



**Erie County Opiate Epidemic Task Force**

**Webex**

**Quarterly Meeting**

**11.14.2022**

**Agenda**

1. Sign on – (9:50 - 10)
2. Welcome, housekeeping, introduction of agenda – (10 am – 10:10)
3. Workgroup report out – 5 – 10 minutes each – (10:35 – 11:40)
  - Provider Education and Policy Reform – Dr. Burstein – (10:10 – 10:20)
  - Treatment Providers - Jen Seib – (10:20 – 10:30)
  - Hospitals and Emergency Departments – Dr. Lynch, Caleigh Loughran (10:30 – 10:40)
  - Harm Reduction (Formerly Naloxone Distribution) – Cheryll Moore (10:40 – 11:00)
    - i. DHHS SAMHSA award with NYSDOH to expand naloxone training and access in the 8 WNY counties, and expand the response after overdose project utilizing a local peer response and the ODMAP notification system –(Elizabeth Terranova, Project Coordinator – SUD);
    - ii. Healing Communities Study – grant from Columbia University to expand work in the city of Buffalo to decrease opioid deaths by 40% over life of the study using evidence-based interventions determined through a team approach using data – (Taylor Winter, Project Coordinator – SUD );
    - iii. 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;
    - iv. Opioid Mortality Review Board – (Kelly Sipolo, RN, Coordinator)
    - v. New DHHS SAMHSA FR Cara award to start 9.30.22 – Erie County Specific – first responder training and Narcan supply grant, linkage to MATTERS, virtual appointments
  - Family and Consumers – Deb Smith (11:00 – 11:10)
  - Community Education – Barbara Burns (11:10 – 11:20)
  - REAP – ODMAP meeting next week, updates to follow
4. Updates – (11:20 – 11:30)
  - COAP funding – Category 3 – Probation Opioid unit – Anita Robillard
5. Response to questions in the Chat, (11:30 – 12noon)

**Thank you!** – next meeting: **Monday February 6, 2023**



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**



**Public Health**  
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**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**

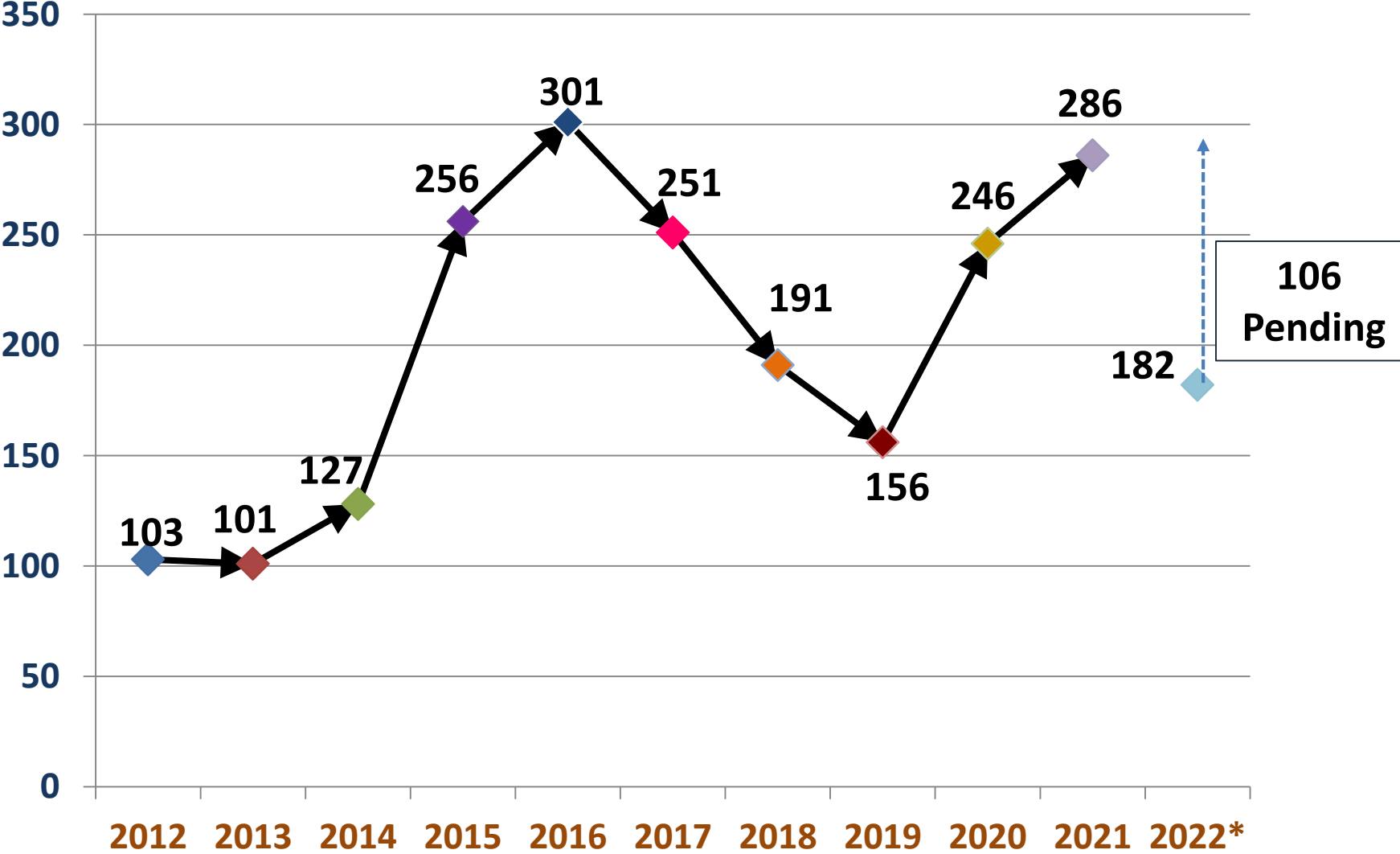


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# **OPIOID RELATED DEATHS ERIE COUNTY**

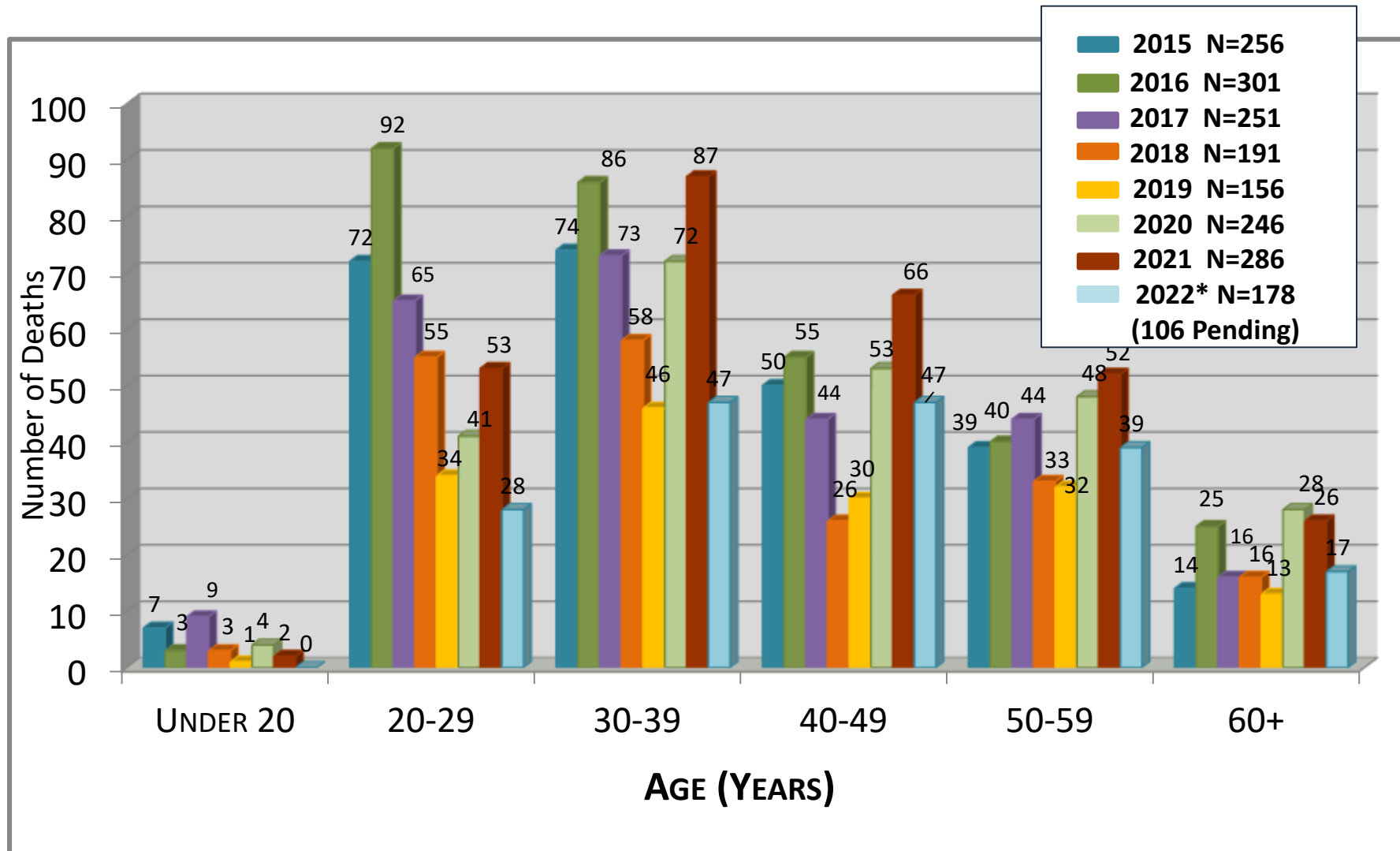
As of 11/10/2022

# 2012 – 2022\* OPIOID RELATED DEATHS ERIE COUNTY



SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, CLOSED CASES REPORTED THRU 11/10/2022

# 2015 – 2022\* ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS BY AGE



SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, CLOSED CASES REPORTED THRU 11/10/2022

# Erie County Census Estimate

# Erie County Opioid Overdoses

	Population % (N=954,236) 2020 Census	2018 Overdose % (N=191)	2019 Overdose % (N=156)	2020 Overdose % (N=246)	2021 Overdose % (N=286)	2021 Overdose % (N=178 106 Pending)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>						
White alone	79%	79%	78%	79%	73%	69%
Black or African American alone	14%	10%	10%	19%	22%	27%
Native Amer / Alaskan Native	.7%	N/A	N/A	2%	4%	2%
Hispanic	6%	7%	8%	10%	9%	11%
<b>Gender</b>						
Female	52%	30%	27%	30%	27%	27%
Male	48%	70%	73%	70%	73%	73%
<b>Age</b>						
20-29	14%	29%	22%	17%	19%	16%
30-39	13%	30%	29%	29%	30%	26%
40-49	11%	14%	19%	22%	23%	26%
50-59	14%	17%	21%	19%	18%	22%
60+	25%	8%	8%	12%	9%	10%



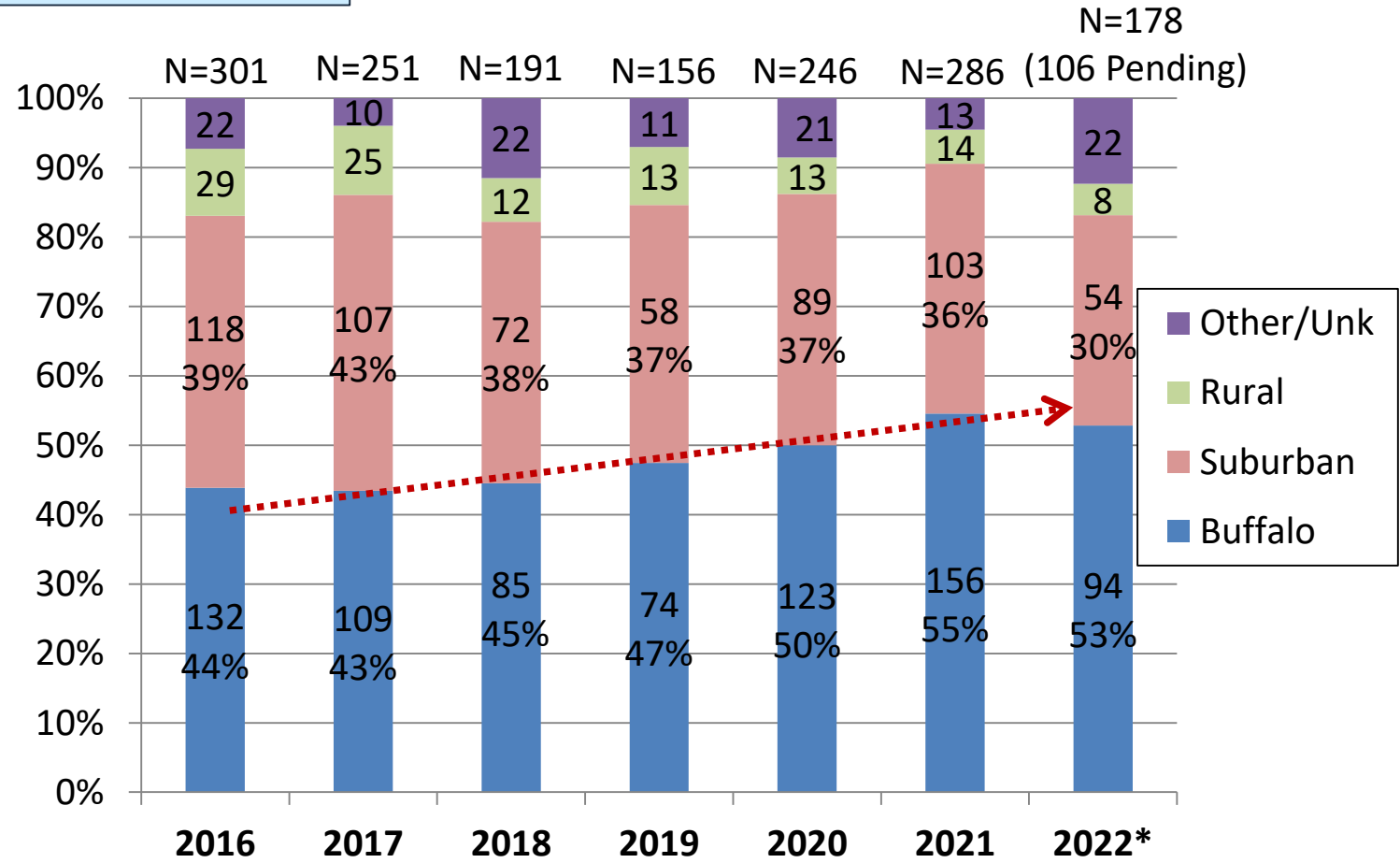


*Buffalo*  
 28% of persons who live in Erie County reside in the City of Buffalo

# 2016 – 2022\* PERCENT OF ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS BY RESIDENCE

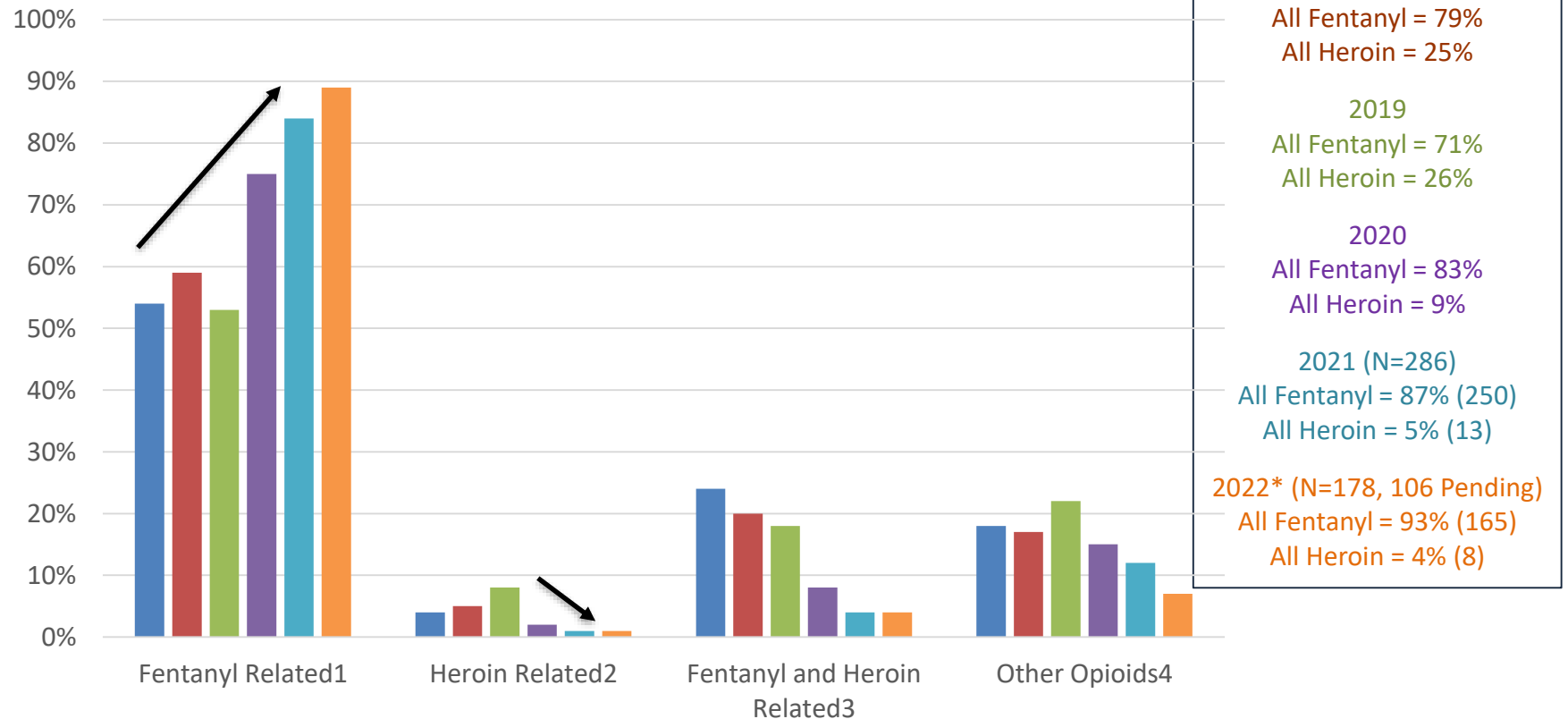
- SUBURBAN TOWNS:**
- AMHERST
  - CHEEKTOWAGA
  - CLARENCE
  - GRAND ISLAND
  - HAMBURG
  - LACKAWANNA
  - LANCASTER
  - ORCHARD PARK
  - TONAWANDA
  - WEST SENECA

- 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 11/10/2022

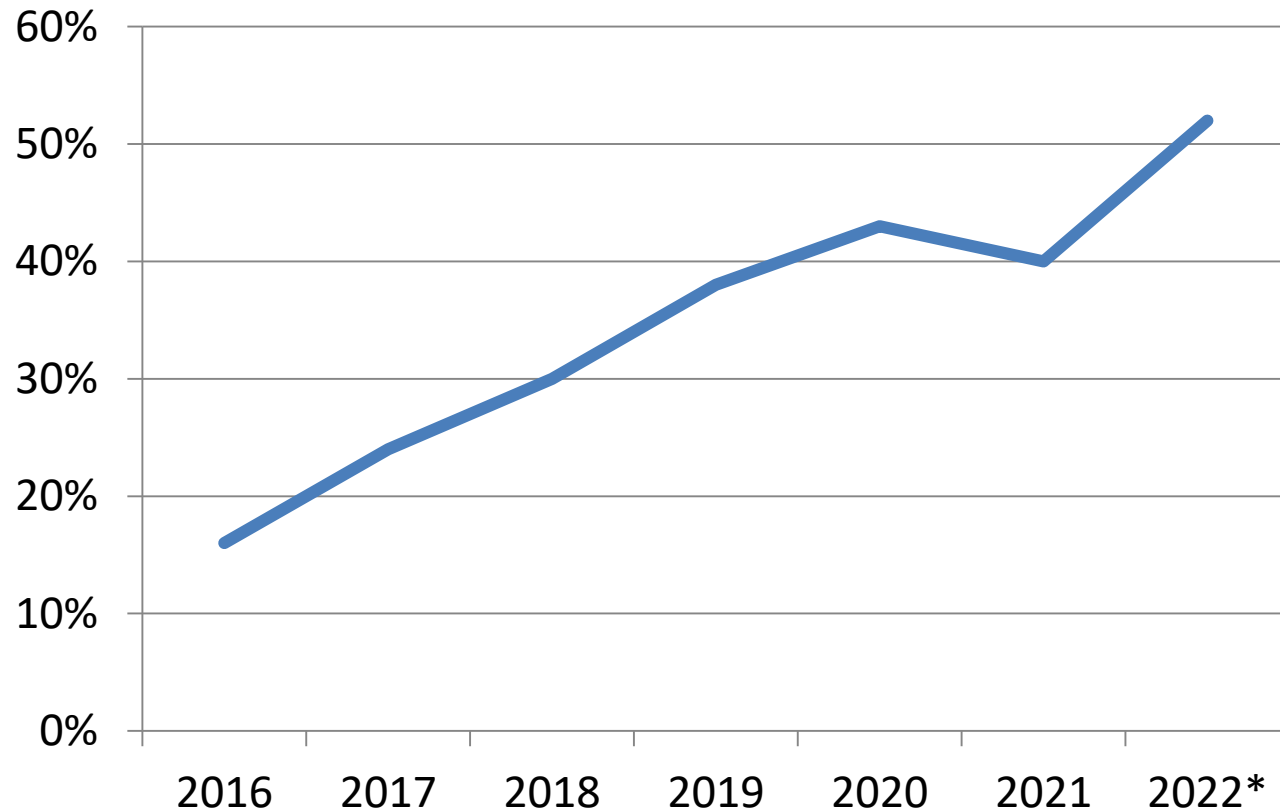
# 2017 – 2022\* PERCENT OF ERIE COUNTY OPIOID RELATED DEATHS BY TYPE OF OPIOID



<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 – 2022\* 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: 44% (125/286) of opioid related deaths involved cocaine**  
**2022: 54% (96/178) of opioid related deaths involved cocaine**

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

SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, CLOSED CASES REPORTED THRU 11/10/2022

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

# Peers in Primary Care Billing Project

- 1-year, \$1 million federal grant
- Thanks to Congressman Brian Higgins' office
- Grant will cover costs for peer-based support services that not covered through insurance charges
- Allows physician offices to
  - 1) Add peer supports for patients with substance use disorder care and
  - 2) Work with health plans to understand how to bill for peers



**Erie County  
Department of  
Health**



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# Comments and Questions



**Erie County**  
**Opiate Epidemic**  
***Task Force***  
Quarterly Meeting  
November 14, 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**



# Committee Updates:

## Increase access to SUD Housing

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

- Next meeting via WebEx [January 23rd](#) at 1:00.
- **Recent Updates:**
  - [Living Opportunities of DePaul](#) has committed to include 6 beds dedicated for SUD in their planned Pan American development on Delaware Avenue. This will also include SUD related services/supports. They anticipate [breaking ground on this large and exciting development any day now](#).
  - Updates on two recent increases in SUD bed availability:
    - [BestSelf Behavioral Health](#) indicated that they have recently begun to accept individuals into their Mt. Aaron Project with 18 units of SUD Housing all of one of which was filled as of 10/24.
    - [Evergreen Health Services](#) 7 of the 12 transitional Supported Housing beds are filled. This is funded by the Erie County Department of Mental Health.
  - Emerging Project:
    - [PUSH Buffalo](#) collaborating with [BestSelf](#) on a project entitled "[West Side Homes](#)". It is several different homes in which we will be providing SUD SMI services. They are made to be energy efficient and have utilities included. Updates will be provided as this evolves. Four beds for SMI, 12 beds for SUD, 4 of the 16 total need to be for MRT eligible individuals.





# Committee Updates:

## Harm Reduction Education and Support for families/community

Facilitator: Julianna Everdyke, [Julianna.Everdyke@erie.gov](mailto:Julianna.Everdyke@erie.gov)

### Meetings are the second Wednesday of the month 3p-4p

- Working on fact sheets that take on a medical model approach - similar to diabetes or high blood pressure. The hope is to reduce stigma by providing information this way.
- Normalizing harm reduction practices! Designated drivers, seatbelts, sunscreen
- Some of the informational sheets will also focus on how to have a conversation with a loved one about substance use and focus on some key things to remember as a support person – what options are available for support for the family/loved ones, how to get involved with others
- The plan is to address what harm reduction looks like for a variety of substance use, not just opioids.
- We are hoping to collaborate with community coalitions that already have a presence, are trusted individuals, and hold meetings and educational groups.



# Committee Updates:

- **Improve access to Medication Assisted Treatment in the Community**

- **Facilitator: Jennifer Seib, [JSeib@bestselfwny.org](mailto:JSeib@bestselfwny.org)**

No new updates – group has been on a hiatus

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

- 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. - Possible opportunity with opioid settlement funds
- 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



**Erie County Department of Mental Health  
Awarded \$750,000 over 4 years from the  
United States Department of Justice-Bureau of Justice Assistance.  
(Pending E.C. Legislative approval)**

- **Services to be provided:** Will implement new Evidence Based Practice Trauma Screen and MISSION-CJ in Adult Treatment Courts in the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and increase capacity of those that can be served.
- **Desired Goal:** Enhance case management capacity to accelerate linkage to MOUD services and address the issue of unresolved trauma, particularly for those with substance use disorders and co-occurring mental illness.
- ***Maintaining Independence and Sobriety through Systems Integration, Outreach and Networking (MISSION)*** is an [evidence-based](#), time-limited, yet flexible, integrated behavioral intervention. MISSION was developed specifically to meet the unique needs of individuals, with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (CODs), with versions available for homeless individuals, **criminal justice-involved individuals (CJ)**, and military veterans.
- **Services provided by:** Hope of Erie County
- **Evaluation Provided by:** Research Foundation of SUNY



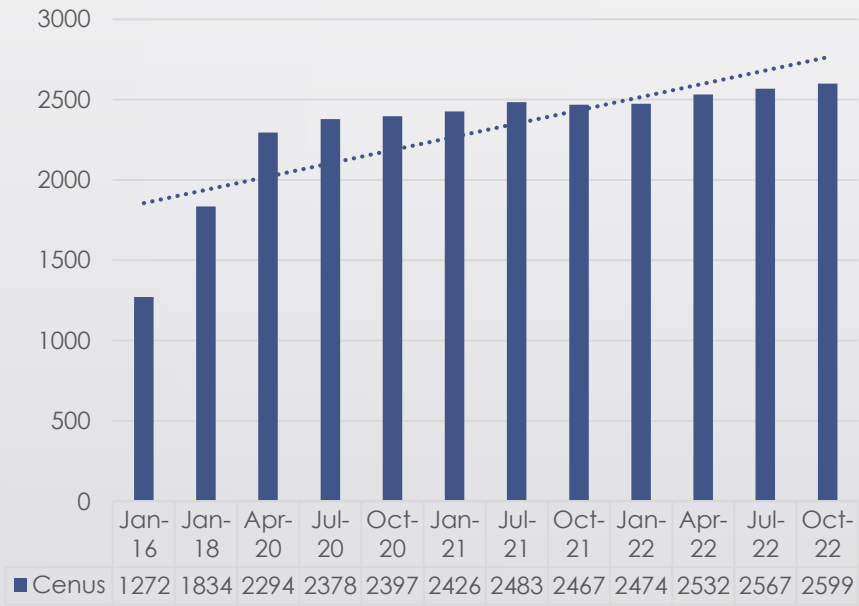
# MOUD For Incarcerated Individuals – Erie County Sherriff's Office

Chief Thomas Diina to discuss MAT program

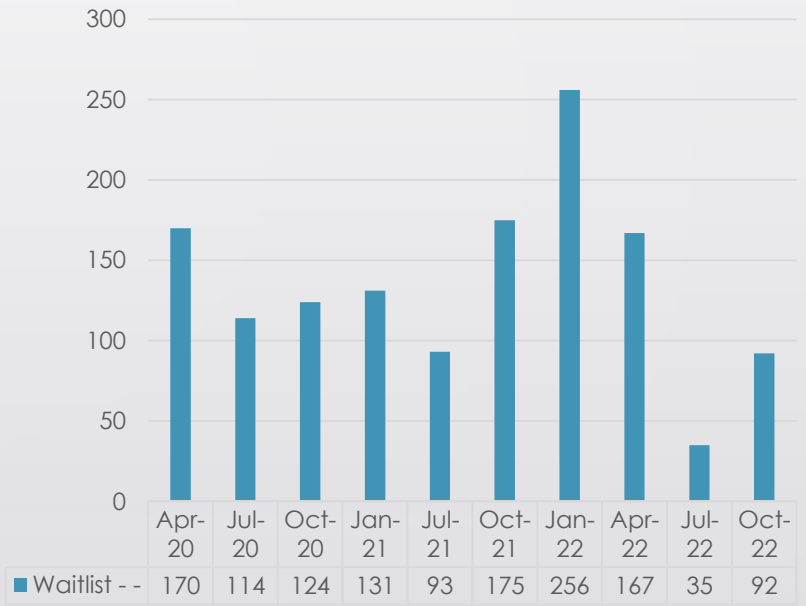


# Medication for Opioid Use Disorder in Erie County: Methadone Maintenance Access Trends

Methadone Maintenance **Census**  
Erie County Located Programs



Methadone Maintenance **Waitlist**  
Erie County Located Programs





WNY Opioid Addiction Treatment  
*24/7 Virtual Medication Assisted Treatment  
Center*

716-463-6222

- Available to anyone in WNY
- Call to be linked to a MAT Provider for evaluation, prescription, and linkage to ongoing care at location of choice
- Opened May 16th



## WNY Opioid Addiction Treatment 24/7 Virtual Medication Assisted *Treatment* *Center*

- 138 Unique Individuals have received medication via the program
- 60 Erie County
- 52 Niagara County
- Calls from Allegany, Wyoming, Orleans, Genesee, Chautauqua, and Cattaraugus range from 1-8 per county
  - At our last meeting there had only been calls from Cattaraugus and Orleans, in addition to Erie and Niagra
- People have been referred to: Spectrum, Horizon, BestSelf, Beacon, ECMC Outpatient, Brooks/TLC, Evergreen, Endeavor Health Services, Beacon Center, GCASA, Northpointe, and Chautauqua County Mental Health for ongoing care



**ERIE COUNTY ADDICTION HOTLINE  
831-7007**

**Operated by Crisis Services 24/7**

- Provides information, referral, linkage to treatment and support.
- Education on MOUDs & Motivational Interviewing is woven into phone counselor script to facilitate referrals for callers.
- Integrate into Substance Use Disorder Treatment system
- Year to Date Call Volume: 656 thru September 2022





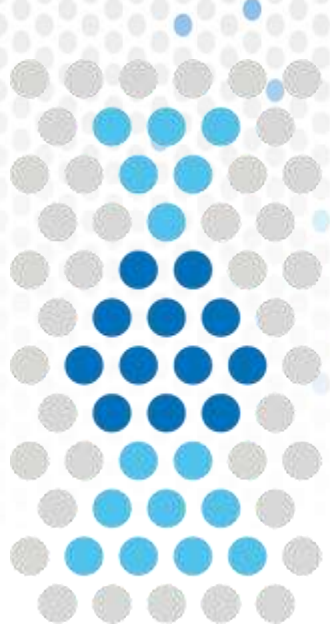
**Next meeting:**

**11/28, 10:30-12 via WebEx**



Thank you for  
your support  
& dedication





# MATTERS

**Medication for Addiction Treatment & Electronic Referrals**

**KATIE ROSSI**

**DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS | MATTERS**

**CALEIGH LOUGHRAN**

**PROGRAM MANAGER | MATTERS**

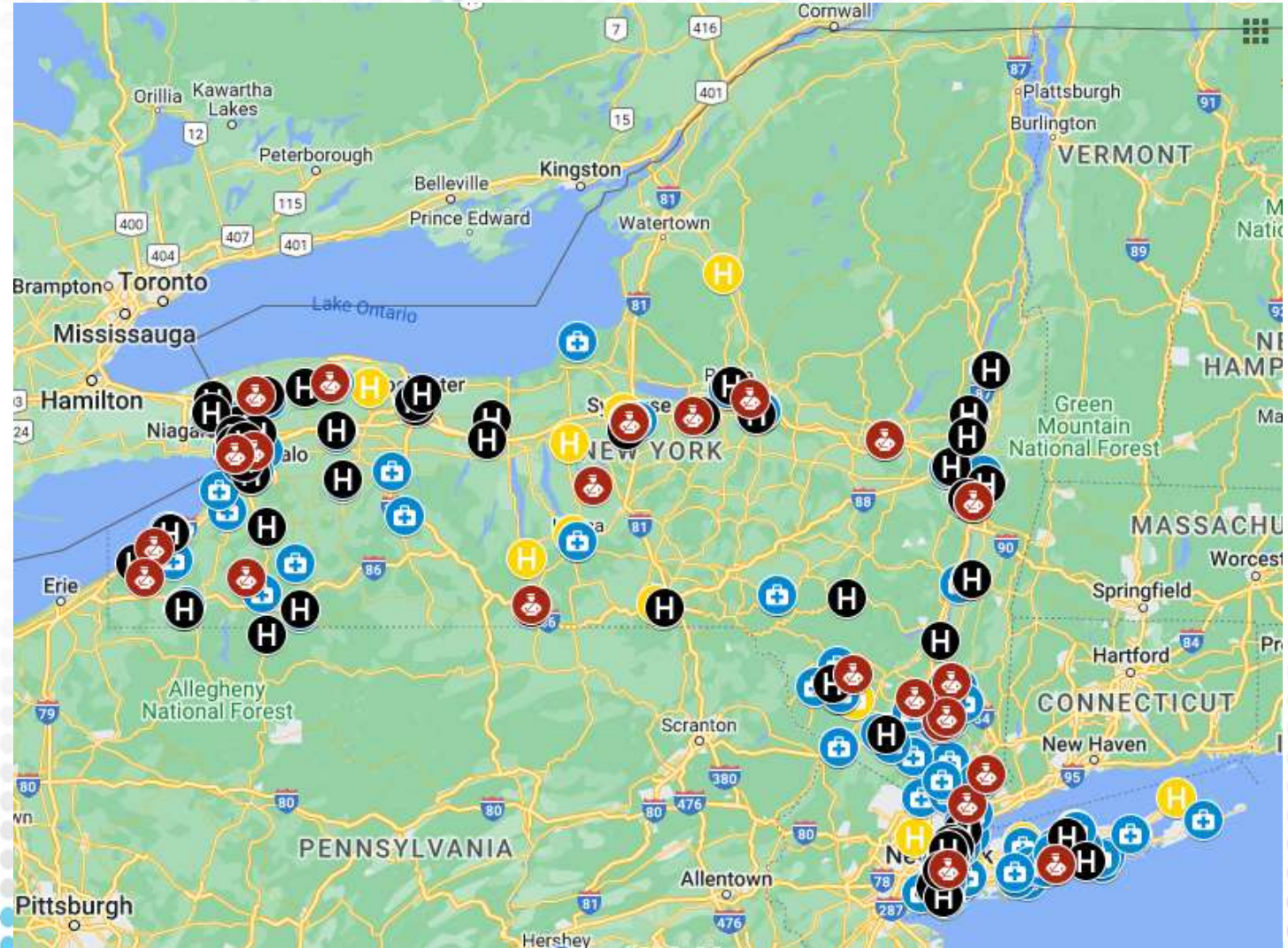
# Expansion Efforts



# MATTERS Network

## MAP LEGEND:

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



# Welcome to the Team!

## **Katie Rossi, MS**

*Director of Operations, MATTERS*

Katie holds a BS in Health and Wellness and MS in Health and Human Performance. She started working in healthcare in 2012 and quickly discovered a knack for operations, specifically in high stress and complex environments. Her experience spans multiple medical specialties most notably neurology and emergency veterinary medicine. Beyond health and medical operations, her passion lies in leading teams and solving problems.



# **Brigid Keane**

*Graduate Public Health Fellow,  
MATTERS*

Brigid is currently in her last year of the MPH program at Daemen University. She graduated Hobart and William Smith Colleges with a degree in biology with the ambition of going into a field where she was able to help others. Brigid is passionate about being a supportive member of her surrounding communities. She spends her free time doing pilates/other forms of physical activity and spending time with family, friends, and her 2 year old puppy Mochi.



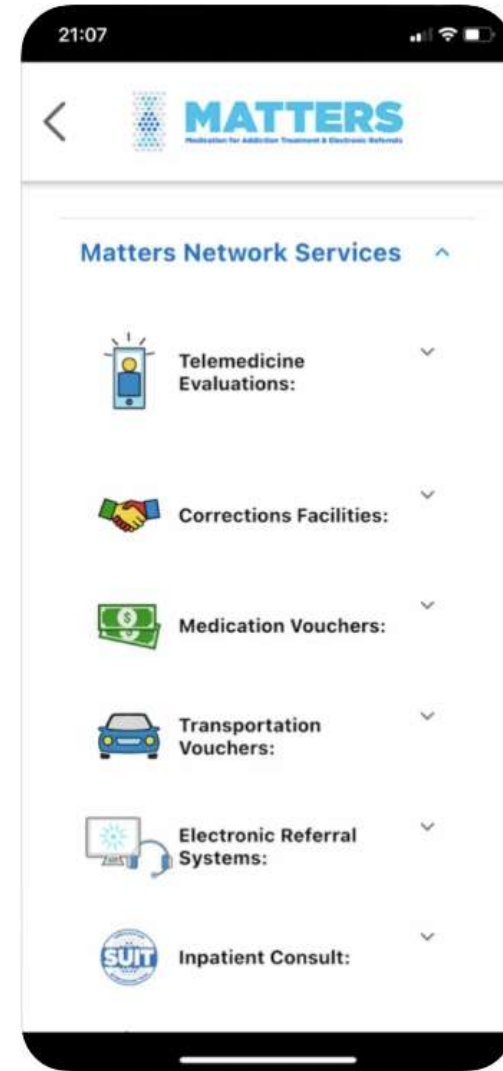
# **Lauren Lennett**

*Public Health Fellow, MATTERS*

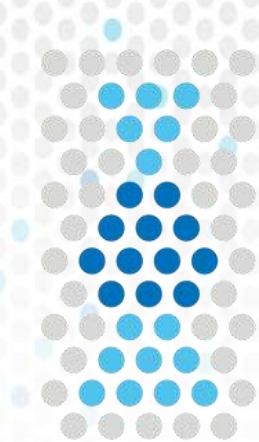
Lauren is in her senior at The University at Buffalo majoring in Public Health. She has had leadership experience for several years as a camp counselor and group leader at a summer sleep-away camp in Pennsylvania. Lauren has a passion for taking care of others and helping her greater community.



# iPhone Screenshots







# MATTERS

Medication for Addiction Treatment & Electronic Referrals



Available on the  
**App Store**



GET IT ON  
**Google Play**



# Telemedicine Initiatives



# MAT-PDOA is LIVE

## What?

- WNY Opioid Addiction Treatment
- 24/7 Virtual Medication Assisted Treatment Center

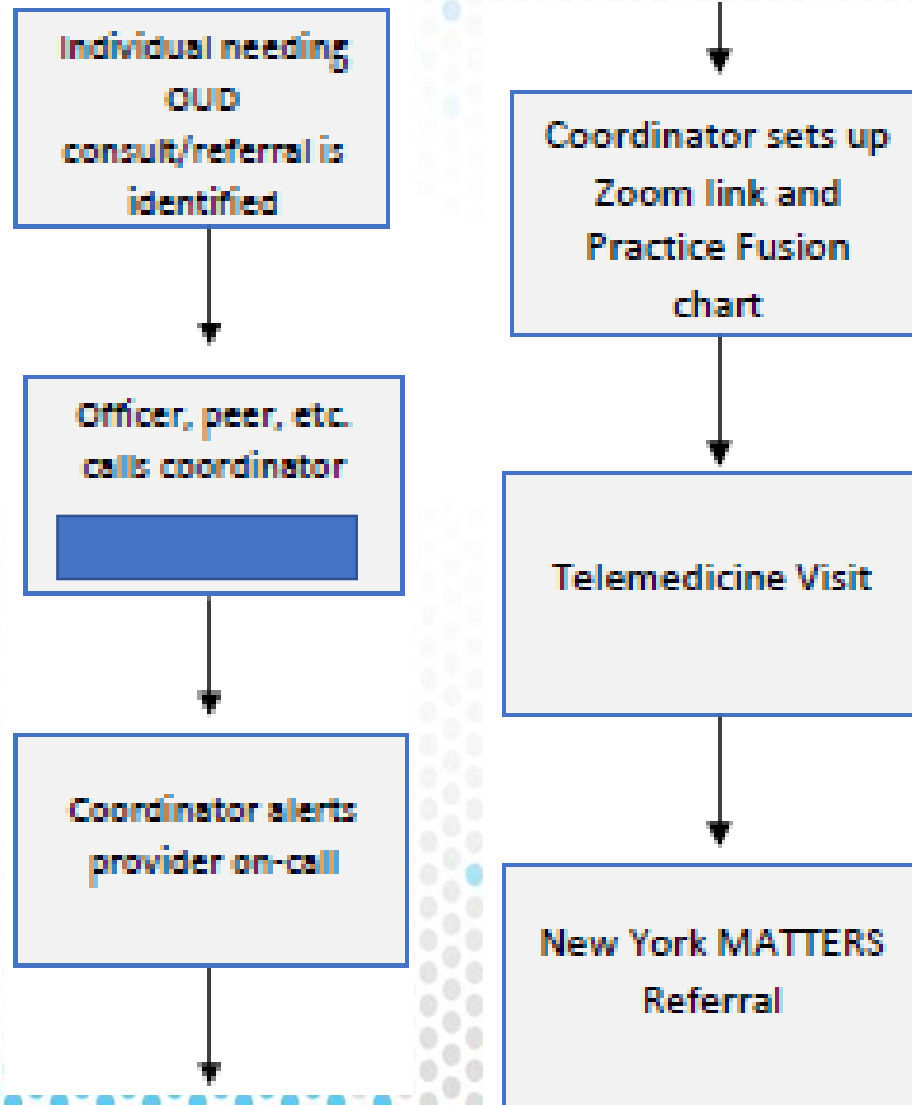
## When?

- 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

## How?

- Patients can simply call **716-463-6222** to request an immediate telemedicine consult

# Direct Referrals to Telemedicine Update



Is your police department interested in participating??

Contact Caleigh

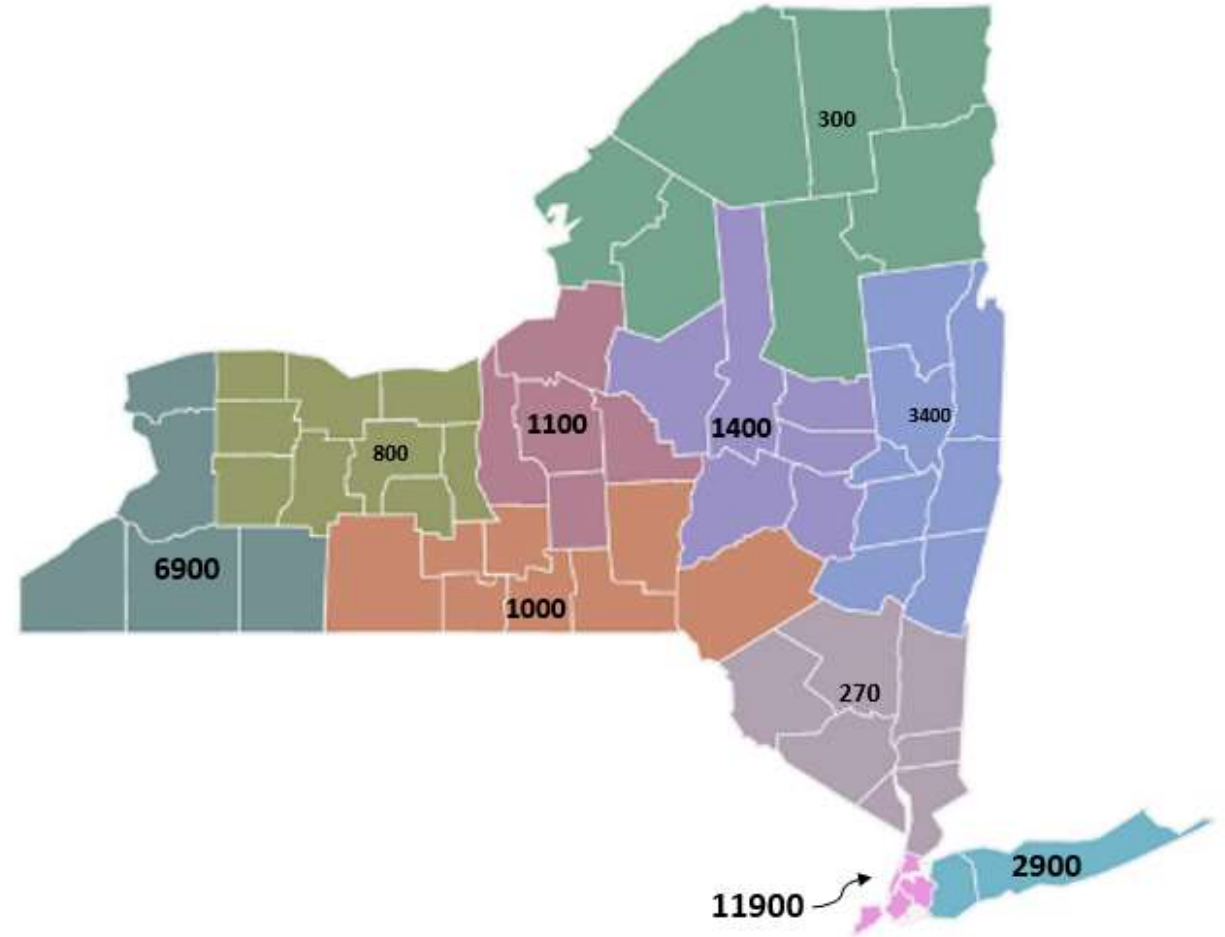
[cloughran@mattersnetwork.org](mailto:cloughran@mattersnetwork.org)

# Other Projects



# Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution

We've distributed  
>30,000 FTS  
across New York  
State thus far!



Interested in ordering FTS for your organization?



Visit <https://mattersnetwork.org/request-test-strips/>

Feel free to reach out with any  
further questions!



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

**Caleigh Loughran**

[cloughran@mattersnetwork.org](mailto:cloughran@mattersnetwork.org)

**Katie Rossi**

[krossi@mattersnetwork.org](mailto:krossi@mattersnetwork.org)



@matters\_network



@matters\_network



@New York MATTERS



# Opiate Epidemic Task Force: Harm Reduction Workgroup

Erie County Health Department

November 14, 2022



# Narcan Trainings and deployment this quarter Office of Harm Reduction overall (7.1.22 – 9.30.22)

- Continued naloxone trainings and medication deployment conducted by the department, many are virtual or on the spot:
  - Law enforcement – 127
  - Fire fighters – 104
  - EMS/Healthcare Providers – 26
  - School Personnel – 78
  - Library Staff - 28
  - Business Staff – 86
  - Individuals released from prison - 283
  - Community outreach including EC Fair – Opioid grant staff reach – 1322
  - Virtual trainings, partner trainings– 1360
  - Total kits distributed this quarter including mailing, virtual trainings and refills – 3560 kits



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

November 2022

Opiate Epidemic Task Force

# ESAP Drug and SHARPs Drop Off Kiosks

## • Sheriff Maintained Locations

- Akron; Alden; Brant; Clearance; Colden; Elma; Grand Island; Holland; Lackawanna; Marilla; Springville
- Erie County Facilities at ECC North; ECC South; ECC City; Rath Bldg; Jesse Nash Health Ctr; EC Sherriff's @ 10 Delaware;
- Kaleida Health locations- Buffalo General; John R. Oishei Children's Hospital, Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital
- Canisius Collage;
- Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center

## Local Municipality Kiosk Locations

- Amherst Police Dpt.
- Cheektowaga Police Department
- Orchard Park Police
- Evans Police Dept.
- University of Buffalo- North Campus @ Bissell Hall
- All Buffalo Police Departments

## Outside of Erie County

- Albion Police Department (Orleans Co.)
- Orleans County Sheriff's Office (Orleans Co.)
- Batavia Police Department (Genesee Co.)
- LeRoy Village Police (Genesee Co.)
- Medina Police Dept (Orleans Co.)
- Wyoming County Sherriff (Wyoming Co.)



# Totals Collected

## Drugs Destroyed

- 2022 – 8,000 lbs
- 2021 – 12,220 lbs (5060 this ¼)
- 2020 - 16520 lbs
- 2019 - 34720 lbs

## Sharps Collected

- 2022 – 8142 lbs
  - 2021 – 6006 lbs (2478 this ¼)
  - 2020 – 9629 lbs
  - 2019 – 8809 lbs
- 
- 4 kiosks replaced



Visit [thepointry.org](https://thepointry.org)  
to find a location near you to:

Obtain hypodermic needles and syringes without a prescription  
Safely dispose of syringes and needles in secure, anonymous kiosks  
Safely dispose of unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications

**SCAN THIS CODE**



# Harm Reduction Outreach

- New outreach responses due to isolation, disconnection from public interactions, new homeless populations
- Pop up community events as requested by the community, outreach to social venues such as bars and restaurants due to changing drugs and overdose profiles
- Live Well Erie Van Outreach Weekly
  - Tuesdays – Curbside Care, 158 Pearl St, 11am – 5pm
  - Thursdays – 12 – 4pm, St. John Kanty, corner of Broadway and Swinburne St.
  - Fridays – assorted sites based on data



# CURBSIDE CARE EXAMPLE OF SERVICES

## 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!



Erie County  
Department of  
Health



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*

# WNY Response After Overdose

## WNY RESPONSE AFTER OVERDOSE PROJECT



Erie County  
**HEALTH**

# Narcan trainings

- Trainings: Oct 2018 – Sept 2022
  - 69 first responder depts
  - 1001 first responders, 66 sessions



Type	# departments trained	# people trained
Law enforcement	9	192
Fire	53	626
Other first responders	7	183
Community	71	1542
Outreach/Case management		453



**WNY Response  
After Overdose**



**Erie County  
HEALTH**

# Narcan wall boxes, Nov 2019 – Oct 2022

- 1698 wall boxes distributed in community
- Refills mailed as requested
- 5427 Narcan kits distributed



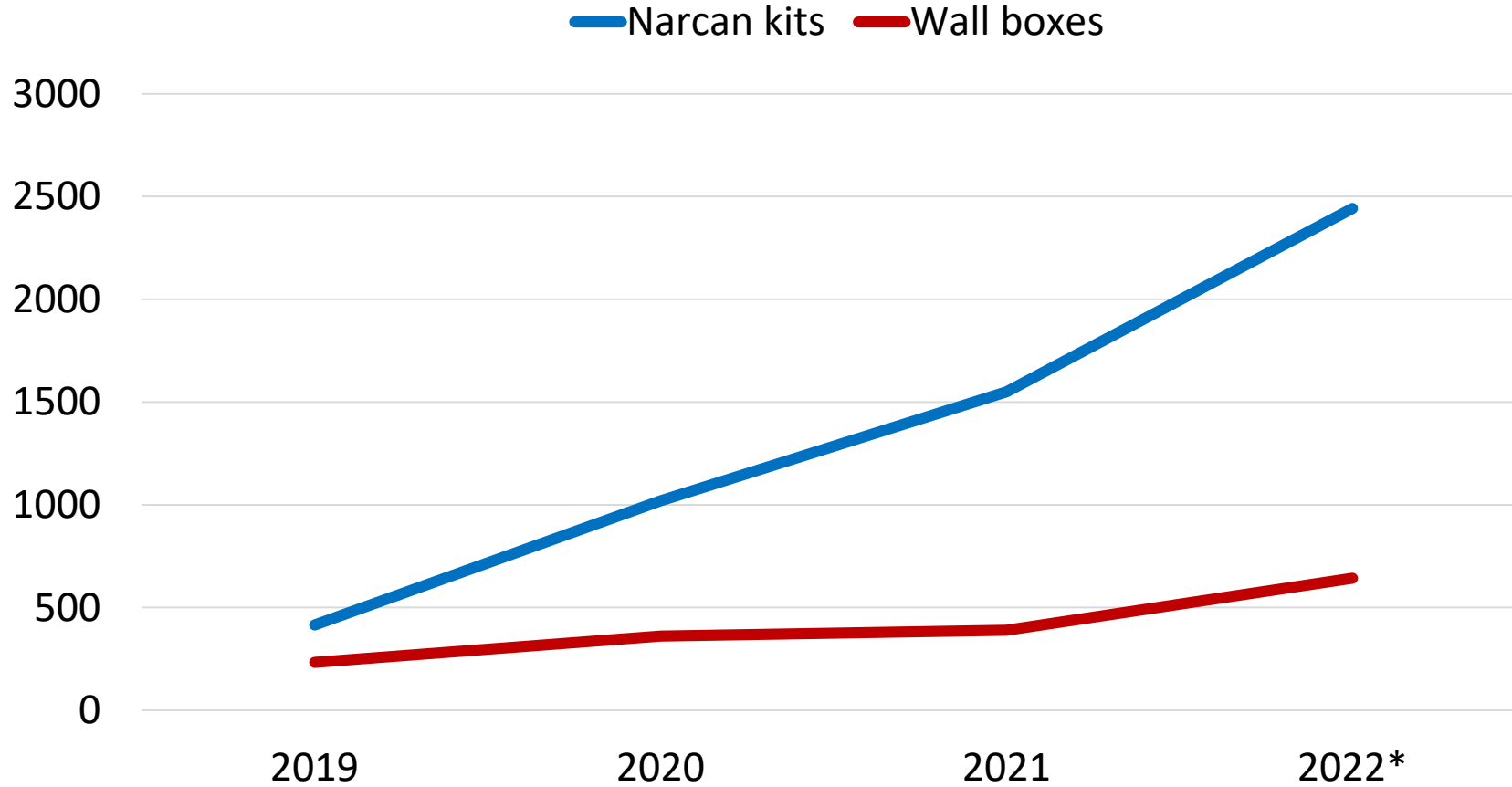
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*Task Force*

**WNY** Response  
After Overdose



Erie County  
**HEALTH**

# Wall boxes and Narcan kits distributed by year, 2019-2022\*



Source: Erie Department of Health, Office of Harm Reduction, 2020-2022

\*As of 10/31/2022



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

**WNY Response**  
**After Overdose**



**Erie County**  
**HEALTH**

# Text for Narcan , July 2020 – Oct 2022

- 4084 Narcan kits distributed
- 3614 individual mailings

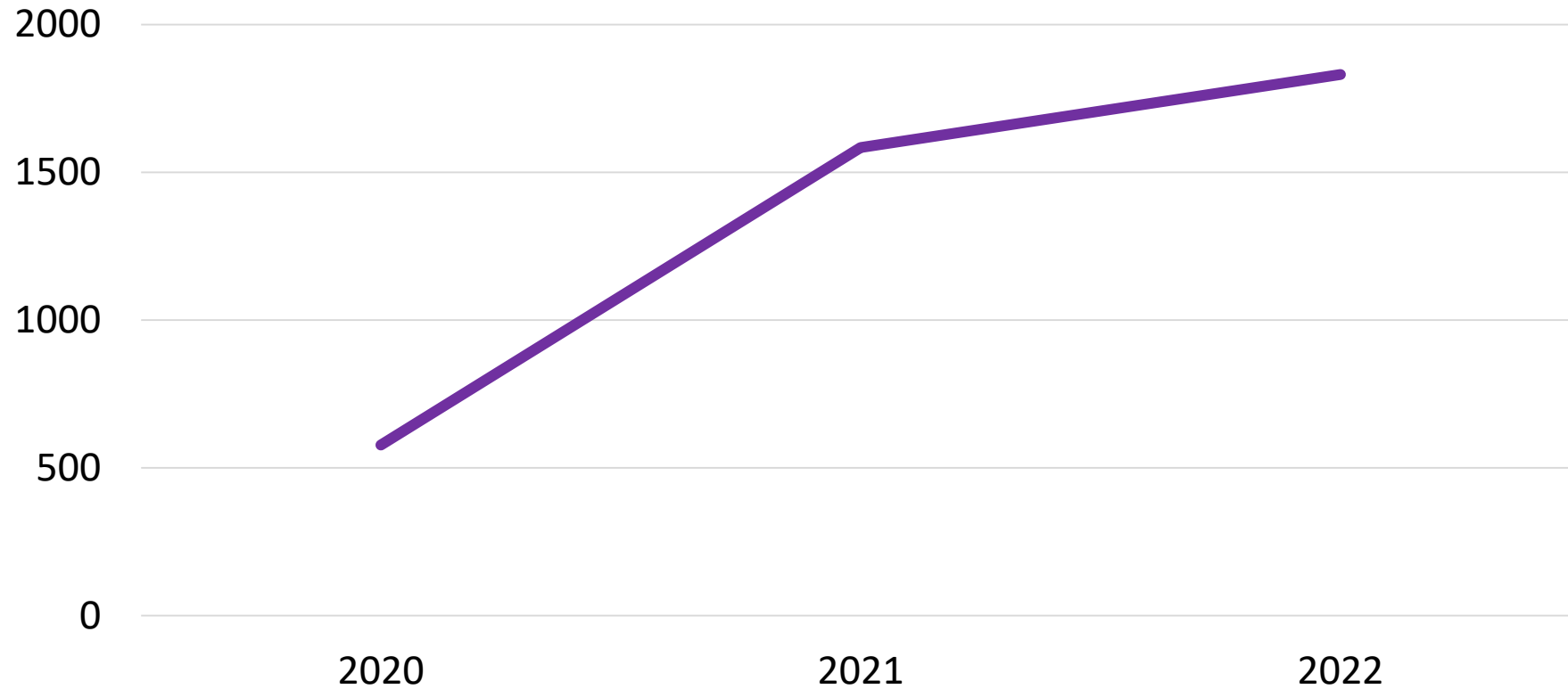


**WNY Response  
After Overdose**



**Erie County  
HEALTH**

## Narcan kits mailed through Text for Narcan Program by year, 2020-2022\*



Source: Erie Department of Health, Office of Harm Reduction, 2020-2022

\*As of 10/31/2022



**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**

# Dissemination

- **Coping strategies and workplace supports for peers with substance use disorders.**

Brady LA, Wozniak M, Brimmer M, Terranova E, Moore C, Kahn L, Vest B, Thomas M. Substance Use and Misuse. 2022;Vol 57 No 12:1772-1778.

- **Training to improve responder attitudes and knowledge of opioid overdose.**

Thomas M, Brady L, Wozniak M, Terranova E, Moore C, Kahn L. Journal of Paramedic Practice. 2021; 1-18.



**WNY Response  
After Overdose**



**Erie County  
HEALTH**



# HEALing Communities Study

Erie County DOH



# MATTERS TELEMEDICINE REFERRALS

OVERALL TELEMEDICINE REFERRAL DATA INCLUDING ALL OF ERIE COUNTY

104

REFERRALS  
MADE

90

TELEMEDICINE VISITS  
COMPLETED

78

BUP PRESCRIPTIONS

75

FOLLOW UPS APPOINTMENTS  
SCHEDULED





# NARCAN as first aid & harm reduction

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



# Curbside Care



- NARCAN KITS - 4620  
First Aid Kits - 4346
- Fentanyl Test Strips - 3259
- Safer Injection Supplies - 6180
- Number of Events - 108

Curbside has expanded!



# FENTANYL MAY BE IN YOUR:

- KNOCK-OFF PILLS
- COCAINE
- CRACK
- METH
- OTHER STREET DRUGS

**CARRY NARCAN**

Addiction Hotline  
716-831-7007



Text for Narcan  
(716) 225-5473



Erie County  
Department of  
Health



Erie County  
District Epidemiologic  
Task Force

# Fentanyl Awareness and Overdose Prevention Campaign, a Locally Owned Bar and Restaurant Initiative

- 63 responses
- 51 Narcan wall units requested
- Reorders are available and coming in





OMRB UPDATED

11/14/2022

OPIATE FATALITY REVIEW 2023

# OFR in collaboration with national database

- ▶ Currently onboarding with national data base of deidentified data
- ▶ Opiate Fatality Review no longer OMRB
- ▶ Meetings will resume January 2023, recruiting for new members to add to our meetings. ( Monthly 1 hour meetings) Look for an email 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Dec to start this
- ▶ 15 Cases ready to present
- ▶ Christmas Tree December 1 2022.



# OFR

## Tree of Hope



If you'd like to add an ornament or picture please contact

[Tamra.stefaniak@erie.gov](mailto:Tamra.stefaniak@erie.gov)

[Kelly.Sipolo@erie.gov](mailto:Kelly.Sipolo@erie.gov)

716-858-6323

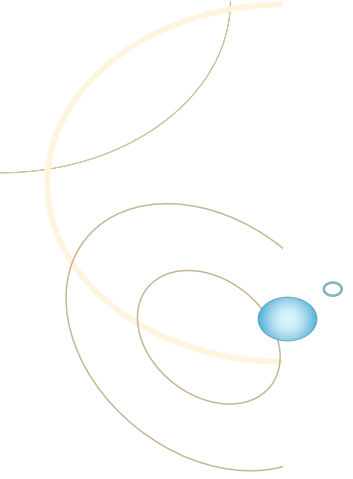
If are interested in being on our board

Contact [Kelly.Sipolo@erie.gov](mailto:Kelly.Sipolo@erie.gov)



Always looking to get Narcan out to the community





# Family and Consumer Advocacy and Support Group

November 14, 2022



# International Overdose Awareness Day August 31, 2022 Downtown Buffalo





# Perspective Changes

- Death rate continues to be a concern to the community at all levels
- Families are changing their language to reflect awareness of fentanyl poisoning and domestic terrorism
- Illegal fentanyl derivatives are invasive



# Education and Information are Lacking

- Families and consumers are exposed to immediate death with little awareness of fentanyl distribution in their area
- We need Your help on spreading the message to our community that fentanyl is here and measures need to be taken to save lives



As Family members we need to be included in the collaborative efforts to save lives

We can no longer accept labels of 'enabler' and 'co-dependent'

Families are the first line of defense in any disease and the main support system



# Families are Not Victims

- In traditional Substance use Disorder the people affected are confused, scared and hurting.
- We have the ability to identify their symptoms and biological response.
- We need to expand resources to include Disease Management.



# Disease Management Includes Empathy

- Every interaction can be an opportunity to express low impact help and personal care
- In many cases, the person developing a problem doesn't know what is happening to them
- Food, shelter, clothing and medical care are basic human needs





# We Need to Change the Message

No One Deserves to be Poisoned

Fentanyl Dealers are Predatory

We are Not Helpless and we don't have  
to Wait for Anything to develop a plan  
to save Lives

When the Message Changes,  
Community Response will Change



# Our Goals

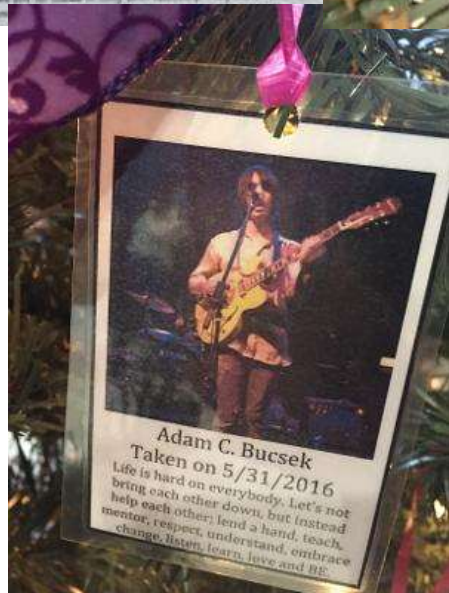
- Develop Collaborative efforts to Save Lives
- Change the Language, Words Matter
- Humane Treatment for Addiction/ Mental Health
- Consequences for convicted drug dealers
- Encourage 'good medicine' research standards

# Upcoming Event- Tree of Hope 22

## Poster 2021



## Tree of Hope 2021





# Support Groups

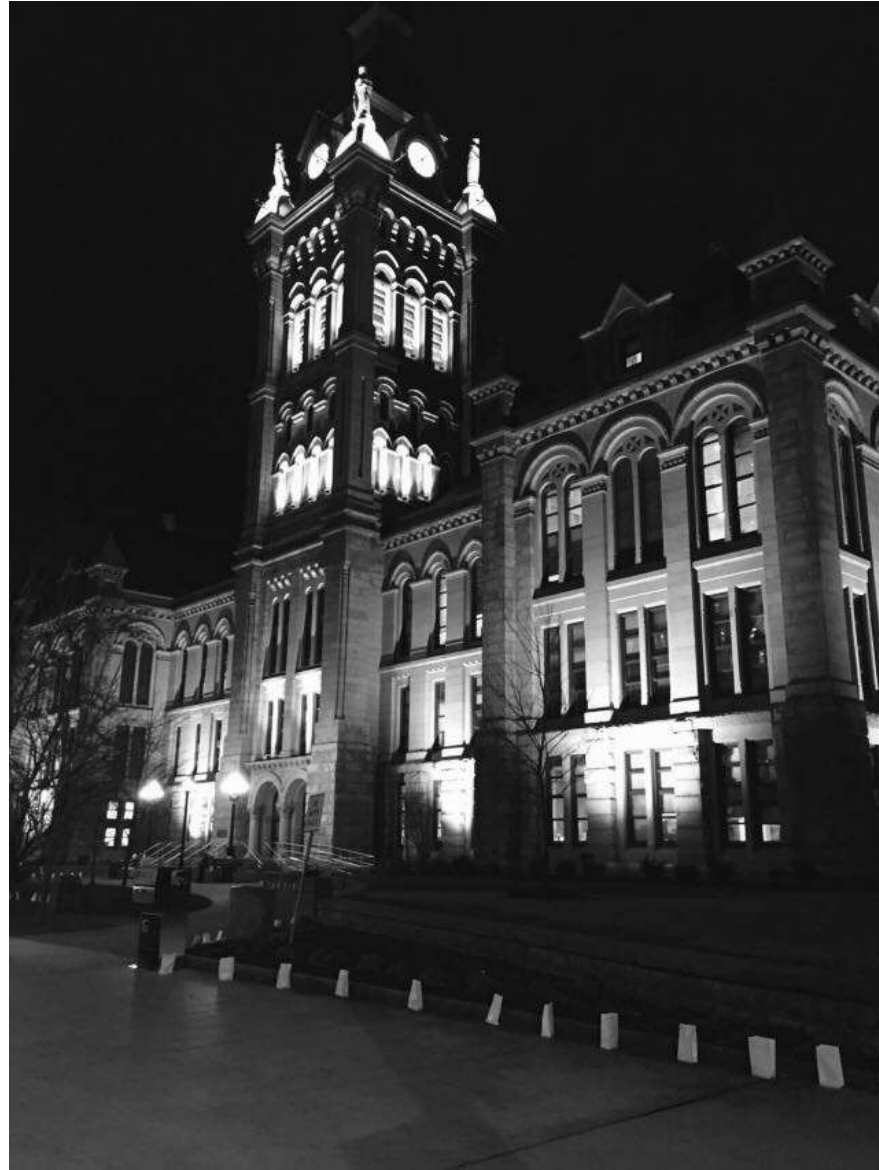
- New- Grasp Grief Group

69 Linwood Ave every other Saturday @10:30am

## New- Meet and Greet

1404 Abbott Rd monthly Dec 8 @6pm

We have a  
long way to  
go in this  
crisis.



# 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
- Distribution.



# Erie County Probation Department

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OPIOID TASK FORCE MEETING  
11/14/22



# Current Status of Opioid Unit

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Currently, we have 25 probationers on the Opioid Unit Caseload

- Our PNs are providing extra support to 65 probationers

2 probationers rearrested

9 active VOP

5 probationers at an inpatient facility

3 probationers in jail

0 Fatal/1 non-fatal Opioid OD



# Opioid Grant General Information

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The department distributed 71 Narcan kits to probationers and their families so far this year. Over 209 kits since the beginning of the grant.

Over the course of the grant:

4,309 TCU V drug screenings have been completed.

72 Probationers were linked to the Opioid Unit

150 probationers were linked with PN services

# Updates

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## **Transition of Opioid Unit without grant oversight**

- The department will continue to collect data on OD's, NARCAN distribution, and TCU V drug screens
- Will be hiring 2 additional Peer Navigators
- Most practices put in place during grant will remain
  - TCU V drug screens will continue
  - Those scoring a 6+ and identifying Opioids as problematic will be referred to Unit
  - Opioid unit caseload size will remain smaller
  - NARCAN will be offered/distributed to those in need
  - If probationer has a non-fatal OD, PO will be following-up within 24-48 hours
  - Opioid Unit team will continue to encourage Interactive Journaling

# *Thank You*

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## **Erie County Probation Opioid Unit**

Supervisor: Kim Reese

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)