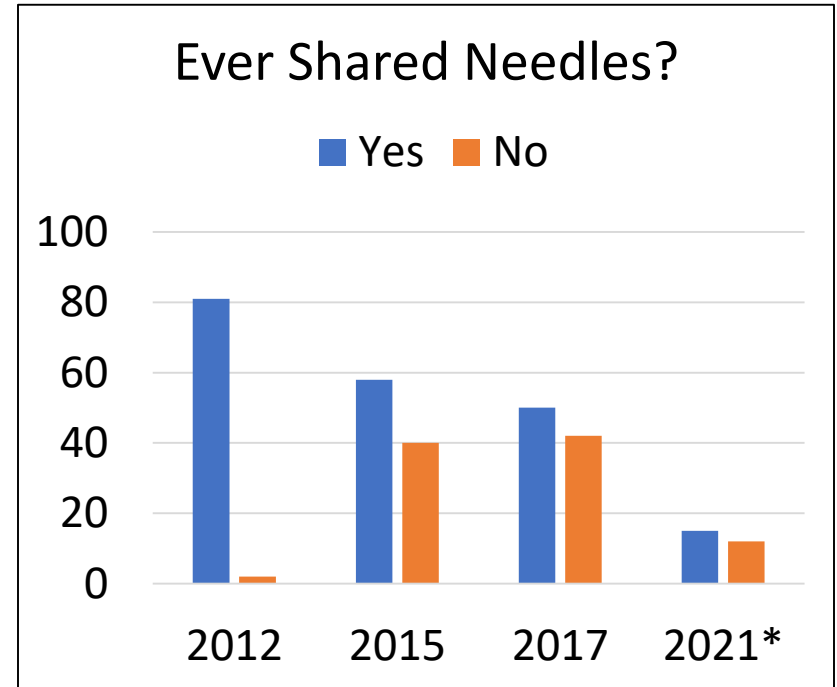
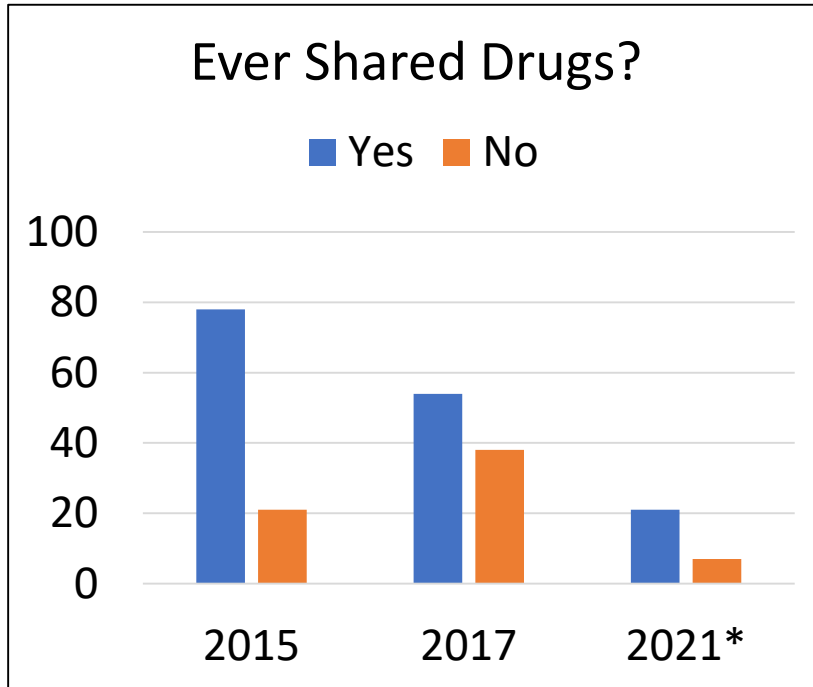
- Activities funded by Expanded Syringe Access Program (ESAP) grant
- Surveys administered in 2012, 2015, 2017, and 2021
  - Goal of 100 surveys each year
  - Surveys still being collected and entered for 2021

# Using Pain Pills Before Taking Opioids



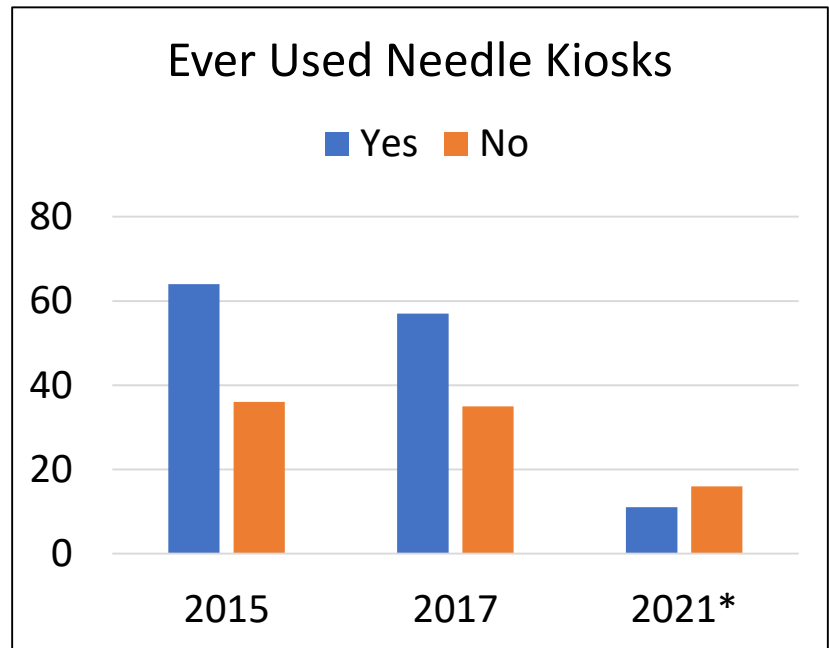
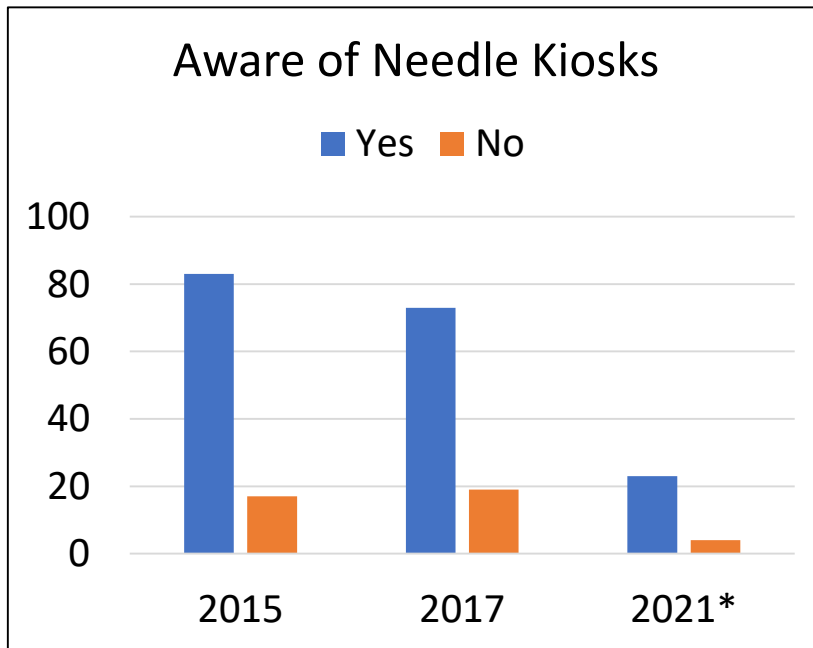
- 2012 surveys ask about pill usage and injection drug usage, but it may not be a direct “pill → injection” route.
- I-STOP was implemented in 2013-2014.
- 2021 surveys are still being collected and entered.

# Drug and Needle Sharing



- Question for “Have you ever shared your drugs?” was not collected in 2012.
- 2021 surveys are still being collected and entered.

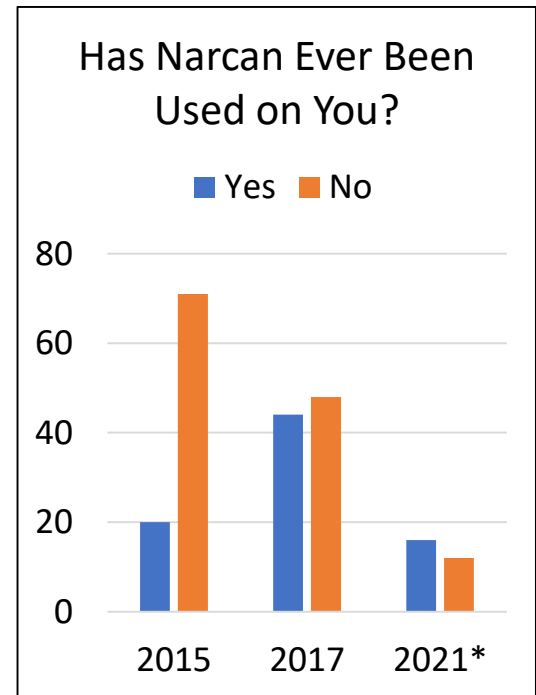
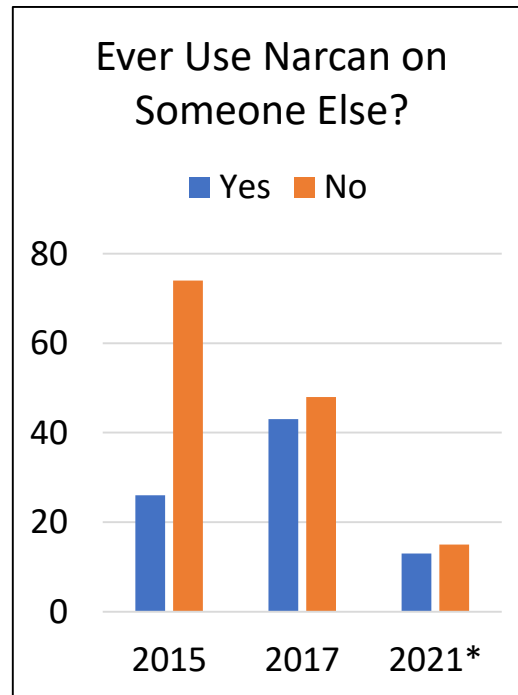
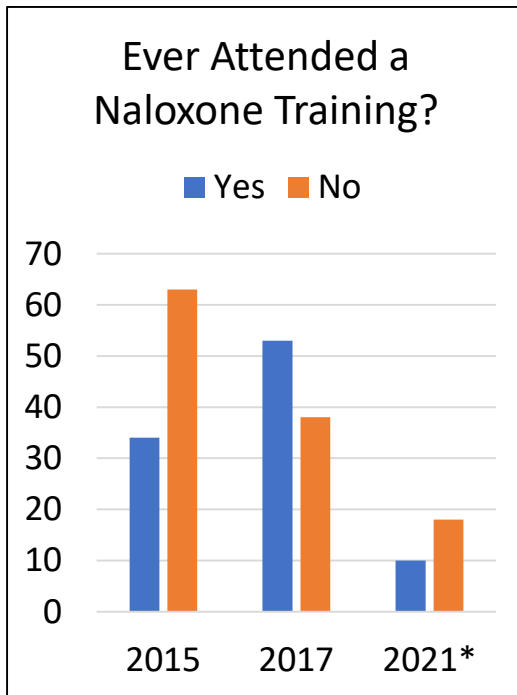
# Needle Kiosks: Awareness and Usage



- These questions were not asked in the 2012 survey.
- The survey audience is generally aware that our disposal kiosks exist, but getting them to use the kiosks may be an ongoing challenge.

\* 2021 data still being collected and entered.

# Respondents' Experiences with Naloxone / Narcan



- These questions not collected in 2012 surveys.
- As time progresses, respondents have had more first-hand experiences with naloxone/Narcan: Using it on others, or it being used on them.
- 2021 surveys still being collected and entered.

# COVID 19 Response

## Narcan Outreach

- New outreach responses due to isolation, disconnection from public interactions
- Pop Up Community Events as requested by the community
- Live Well Erie Van Outreach Weekly
  - Tuesdays – Curbside Care, 158 Pearl St, 11am – 5pm
  - Thursdays – 4 – 7pm, St. John Kanty, corner of Broadway and Swinburne St.

# CURBSIDE CARE

## Curbside Care

Health & Harm Reduction  
Services, Screenings & Supplies

Every Tuesday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
158 Pearl Street, Buffalo  
(Rath Building, East Side)

Clean Syringes   Hep C Testing   COVID-19 Vaccines

Free Condoms   STI Testing   Flu Vaccines

Sexual Health Services   Smoking Cessation

HIV Testing   Free Narcan & On-the-Spot Training

Look for the  
Live Well Erie  
van!



Services and supplies provided at events:

- COVID Vaccines
- Flu Vaccines
- Narcan Kits
- Condoms
- Treatment Referrals
- Safe Injection Kits
- Smoking Cessation





# **ERIE COUNTY OPIATE EPIDEMIC TASK FORCE**

Family and Consumer,  
Support and Advocacy  
Section

Report: February 7, 2022

# WHO ARE WE?

We Are:

- Your Friends, Neighbors, Co-Workers
- Your Family
- The Stranger you met at the Market
- The Person next to You
- Your Physician, Lawyer, Accountant
- Your Community



**Allocation of funding to those in need is  
a major concern**

**We continue to ask for stabilization opportunities**



**Families continue to meet in smaller groups  
due to COVID**

**We know we need to do more to recognize  
this epidemic as a chronic disease – reduce  
stigma, increase harm reduction resources**

# OUR SHORT TERM GOALS

- Disseminate information about the disease
- Increase harm reduction information/access
- Encourage Health Professionals to offer Compassionate Care
- Change the language to person-first
- Continue to improve access to information
  - Families
  - Health care professionals
  - Treatment providers

# EMPHASIS ON HARM REDUCTION TO SAVE LIVES

- We encourage Narcan in all first aid kits
- We encourage opioid overdose recognition and resolution training for all community members
- Our community has a need for wound care
- Our community has a need for education of disease transmission
- Our community has a need for early identification of diseases, early linkage to treatment (for example, HIV and hepatitis C), and ongoing support

# NEEDED CHANGES TO TREATMENT

- For those being medically treated with opioids, healthy discontinuance should include slow tapering and close management
- Changing the language of medical providers and families
- It is the job of families to promote compassionate care during this difficult balance of recovery and strongly advocate for a healthy outcome
- Evolution of medical care to ensure treatment of the presenting problem and restorative pain
- Individualized treatment to see the person, not the disease



**Stabilization and recovery are a life-long process,  
often punctuated by increased periods of  
improvement with proper disease management**

**Disease management education and fortification of  
healthy supports are components of recovery**

**As well as compassionate care**

**These areas continue to be lacking**



# TREE OF HOPE WINTER SEASON 2021



# FAMILY GROUP CONTRIBUTION TO HARM REDUCTION OUTREACH

- Hand sanitizer is part of harm reduction outreach in community



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**To all those Kind and Gentle Souls who are  
working  
to bring sensibility to our Community, Streets  
and Homes,**

**We are Grateful**

**Facebook: Opioid Epidemic Family Section**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/307727793001197>

<https://www.opioidaffectedfamilies.com/>



**Erie County**  
**Opiate Epidemic**  
*Task Force*

# WNY Response After Overdose

## WNY RESPONSE AFTER OVERDOSE PROJECT



Erie County  
**HEALTH**

# Narcan trainings, WNY outside Erie

- Trainings 2021
  - 31 first responder depts
  - 396 first responders



Type	# departments trained	# people trained
Law enforcement	2	50
Fire	25	260
Other first responders	5	86
Community	13	274
Outreach/Case management		132



**WNY** Response  
After Overdose



Erie County  
**HEALTH**

# Text for Narcan

- Over 2,300 kits mailed
- Sent to over 2,000 people



**WNY** Response  
After Overdose



Erie County  
**HEALTH**

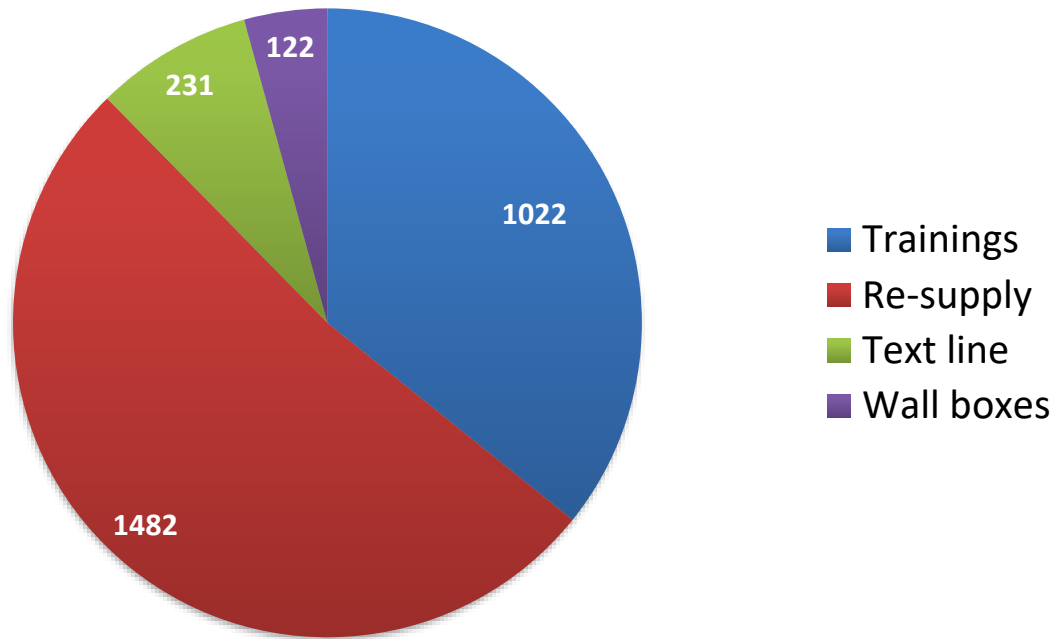
# Narcan wall boxes

- Over 950 boxes distributed in community
- Refills are mailed
- Central pickup established in several counties



# Narcan supplies, WNY outside Erie

1/2021 – 12/2021



2857 total kits distributed



**WNY** Response  
After Overdose

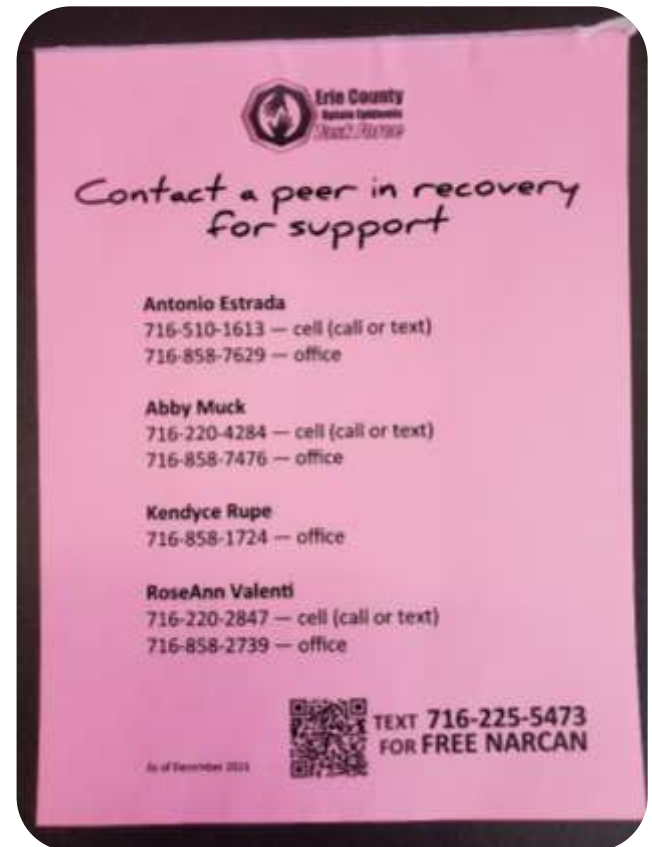


Erie County  
**HEALTH**



# Peer support and connection to treatment

- Partnership with MATTERS
- Overdose reports/first responders
- Outreach/personal contacts



**WNY Response**  
After Overdose



**Erie County**  
**HEALTH**

# Community of Peer Enrichment (COPE)

- WNY peer group
- Training and skills
- Networking and support
- Self-care



**WNY** Response  
After Overdose



Erie County  
**HEALTH**

**ERIE COUNTY**  
**Opioid Mortality Review Board**



**Learning From The Past  
To Make A Better Future**

# OMRB Update

**ECOTF Meeting: February 7, 2022**



# OMRB NOW

- Reaching families sooner than later.
  - Coordinating with treatment agencies to be proactive in the communities.
  - Always looking for more point of contacts. Collaborating with Endeavors and Evergreen so far. If anyone is interested please contact me . Outreach vaccines, etc.
  - [Kelly.Sipolo@erie.gov](mailto:Kelly.Sipolo@erie.gov)
  - 716-858-6323
- Continue review boards TBD
  - Invited to speak to stakeholders of other Multidisciplinary teams and their Opiate Fatality Review Boards
  - OMRB team will be non presenting authors at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference 2022. ASAM call for Abstracts.
- 1st choice: Prevention/Harm Reduction
- 2nd choice: Opioids/Opiates



# RESULTS FROM THE ERIE COUNTY OPIOID MORTALITY REVIEW BOARD, 2016 – 2017

## Results:

- 90% (37/41) of overdose deaths involved polysubstance use.

## Discussion:

- Subjects in this study appeared to have an advanced SUD as evidenced by prior nonfatal overdose, prior contact with healthcare system, polysubstance use, treatment with psychotropic medications, and poor support systems.

**A harm reduction** approach with secondary and tertiary prevention measures may be helpful for these patients. Interventions may include:

- Drug testing kits
- Safe injection sites and/or emphasizing the risks of using drugs alone
- Prescribing Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) in the Emergency Room
- Safer prescribing of psychiatric medications – screening for SUD prior to prescribing psychotropic medications
- Education of the public on symptoms and signs of SUD and opioid overdose



# REACHING THE COMMUNITY

## Curbside Care

Health & Harm Reduction  
Services, Screenings & Supplies  
Every Tuesday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
158 Pearl Street, Buffalo  
(Rath Building, East Side)

Clean Syringes Hep C Testing COVID-19 Vaccines

Free Condoms STI Testing Flu Vaccines

Sexual Health Services Smoking Cessation

HIV Testing Free Narcan & On-the-Spot Training

Look for the  
Live Well Erie  
van!



# **THE BIAS OF MAT STEMS FROM THE BELIEF THAT MEDICATION CONFLICTS WITH ABSTINENCE BASED TREATMENT PROGRAMS I.E. 12 STEPS**

- Medication Assisted Therapy is the use of medications in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, which is effective in the treatment of opioid use disorders (OUD) and can help some people to sustain recovery.



- Although MAT is a growing part of the recovery community, people on MAT still face stigma and judgement. This stigma and judgement doesn't just come from people outside the recovery community, but from within.
- We are constantly told by members of AA and NA, along with members of the outside community, that we are NOT clean, but to “Keep Coming Back, it works if you work it”. This is a dangerous message for anyone on MAT let alone the new comers.
- People who use MAT to manage their disease, should have and need a safe environment to share their experiences, seek guidance, and encouragement just like anyone else in recovery.





# 1<sup>ST</sup> SUPPORT GROUP TODAY!

- If you are on MAT and looking for a judgement free space, where you can seek guidance and support.....
- Join Us!
- Every Monday
- 12 pm – 1pm
- Sparks of Hope

**Recovery Support Center**

**107 Main St.**

**Hamburg, NY 14075**

**(716) 649-2010**



# FAMILY LIAISON : TAMRA

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- Email updates to families for upcoming events
- Point of contact to send pictures or items you'd like displayed at our events.
- Assist with connecting families to the family support group.
- Please reach out to her for any ideas, questions or concerns
- [Tamra.Stefaniak@erie.gov](mailto:Tamra.Stefaniak@erie.gov)
- (716)858-1869



# BLACK BALLOON DAY



- Balloon distribution 02/28/2022
- Drop off pickup coordination with Tamra
- Emails to family support groups and treatment agencies sent later this week
- Closing prayer via WebEx on March 6<sup>th</sup>

Very important this is not a balloon release. These balloons are to be displayed to remember those that we have lost to the opiate epidemic. Balloons should be discarded appropriately when finished.





# Erie County Probation Department

OPIOID TASK FORCE MEETING

02/07/22

# Current Status of Opioid Unit



## **Currently, we have 28 probationers on the Opioid Unit Caseload**

- PN Kathy has **17** probationers on the Opioid Unit caseload and **15** probationers are on other caseloads
- PN Stephanie has **13** probationers on the Opioid Unit caseload and **12** probationers are on other caseloads

**1 probationer was granted an Early Discharge by Court**

**1 probationer transferred to absconder unit**

**1 probationer transferred to another specialty unit (DWI)**

**6 active VOP**

**2 probationer at an inpatient facility**

**1 probationers in jail**

**0 Fatal/nonfatal Opioid OD**

# Updates

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## 2021 Grant Proposal:

- Unfortunately our proposal was not chosen. We plan on developing and submitting another proposal this year. Ideas welcome.

## Peer Navigator:

- We filled our Peer Navigator position and welcome Stephanie Pamrow to the team.

## Interactive Journaling:

- We have 12 probationers actively working on Interactive Journaling, a Cognitive Behavioral Intervention, with our Peer Navigators.

# Opioid Grant/Opioid Unit Data

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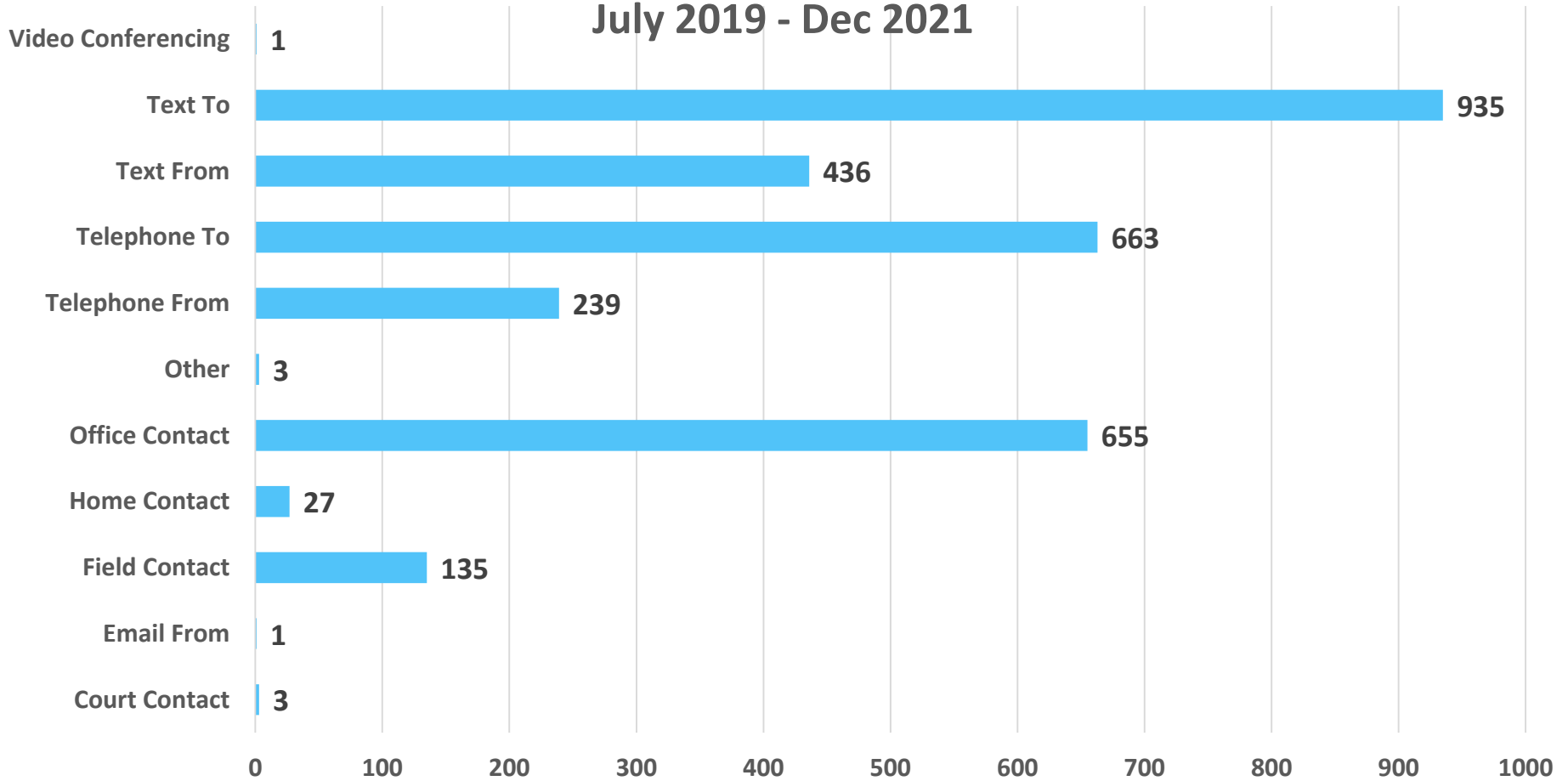


There were no Opioid related Fatal or Non-fatal Overdoses of probationers on the Opioid Unit in 2021.

Since we began using the TCU V in July of 2019 we have screened 3,267 individuals for possible SUD.

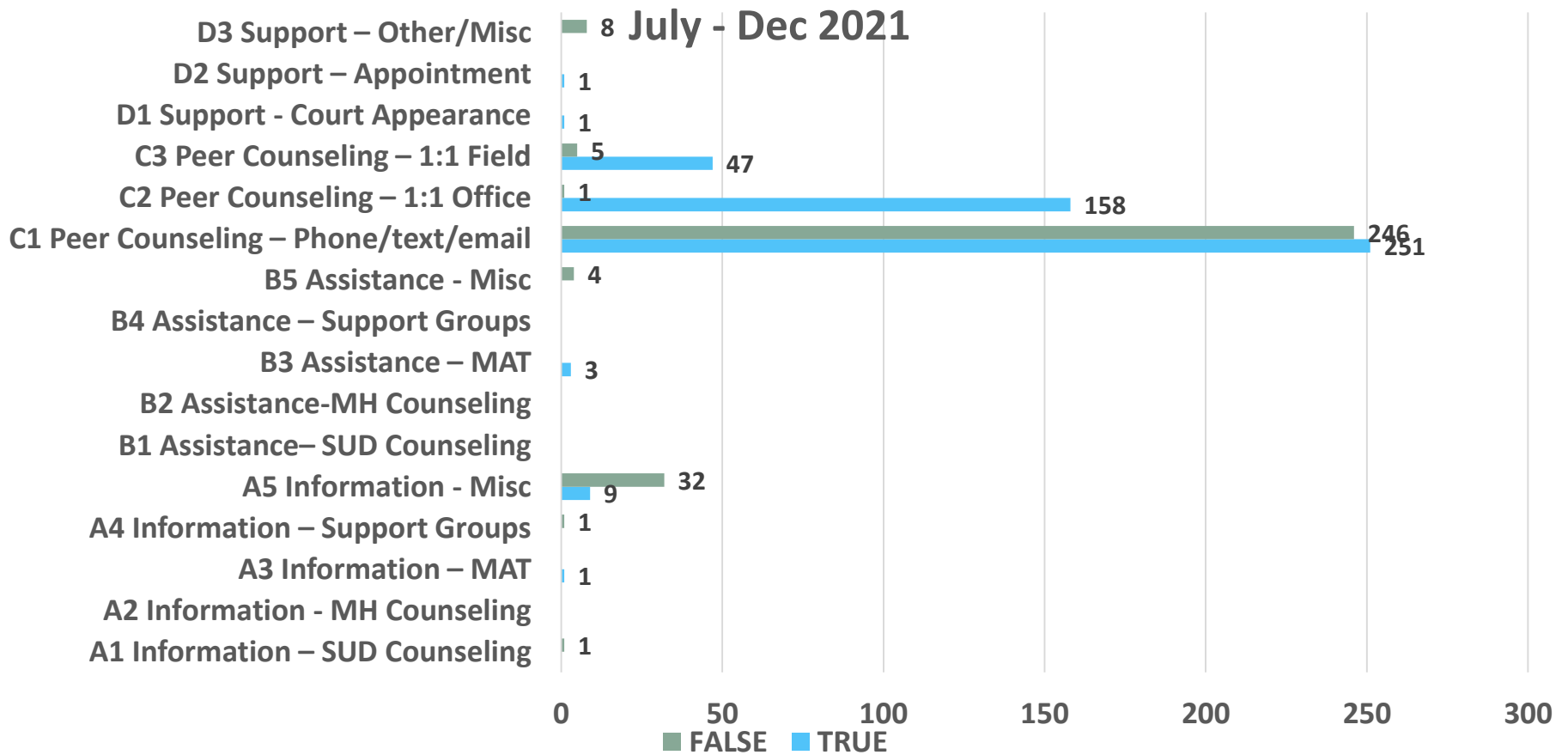
The department distributed 95 Narcan kits to probationers and their families in 2021.

## Total PN True Contacts July 2019 - Dec 2021

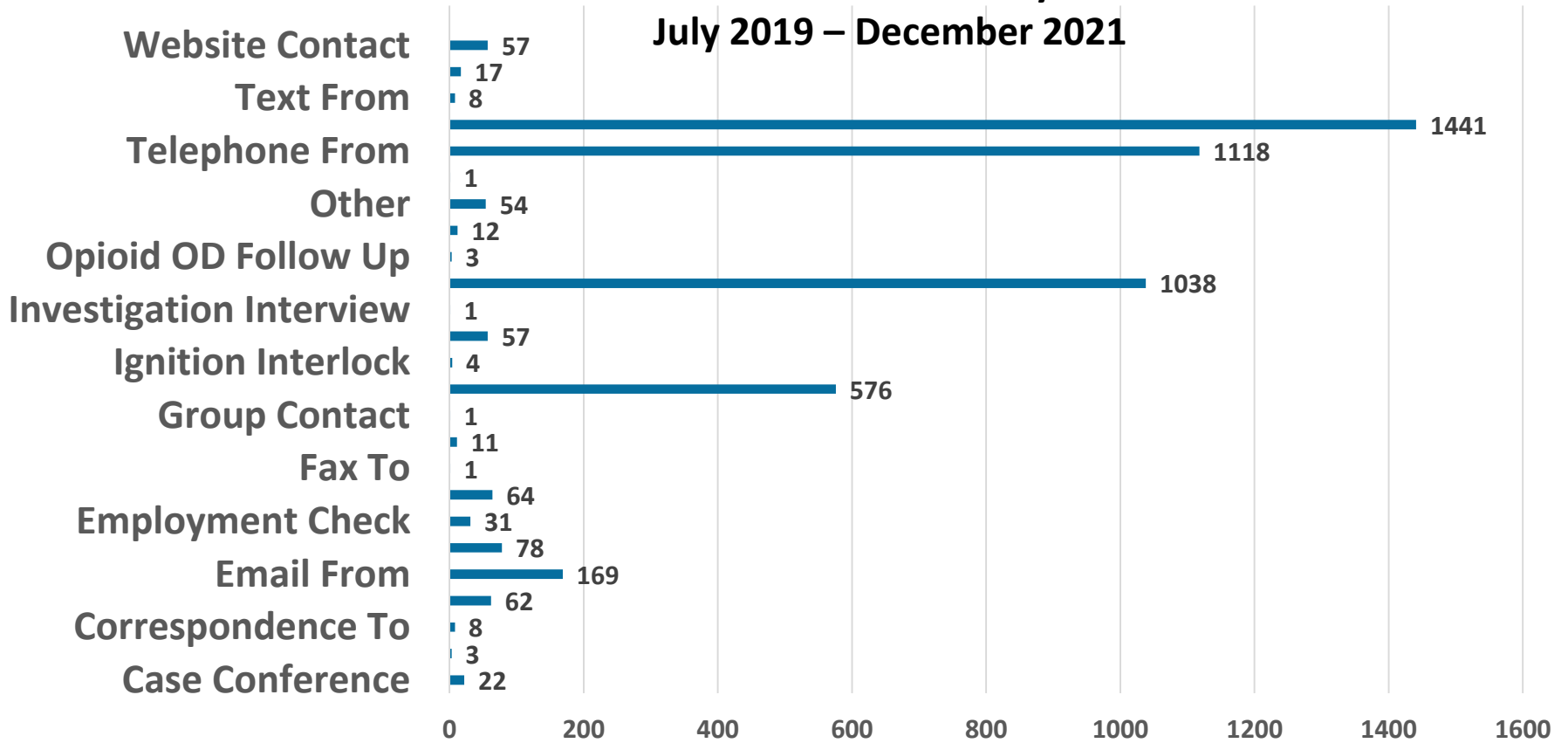




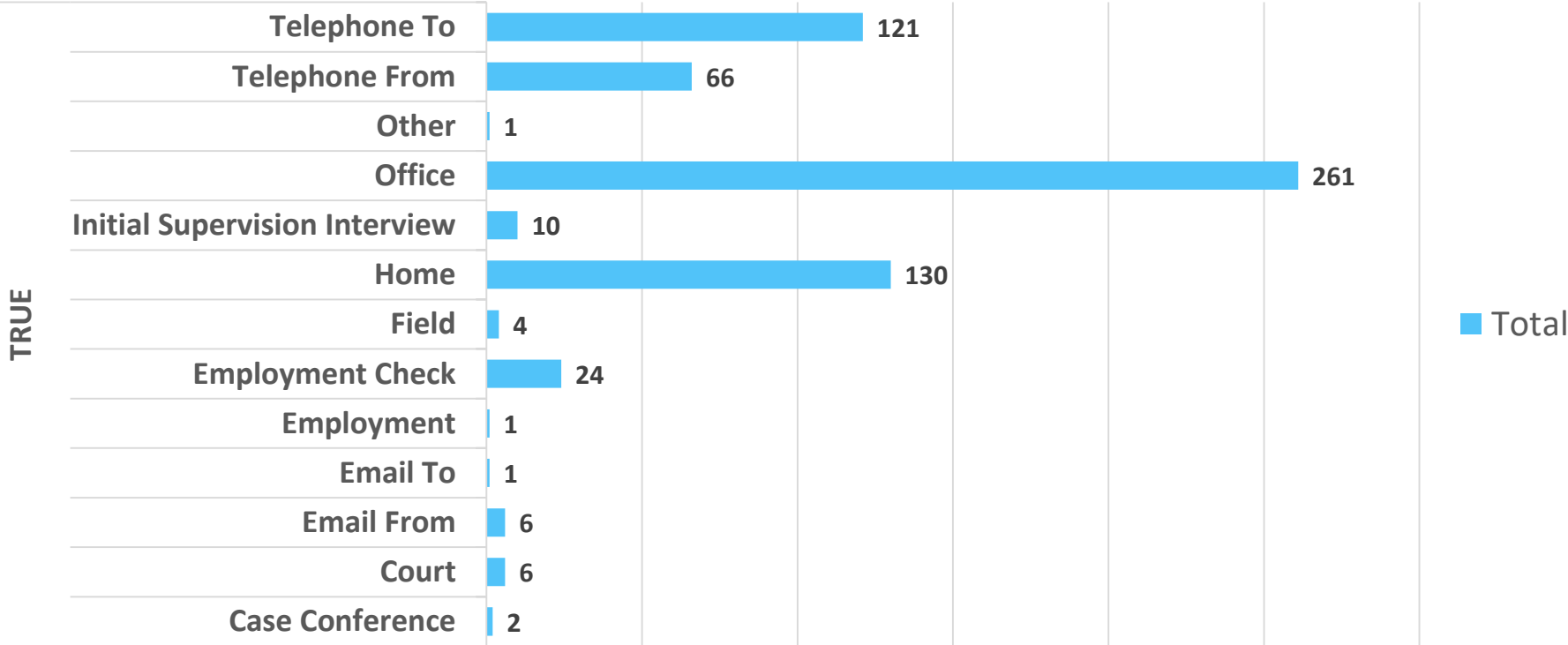
# PN Code



## Number of Contacts by PO July 2019 – December 2021



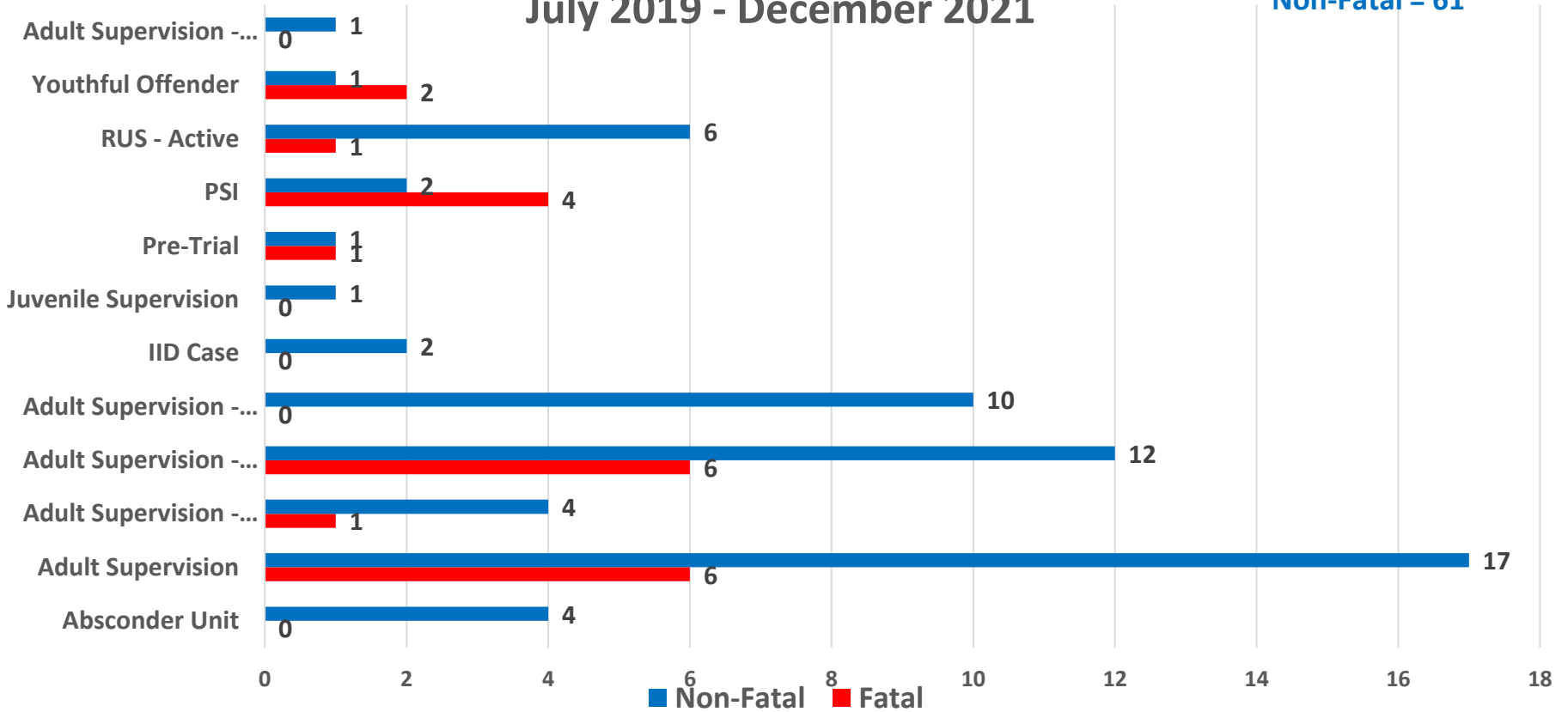
# Count of PO Contact W/Offender July - December 2021



# ECPD OD

## July 2019 - December 2021

Fatal = 21  
Non-Fatal = 61



# *Thank You*

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## **Erie County Probation Opioid Unit**

Supervisor: Kim Reese

Program Coordinator: Anita Robillard

Probation Officer: Melissa Mayhew

Peer Navigator: Kathryn Appenheimer

Peer Navigator: Stephanie Pamrow



Questions, Comments, & Concerns please contact: [Anita.Robillard@erie.gov](mailto:Anita.Robillard@erie.gov)

# HEALing Communities Study

Office of Harm Reduction, Erie County DOH



# STRATEGIES

## \* Narcan

- Text for Narcan
- Narcan Wall Boxes
- Narcan as Harm Reduction outreach, community & reentry initiatives
- Fentanyl Awareness and Overdose Prevention, a Locally Owned Bar & Restaurant Initiative

## \* MAT

- Peer work expansion
- MAT Telemedicine expansion
- MAT Telemedicine, community & reentry initiatives

## \* Safer Rx & Disposal

- Hard Conversations with Loved Ones
- Unwanted medication disposal
- increasing access
- increasing awareness

October 2021 - December 2021, Buffalo  
ONLY

## Narcan

Text Requests: 85

Wall Boxes: 74 units

First Aid Kits: 166 (December only)

## MAT

Peer Linkages: 19

Telemedicine: 18 referred, 13 Rx

MAT support

## Safer Rx & Disposal

Kiosks

## Sustainability





# MATTERS TELEMEDICINE REFERRALS

BUFFALO ONLY

18

REFERRALS  
MADE

13

PRESCRIPTIONS

16

TELEMEDICINE VISITS  
COMPLETED

13

FOLLOW UPS  
COMPLETED



# NARCAN as first aid & harm reduction

response to growing average age, the unknowingness to respond, and lack of preparedness

jail partnership and reentry support

# Curbside Care



- NARCAN KITS – 336
- First Aid Kits - 701
- Fentanyl Test Strips - 575
- Safer Injection Supplies - 1208
- Total # people given supplies - 1125

Supplies distributed in 4 weeks of outreach, 12/2021 – 1/2022

# COVID & FLU prevention

- 62 total vaccines  
1100 PPE kits distributed





fentanyl positive OR negative

what else to do  
to reduce  
overdose risk

## Estimated Opioid Overdoses across Buffalo Neighborhoods From January 1, 2019 to October 14, 2021

Historically, most OOs were seen in the west side central areas of Buffalo. The Riverside Park area had seen the most over 100s in 2020. So far this year, the Cheektowaga neighborhood has reported the most over 100s to date in 2021, 100.

Buffalo neighborhoods can also be grouped into sectors. The West side has seen the most OOs since 2019. 44 percent had an overall increase in OOs from 2020 to 2021. The West and East sectors accounted for more than half of the OOs in 2021.

West side OOs make up 73.4% of all OOs in Buffalo since 2019. Historically, most non-fatal OOs were reported in the West and Central neighborhoods. This year so far, most non-fatal OOs are seen in the Cheektowaga and Forest Park neighborhoods.

23 neighborhoods have a total of non-fatal OOs that are higher than the overall average in Buffalo. The most non-fatal OOs were reported in the neighborhoods of the Front Park, Lakewood, Central Business District, and Riverside Park.

Most fatal OOs were initially seen in the Riverside Park area. Over time, most fatal OOs have spread into central and east side areas as well. This year, most OOs have been seen in the Front Park and Bryant areas so far.

Twenty neighborhoods have a total of fatal OOs that are higher than the overall average in Buffalo. Most fatal OOs were reported in the North and West neighborhoods of Front Park, Riverside Park, Bryant, Black Rock, and Broadway-Filmore areas.

Over 20 drug-related deaths reported to date.

### Buffalo Neighborhoods with Higher than Average **FATAL** Overdoses From January 1, 2019 to October 14, 2021

**How To Use:**  
Buffalo neighborhoods that had a total of **1000** overdoses from January 1, 2019 to October 14, 2021 that was higher than the overall average are displayed in the table below. Use the "Neighborhood Selection" tool to highlight specific neighborhoods. The total number of **1000** overdoses in each neighborhood are labeled on the map. Hover or select on each neighborhood to learn more information about the **1000** overdoses in that area.

Neighborhood Selection  
Highlight Neighborhood

Neighborhood	Total <b>FATAL</b> Overdoses (From January 1, 2019 - October 14, 2021)
Front Park	16
Riverside Park	15
Bryant	12
Black Rock	11
Broadway-Filmore	11
Forest	9
Grant Ferry	9
Lowjoy	9
Wilbert Park	9
Laskie	8
Central Business District	7
Enecon	7
Kensington	7
North Park	7
Scudder Park	7
Triangle	7
Cazenovia Park	6
Grider	6
Kerfield	6
Lakewood	6



# Estimated Opioid Overdoses across Buffalo Neighborhoods

From January 1, 2019 to October 14, 2021

Since 2019, neighborhoods in Buffalo have seen 522 opioid ODs with the majority of them being reported in 2020 (n=54). Notable increases were seen in 2020 from Front to July with the most deaths reported in May 2020 and June 2021 to be

Historically, most ODs were seen in the west and central areas of Buffalo. The Riverside Park area had seen the most ODs (27) in 2020. So far this year, the Columbus neighborhood has surpassed that with the most ODs to date in 2021 (44).

Buffalo neighborhoods can also be grouped into sectors. The West sector has seen the most ODs since 2019. All sectors had an overall increase in ODs from 2019 to 2020. The West and East sectors accounted for more than half of the ODs in 2020.

Non-Fatal ODs make up 73.4% of all ODs in Buffalo since 2019. Historically, most non-Fatal ODs were reported in the West and Central neighborhoods. This year so far, most non-Fatal ODs are seen in the Columbus and Front Park neighborhoods.

15 neighborhoods have a total of non-fatal ODs that are higher than the overall average in Buffalo. The most non-fatal ODs were reported in the neighborhoods of the Front Park, Latavina, central Business District, and Riverside Park.

Most fatal ODs were initially seen in the Riverside Park area. Over time, most fatal ODs have spread into central and east areas as well. This year, most ODs have been seen in the Front Park and several areas to be

There are 15 neighborhoods that have a total of non-fatal ODs that are higher than the overall average in Buffalo.

## Buffalo Neighborhoods with Higher than Average NON-FATAL Overdoses

From January 1, 2019 to October 14, 2021

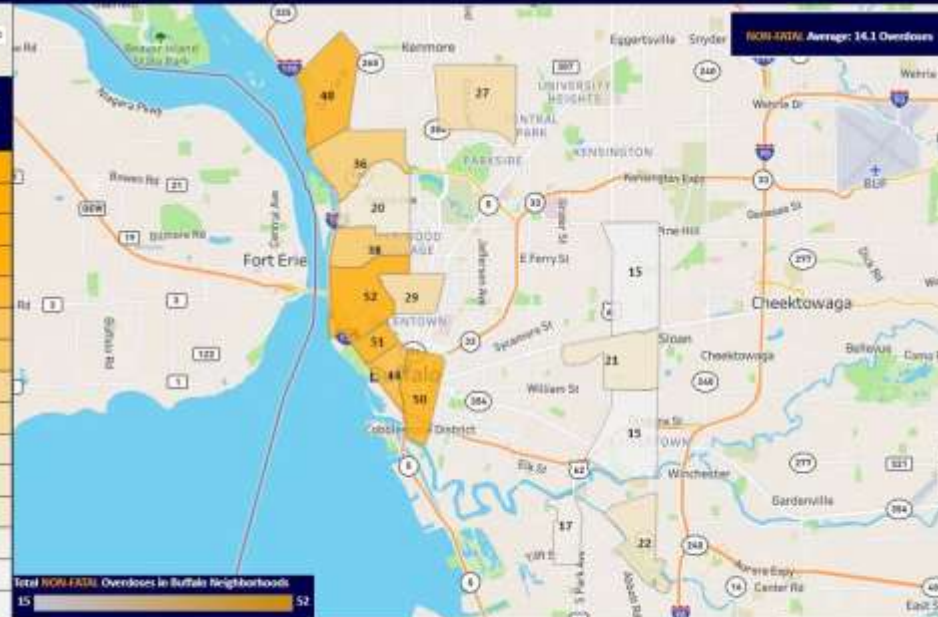
### How to Use:

Buffalo neighborhoods that had a total of **NON-FATAL** overdoses from January 1, 2019 to October 14, 2021 that was higher than the overall average are displayed in the table below. Use the "Neighborhood Selection" tool to highlight specific neighborhoods. The total number of **NON-FATAL** overdoses in each neighborhood are labeled on the map. Hover or select on each neighborhood to learn more information about the **NON-FATAL** overdoses in that area.

### Neighborhood Selection

Highlight neighborhood

Neighborhood	Total NON-FATAL Overdoses (From January 1, 2019 - October 14, 2021)
Front Park	52
Lakeview	51
Central Business District	50
Riverside Park	49
Columbus	44
Grant Ferry	38
Black Rock	36
Bryant	29
North Park	27
Calderdale Park	22
Lovely	21
Forest	20
Triangle	17
Kalbertown	15
Schiller Park	15



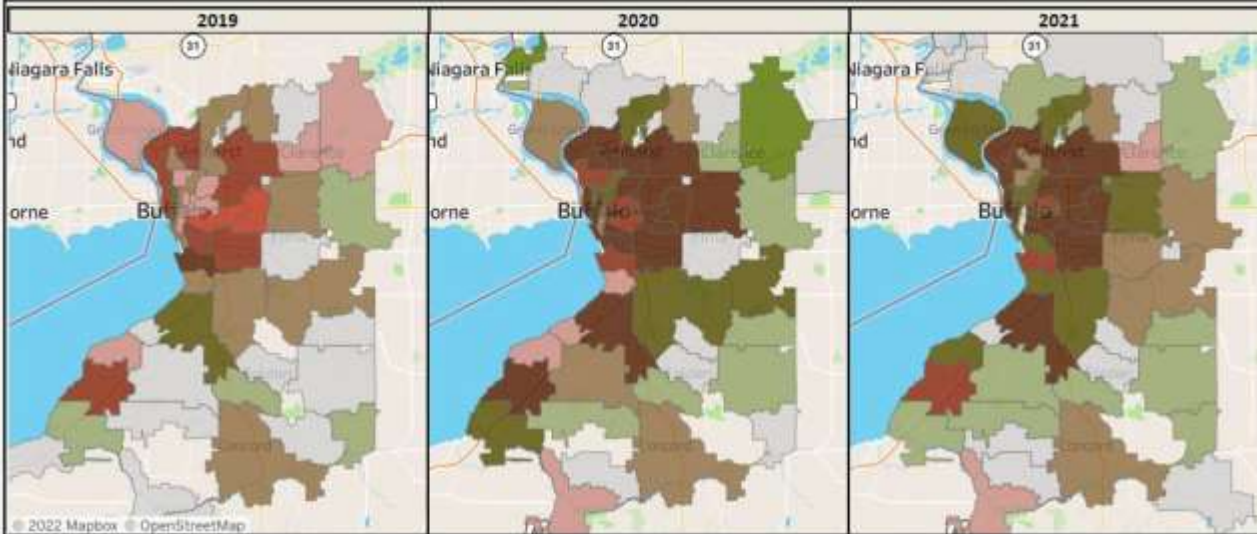
NON-FATAL Average: 14.1 Overdoses

Total NON-FATAL Overdoses in Buffalo Neighborhoods

15 52

# Narcan and Overdoses in Erie County

From 2019 to 2021



Legend:

Filter Selection:

More ODs Reported →



More Narcan Distributed →

Zip Code Selection:

(All)

Date Selection:

(All)

Narcan Level Selection:

(All)

OD Level Selection:

(All)



# Narcan and Overdoses in Erie County

From 2019 to 2021



Legend:

More ODs Reported ↑



More Narcan Distributed →

Filter Selection:

Zip Code Selection:  
14217

Date Selection:  
All

Narcan Level Selection:  
All

OD Level Selection:  
All

# Up and Coming

- | Fentanyl Awareness and Overdose Prevention Campaign, a Locally Owned Bar and Restaurant Initiative
- | Fentanyl Resources
- | Linkage and Conversation Points for pharmacies and dental offices
- | Collaboration with Health Equity
- | Expanding Curbside
- | Environmental Health trainings

# Agenda

**Sign on** – (9:50 – 10am)

**Welcome, housekeeping, introduction of agenda** – (10 – 10:05am)

**Workgroup report out** – 5 – 10 minutes each (10:05 – 11:20am)

- Community Education and Prevention – Barb Burns
- Treatment Providers – John Grieco, Jen Seib
- REAP – Thomas Diina, Chief of Community Reintegration, ECSO
- Hospitals and Emergency Departments – Dr. Lynch
- Providers – Dr. Burstein
- Naloxone – Cheryll Moore
- Family and Consumers – Deb Smith

**Updates** – (11:20 – 11:45am)

- DHHS SAMHSA funding – Elizabeth Terranova, Project Coordinator – SUD
- Opioid Mortality Review Board – Kelly Sipolo
- COAP funding – Category 3 – Probation Opioid unit – Anita Robillard
- Healing Communities Study – Taylor Winter, Project Coordinator – SUD
- COSSAP award – increase Peers and New York MATTERS (Medication Assisted Treatment and Emergency Referrals) with local police departments and department of probation in a fully virtual way

**Response to questions in the Chat**, (11:45am – 12 noon)

Thank you! – next meeting: **Monday, May 2, 2022**