

Erie County Overdose Prevention Task Force

QUARTERLY MEETING,
MONDAY MAY 5, 2025

We will begin promptly at 10:00am. This meeting will be recorded through our virtual option. Please sign in using the provided QR code.

Thank you for attending.



ERIE COUNTY
Overdose
Prevention
Task Force

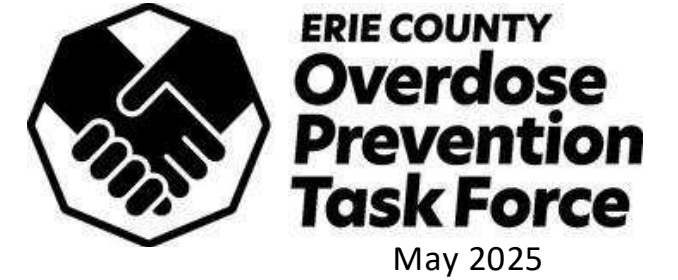


Welcome

ERIE COUNTY

COUNTY EXECUTIVE MARK POLONCARZ

Agenda



9:45 – 10:00 am Doors open, sign in + networking & welcome

10:05 – 10:20 am Local overdose data & Trends, Dr. Gale Burstein, Erie County Commissioner of Health

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

- Healthcare Providers, Dr. Gale Burstein & Dr. Jeffrey Lach
- First Responders, Valentine Zimniewicz & Kenneth Peterson
- Treatment Providers, Julianna Everdyke & Jen Seib
- Harm Reduction, Jen Garrigan & Rebekka Lipp
- Education, Advocacy and Support, Barbara Burns & Ken Gaston

11:20 – 11:35 am Specialty Presentations

- Erie County Settlement Funding
- MATTERS
- Detect to Protect Campaign
- Heat Maps

11:35 – 11:55 am Questions, Answers, Community Share Out

11:55 – 12:00 pm Meeting feedback

Housekeeping

Angela Dieter

Director of Harm Reduction
Erie County



Virtual Participation

Melissa Kennedy will be your moderator. She is here to ensure visual, and audio is working and help monitor the chat for questions.

Melissa.Kennedy@erie.gov



**Erie County
Department of
Health**



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Drug Overdoses Erie County

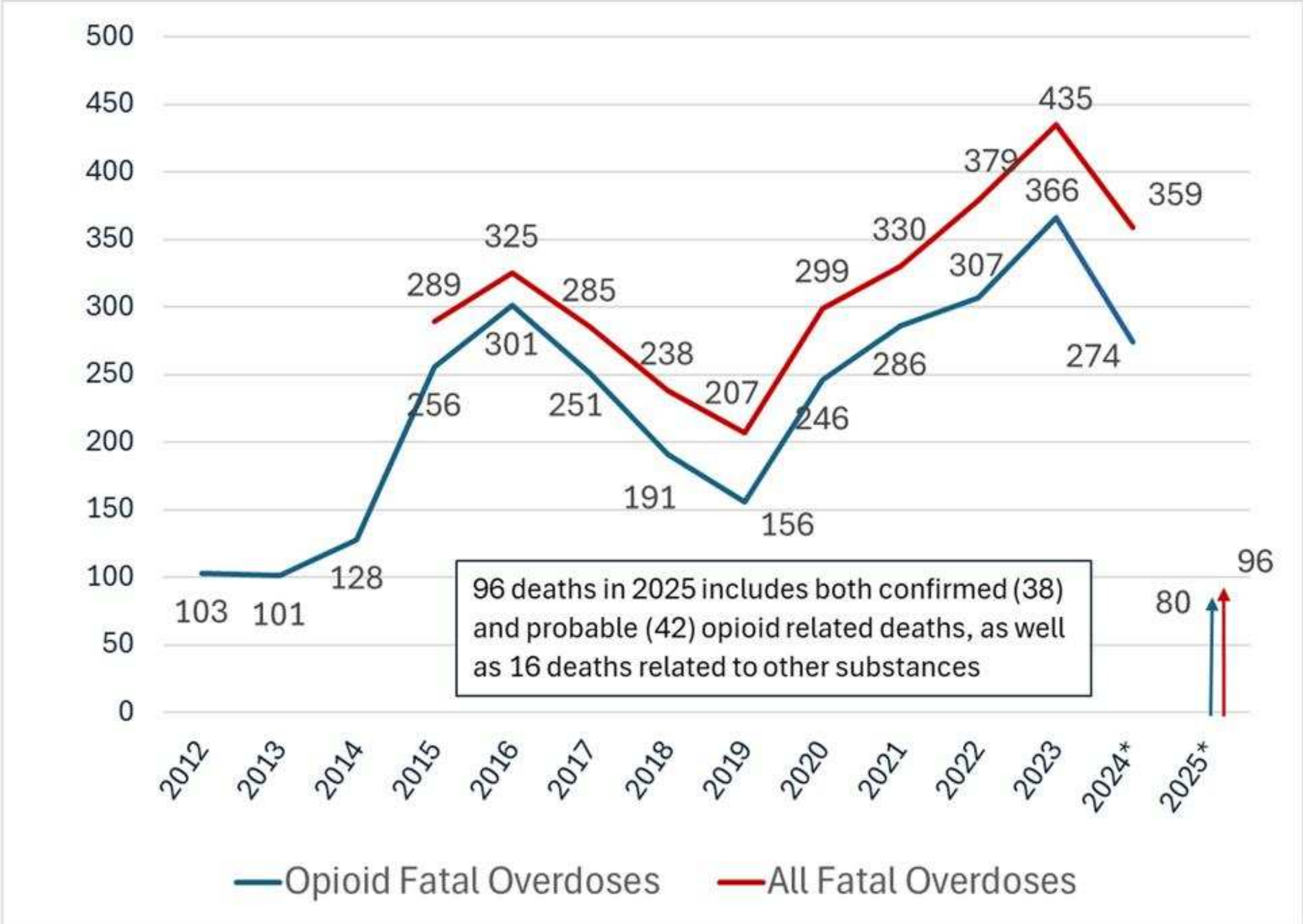
Gale R. Burstein, MD, MPH, FAAP
Erie County Commissioner of Health



**ERIE COUNTY
Overdose
Prevention
Task Force**

ERIE COUNTY OVERDOSE PREVENTION TASK FORCE, MAY 5, 2025

OVERDOSE-RELATED DEATHS, 2012-2025*



SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, *CASES REPORTED THRU 5/1/2025

DEMOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF ALL OVERDOSE DEATHS 2018-2024,* ERIE COUNTY

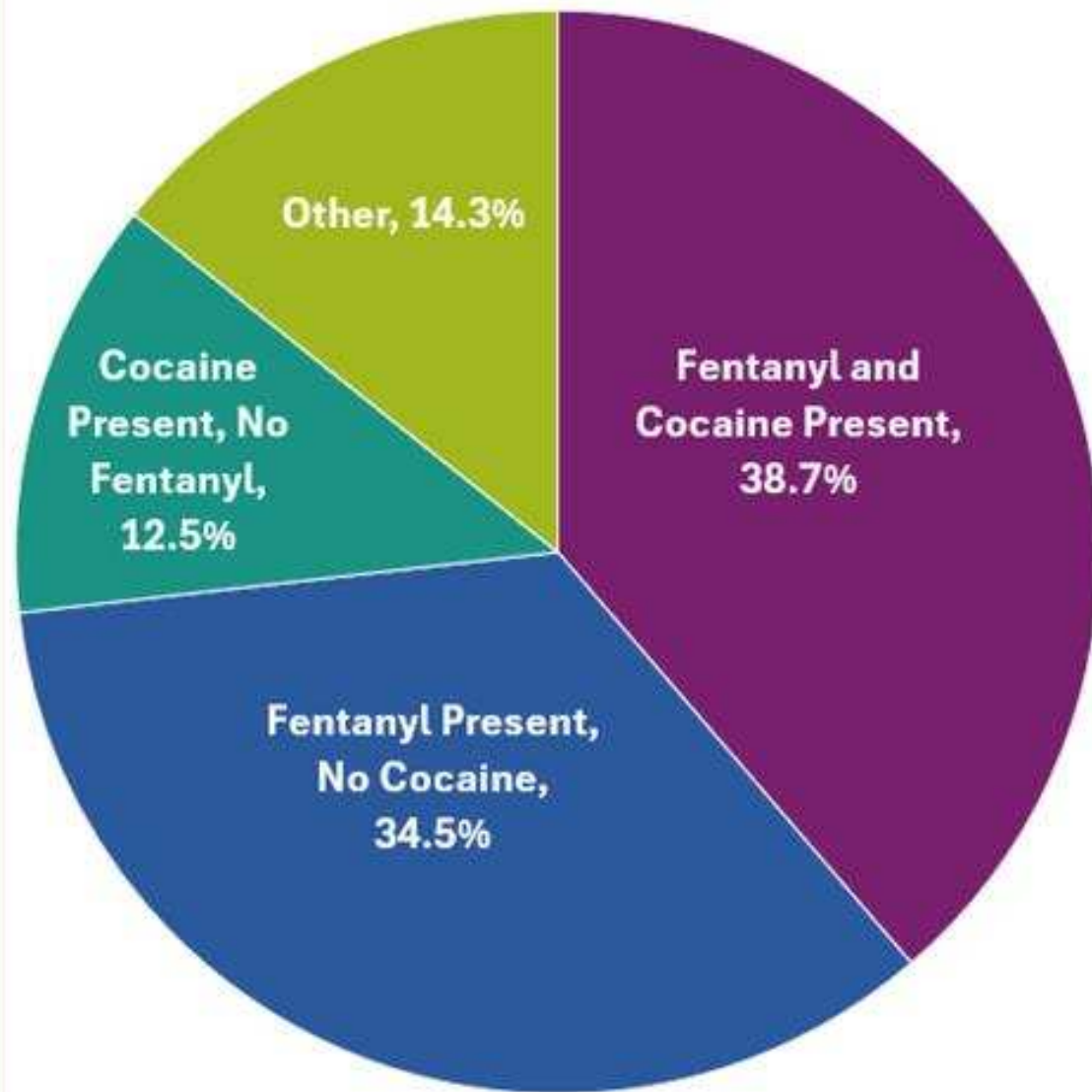
	Population % (n=954,236) 2020 Census	2018 Overdose % (n=238)	2019 Overdose % (n=207)	2020 Overdose % (n=299)	2021 Overdose % (n=330)	2022 Overdose % (n=379)	2023 Overdose % (n=436)	2024* Overdose % (n=359)
White	79%	76%	73%	69%	70%	68%	65%	64%
Black	14%	13%	16%	21%	25%	28%	32%	32%
Native American	0.70%	N/A	N/A	N/A	3%	2%	2%	2%
Hispanic	6%	6%	7%	8%	10%	11%	11%	9%
20-29	14%	24%	20%	15%	17%	13%	8%	8%
30-39	13%	27%	25%	27%	28%	29%	24%	21%
40-49	11%	15%	20%	22%	22%	23%	20%	22%
50-59	14%	21%	24%	20%	19%	21%	24%	28%
>60	25%	11%	11%	13%	12%	13%	24%	20%

SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, *CASES REPORTED THRU 5/1/2025

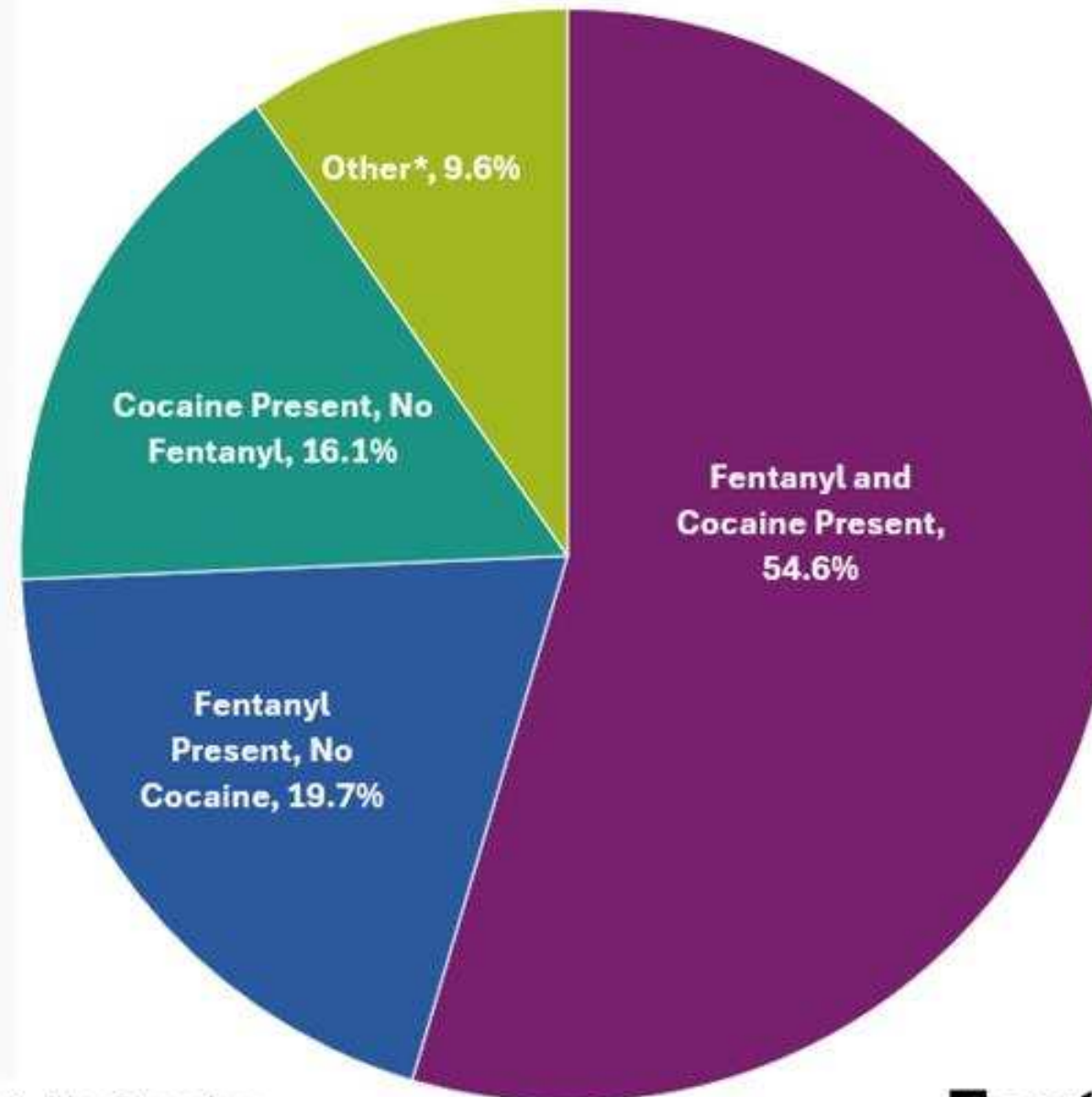
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PERCENT OF OVERDOSE DEATHS BY SUBSTANCES DETECTED, 2020-2024*

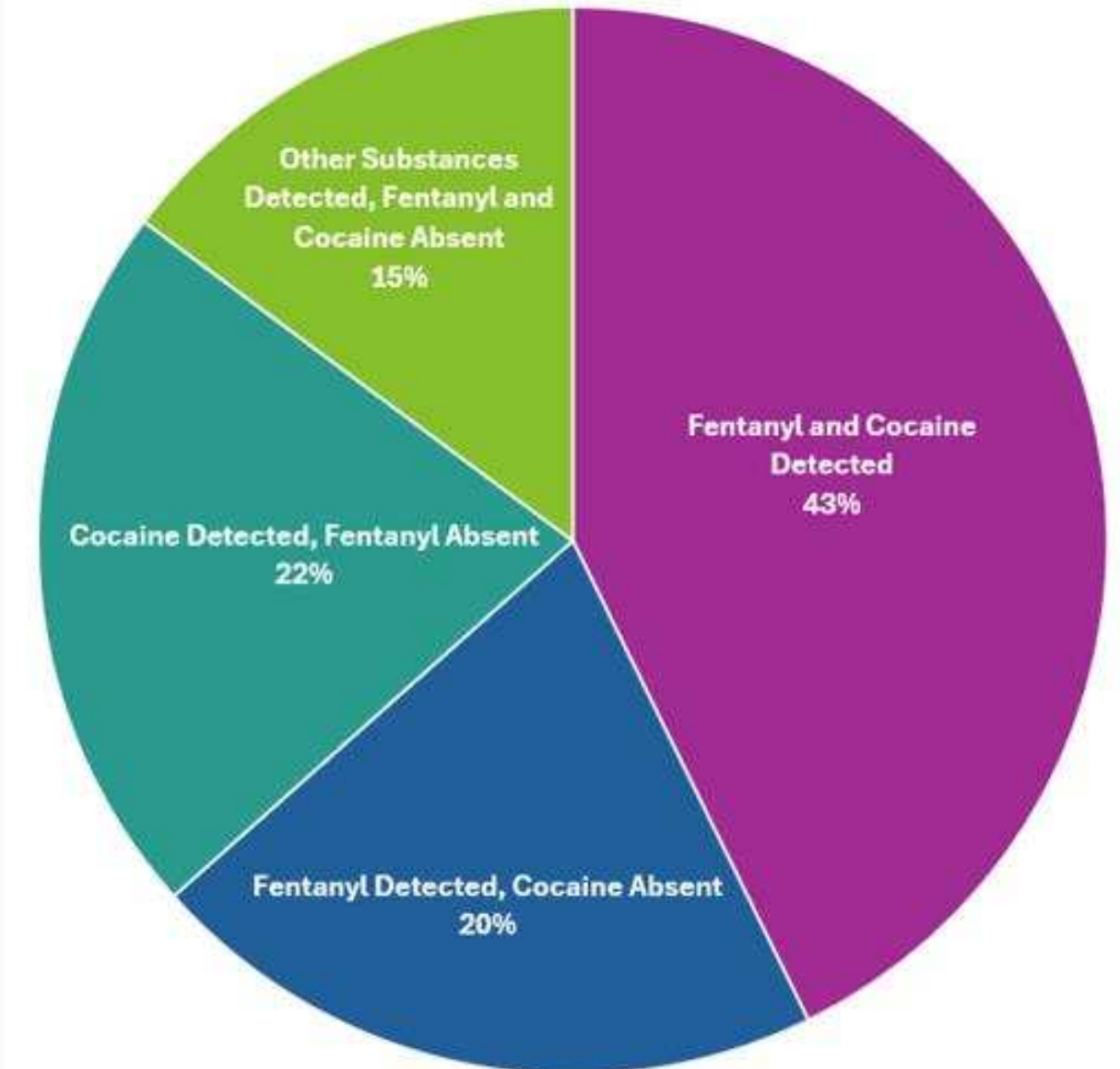
Drug Combinations in Fatal Overdoses, 2020-2022



Drug Combinations in Fatal Overdoses, 2023



Substances Detected among Fatal Overdoses, 2024*



■ Fentanyl and Cocaine Present ■ Fentanyl Present, No Cocaine
■ Cocaine Present, No Fentanyl ■ Other*

Fentanyl = 62.9% Cocaine = 64.8%

SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE
*CASES REPORTED THRU 5/1/2025

*Other includes xylazine, amphetamines, benzodiazepines, other opioids, among other substances



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NEW SUBSTANCE OBSERVATIONS IN 2025

Two deaths related to carfentanil in March 2025 *

New contaminants detected among substances seized by law enforcement **

- 3 detections of medetomidine in samples seized from September-December 2024
- 4 detections of BTMPS in samples seized in February 2025
 - BTMPS [Bis(2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl) sebacate] are chemicals used in plastics manufacturing and as adhesives or sealants
 - BTMPS have not been studied in humans or approved for human consumption
 - Animal studies demonstrate heart and eye damage, sudden death, other adverse health effects, and nicotinic antagonist effects

* Data reported by Erie County Medical Examiner's Office as of 5/1/2025

** Substance samples seized and analyzed by Erie County Central Police Services Forensic Laboratory, last updated 4/4/2025



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PROXIMITY FROM RESIDENCE TO FATAL OVERDOSE LOCATION, 2024

Majority of people tend to use substances in their own home

- 68% fatal OD victims died at their home address
- Additional 9% were in same ZIP code, but not at home address

% of Buffalo OD deaths who were Buffalo residents ↑↑ over time

- 61% of Erie County OD deaths occurred in City of Buffalo
- 88% of fatal ODs that occurred in Buffalo were Buffalo residents
- 29% of Erie County residents live in Buffalo



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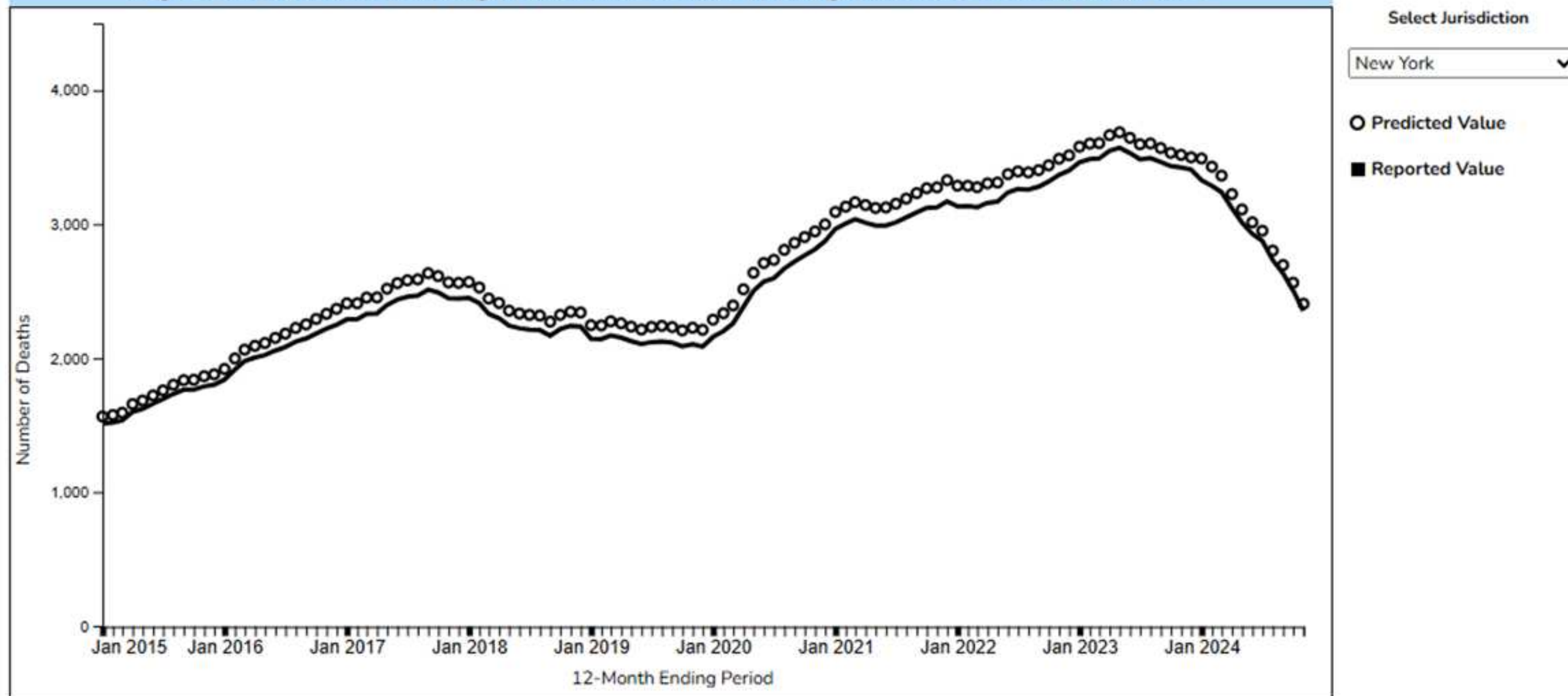


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12-MONTH ENDING PROVISIONAL NUMBER & PERCENT CHANGE OF DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS, NEW YORK STATE

Based on data available for analysis on: April 6, 2025

Figure 1a. 12 Month-ending Provisional Counts of Drug Overdose Deaths: New York



↓ **31.6%** in
NYS annual
drug OD
deaths

↓ **26.5%** in
U.S. annual
drug OD
deaths

<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>



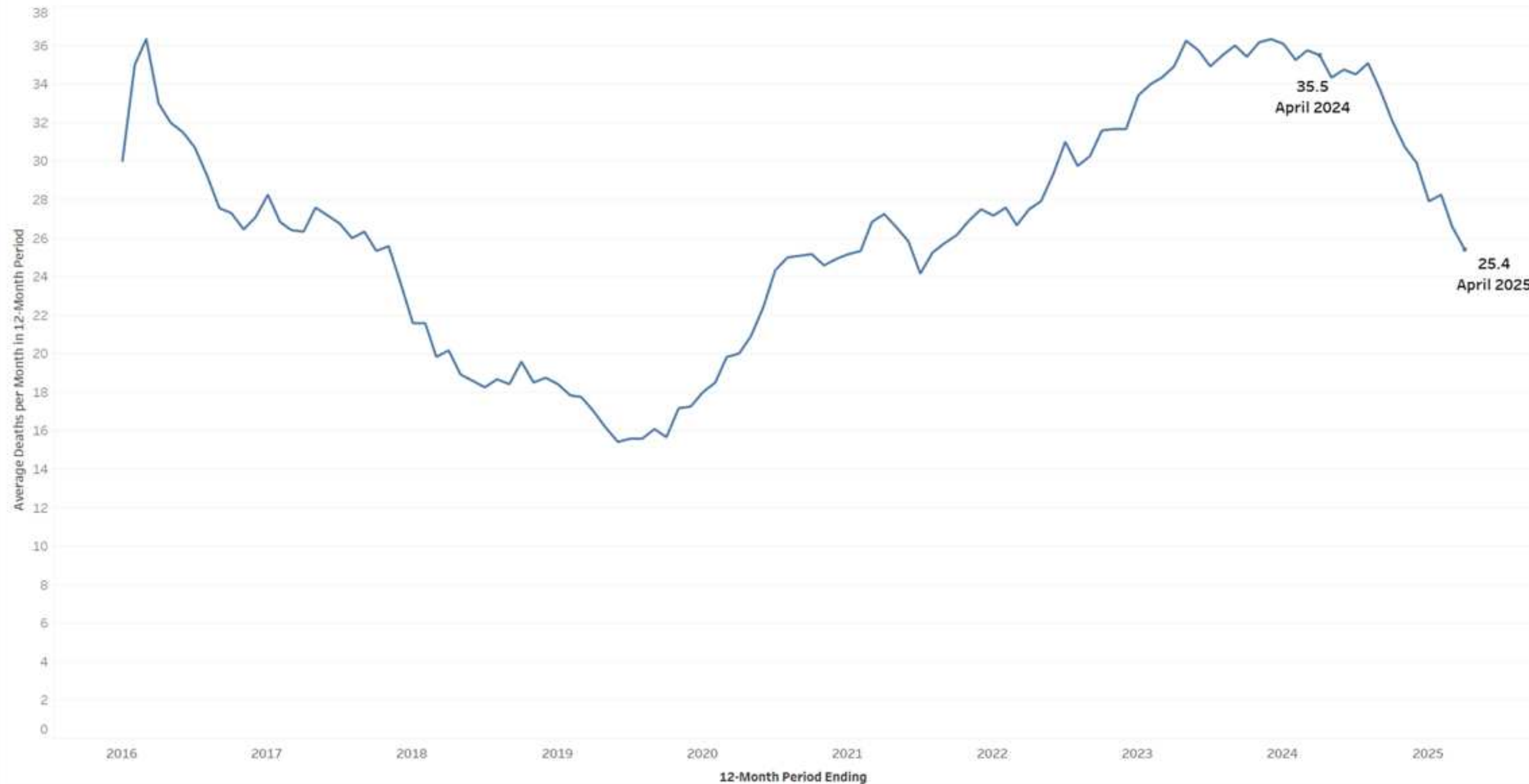
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ERIE COUNTY MONTHLY OVERDOSE DEATHS, 12-MONTH MOVING AVERAGE

Erie County Monthly Overdose Deaths, 12-Month Moving Average



- 96 confirmed + probable OD deaths as of 4/24/2025
- 142 OD deaths by this point in 2024

↓ **28.5% in Erie County** monthly drug OD deaths*

SOURCE: ERIE COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINERS OFFICE, CASES REPORTED THRU 5/1/2025

*Based on change in 12-month average of monthly overdose deaths in April 2025 vs. April 2024



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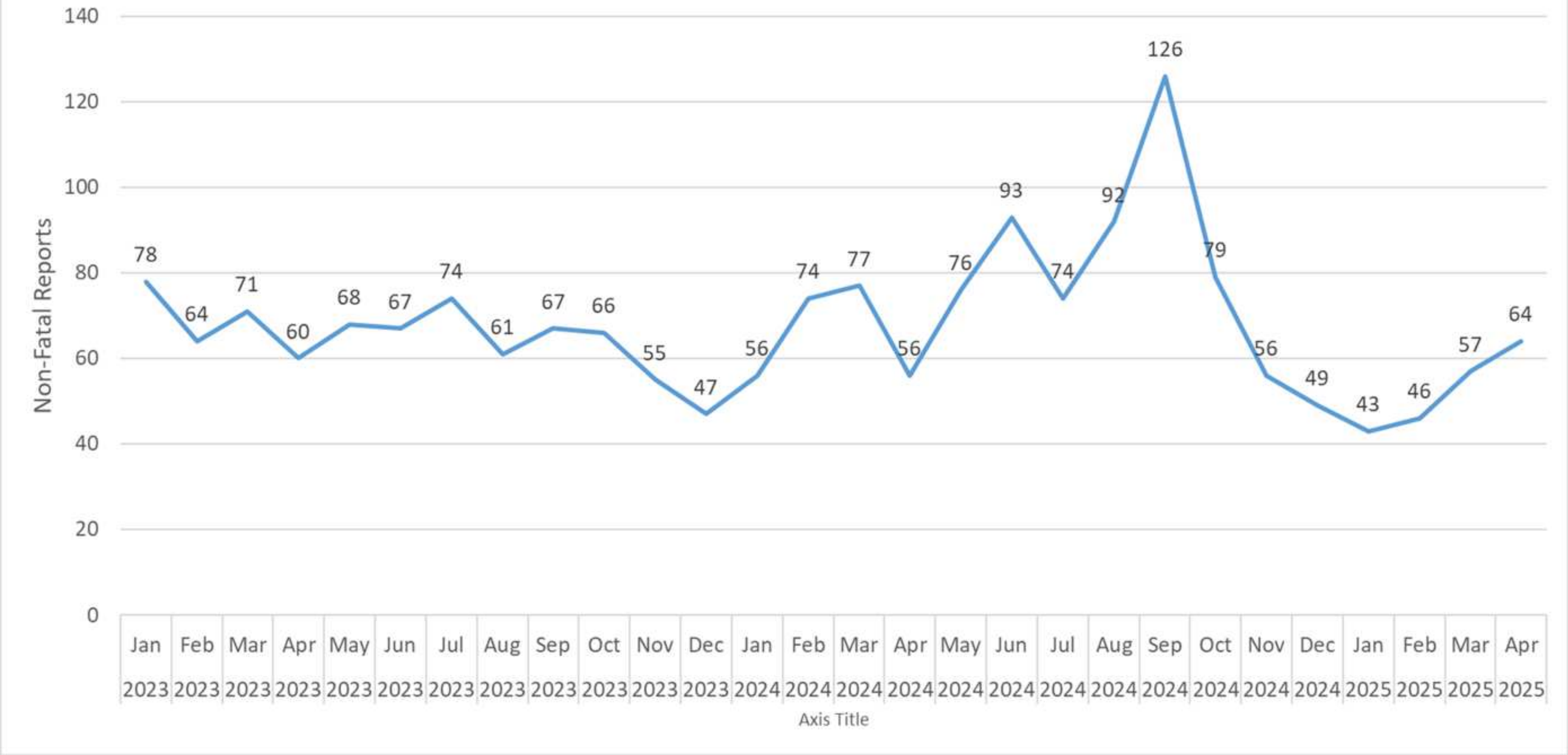
Non-Fatal Overdoses

Erie County

January 2023 – April 2025

Data based on police reports compiled by High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Office (HIDTA) and tabulated by Office of Harm Reduction (OHR)

Non-Fatal Overdose Reports by Month, January 2023-April 2025



*Data aggregated by High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) office in Erie County.
Overdoses reported as of 4/30/2025

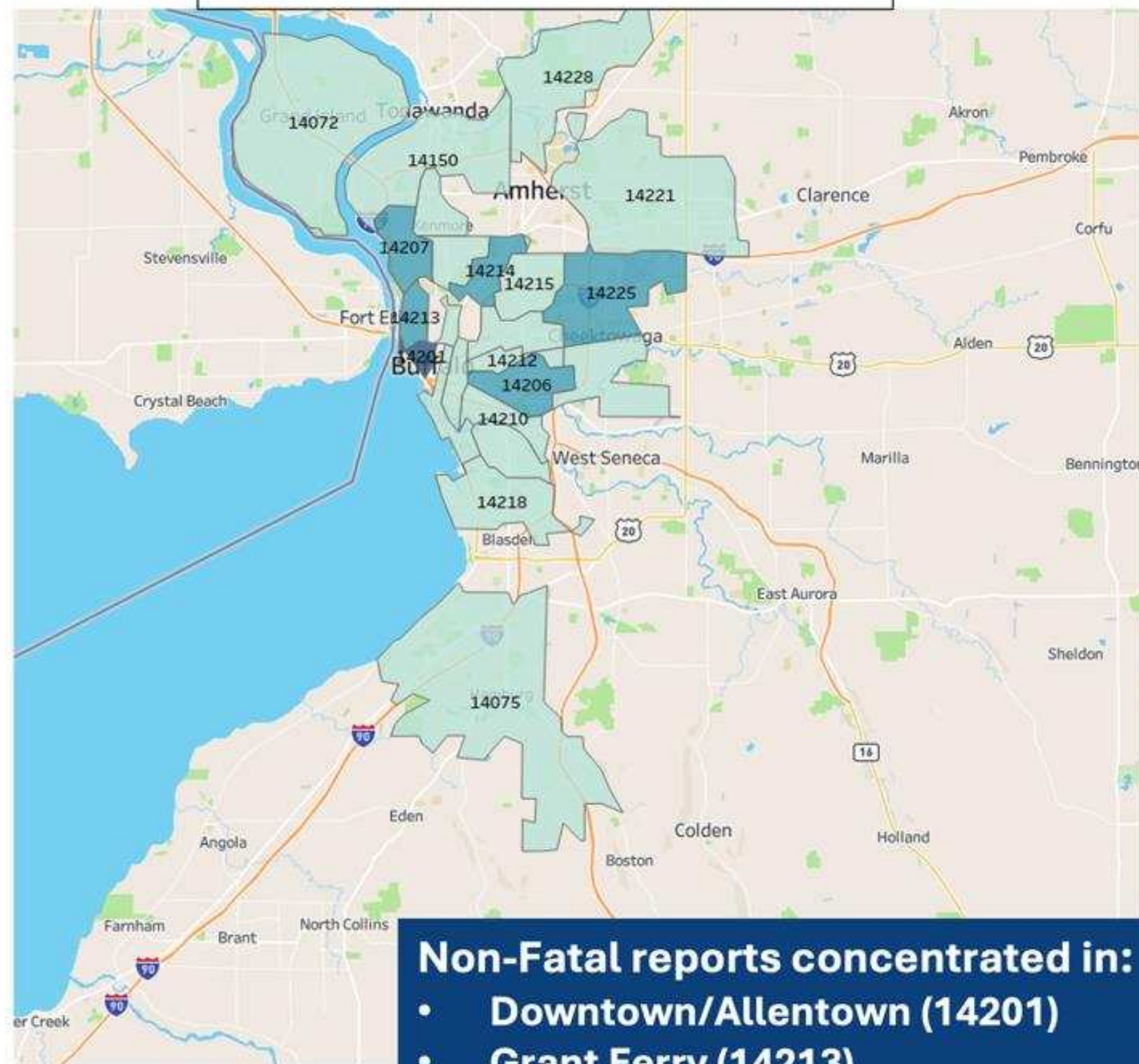


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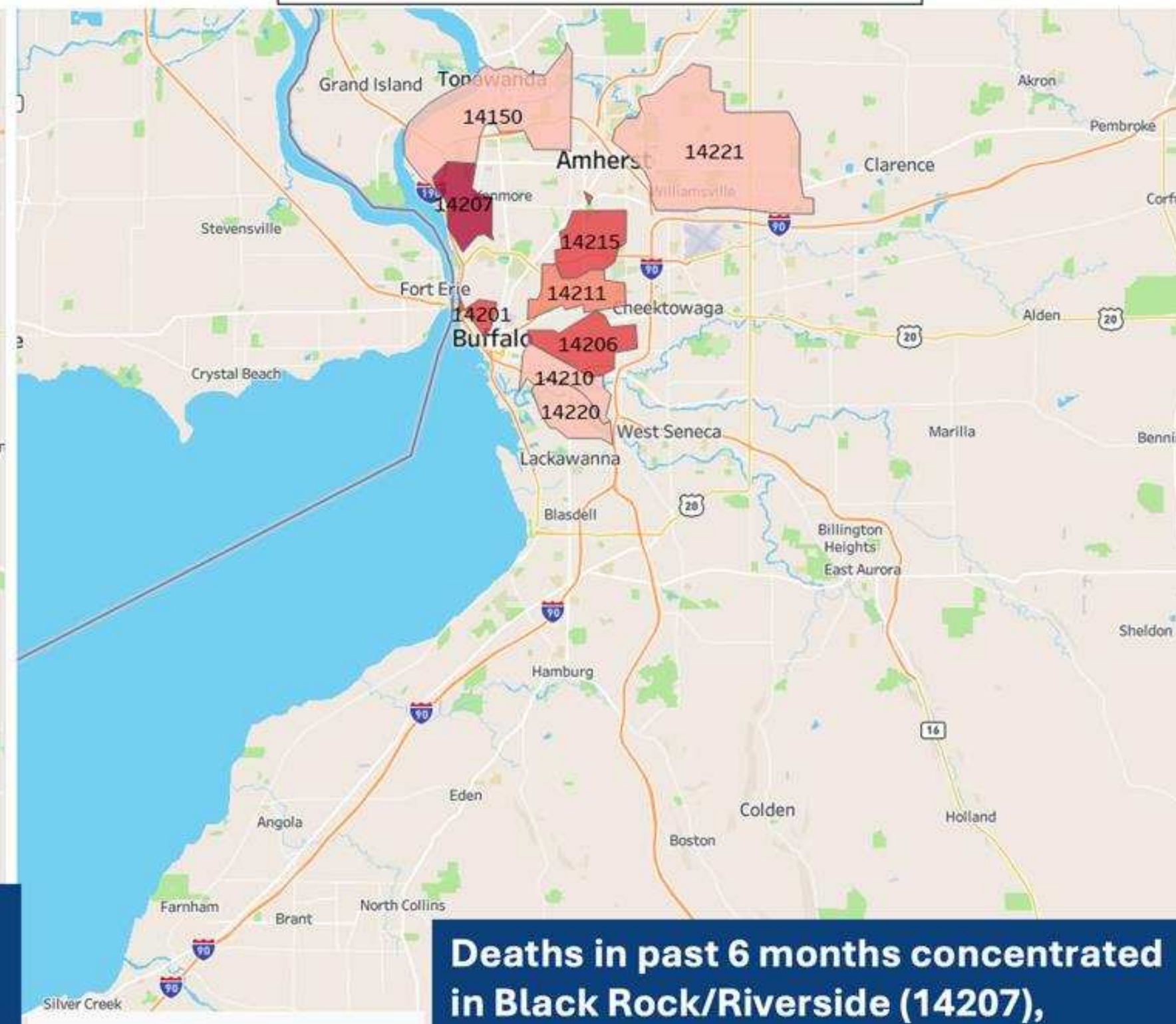
Non-Fatal Overdose Reports by Location of Overdose, November 2024 – April 2025



Non-Fatal reports concentrated in:

- Downtown/Allentown (14201)
- Grant Ferry (14213)
- Black Rock/Riverside (14207)
- University Heights (14214)

Fatal Overdoses by Location of Overdose, November 2024 – April 2025



Deaths in past 6 months concentrated in Black Rock/Riverside (14207), Downtown/Allentown (14201), and Lovejoy (14206)

Questions or Comments?

Healthcare Providers Workgroup slides

First Responders Workgroup slides

Treatment Providers Workgroup slides



Harm Reduction Workgroup

CO-CHAIRS

JENNIFER GARRIGAN

REBEKKA LIPP

Subgroup Update - RaDAR

- ▶ Due to funding uncertainty at the State and Federal level, the RaDAR Surveillance Program has been suspended.
- ▶ We will continue to look for communication of a re-start date or additional supply surveillance sources
- ▶ If resumed:
 - ▶ Data sharing agreements will be made so that organizations can provide results directly to clients
 - ▶ ECDOH will have access to de-identified data for analytical purposes to create messaging and educational resources.

Subgroup Update - PWLLE – People with Lived and Living Experience

- ▶ Meetings have begun to garner interest – Scheduled monthly
 - ▶ Seeking active members
 - ▶ Engaged with Peer for leadership role with Rebekka
- ▶ Will share resources and progress with group of same nature within the MATTERS network
- ▶ Initial task: The Office of Harm Reduction is preparing another round of a Consumer Survey in partnership with UB-PCRI under the FRCARA grant.
 - ▶ This group will serve as a review panel as well as participate in the survey to ensure equity, non-stigmatizing language and accessibility of participants.

There is a
need to
increase
active
participation

Co-Chairs have been exploring ways to increase active participation to have robust discussion and encourage work outside of monthly meetings including:

- In person meetings
- Assigning specific tasks to group members
- Bringing Peer Navigator or Outreach Specialist to leadership positions in the group – not only sub-groups

Endeavor & Legal Aid Project

► Project

- To develop a harm reduction training for stakeholders in the legal system and providers working with individuals in the legal system



► Progress

- Round Tables with PWLLE, lawyers, doctors
 - Gathered information from these discussions and performed research on Harm Reduction to develop trainings with an informed approach

Post Overdose Response Team Update

In January a division of Peer Navigator Functions occurred in the OHR with the goals of

- Decreasing the amount of time between a suspected overdose and response
- Initiating texting as contact attempt type in protocols and procedures
- Tracking the distribution of and staff assigned to every incident that has information to perform a follow up

PORT Implementation

- ▶ HIDTA provides all affiliated reports
 - ▶ MATTERS also refers to OHR Peer Navigators
- ▶ Spreadsheet indicating the level of follow-up as well as the assigned Peer for each case sent
- ▶ If follow up in-person is not appropriate in some way that is discussed prior to deciding not to assign
 - ▶ Weapons, warrants, physical altercations, etc
- ▶ The time between distribution and site visit is recorded
- ▶ Developing database to record and analyze
 - ▶ "Successful" attempts – contact with the person on the report
 - ▶ Investment in Case Management assistance
 - ▶ How many referrals made
- ▶ Goal: To increase efficiency and effectiveness of the availability of Peer Navigator and Harm Reduction supports

First Responder Initiative and Leave Behind Program Update

- ▶ Partnership developed with Central Police Services
 - ▶ Commissioner Ross promoted the Leave Behind Program which has greatly increased in output of LBN to new agencies
 - ▶ Working with the Community Coordinator to bring resources to Law Enforcement Agencies and the communities served
- ▶ Participating in ORS/HIDTA Best Practices conversations for LBN
- ▶ Overdose Response and Recognition Training (formerly Narcan training) video was created specifically for Law Enforcement
 - ▶ Goal is to provide updates based on our area/region
 - ▶ Update best practices based on the drug supply and how to respond
 - ▶ Example: Respirations not conversations - xylazine keeps people down longer even if breathing returns
 - ▶ Buffalo Police Department – working to customize the video for their organization and will use to launch the use of the Leave Behind Program

Training of Trainers


- ▶ Expanded and enhanced Training of Trainers program – accepting training requests
 - ▶ Role play scenarios and FAQ's
 - ▶ Next training 5/14/2025 at Northwest Buffalo Community Center 9am-12pm
- ▶ Upcoming training this fall with the Opioid Response Network
 - ▶ Harm Reduction training and Training of Trainers combined
 - ▶ Goal: Increase capacity of trainers to provide more frequent and consisted updates to communities and organizations

Contact Information

- ▶ Jennifer Garrigan, MPH – Project Coordinator – SUD
 - ▶ Jennifer.Garrigan@erie.gov
- ▶ Rebekka Lipp, LMHC – Director of Clinical Services, Endeavor Health Services
 - ▶ rlipp@ehsny.org
- ▶ Narcan Trainings and ToT (Train the Trainer)
 - ▶ Narcan.training@erie.gov
- ▶ Harm Reduction Supplies, Resources and questions
 - ▶ Harm.reduction@erie.gov



EDUCATION, ADVOCACY, AND SUPPORT

- 
- ❑ We are the Education, Advocacy and Support group.
 - ❑ Our two main areas are education and awareness and family support and advocacy.
 - ❑ After Much discernment, we've decided to create two subgroups to ensure that neither of these two areas gets shortchanged.
 - ❑ We are currently in the process of identifying a leader of the family support and advocacy subgroup.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

- ❑ After being stalled for a bit, we are back on track!
- ❑ We will be focusing efforts in the coming months on reaching out to highly impacted populations, including the black/brown communities and the elderly.
- ❑ We are pushing ahead with our revamped brochure and tear off sheet.



WHAT'S GOING ON?

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- ❑ We are pushing ahead with our revamped brochure and tear off sheet.

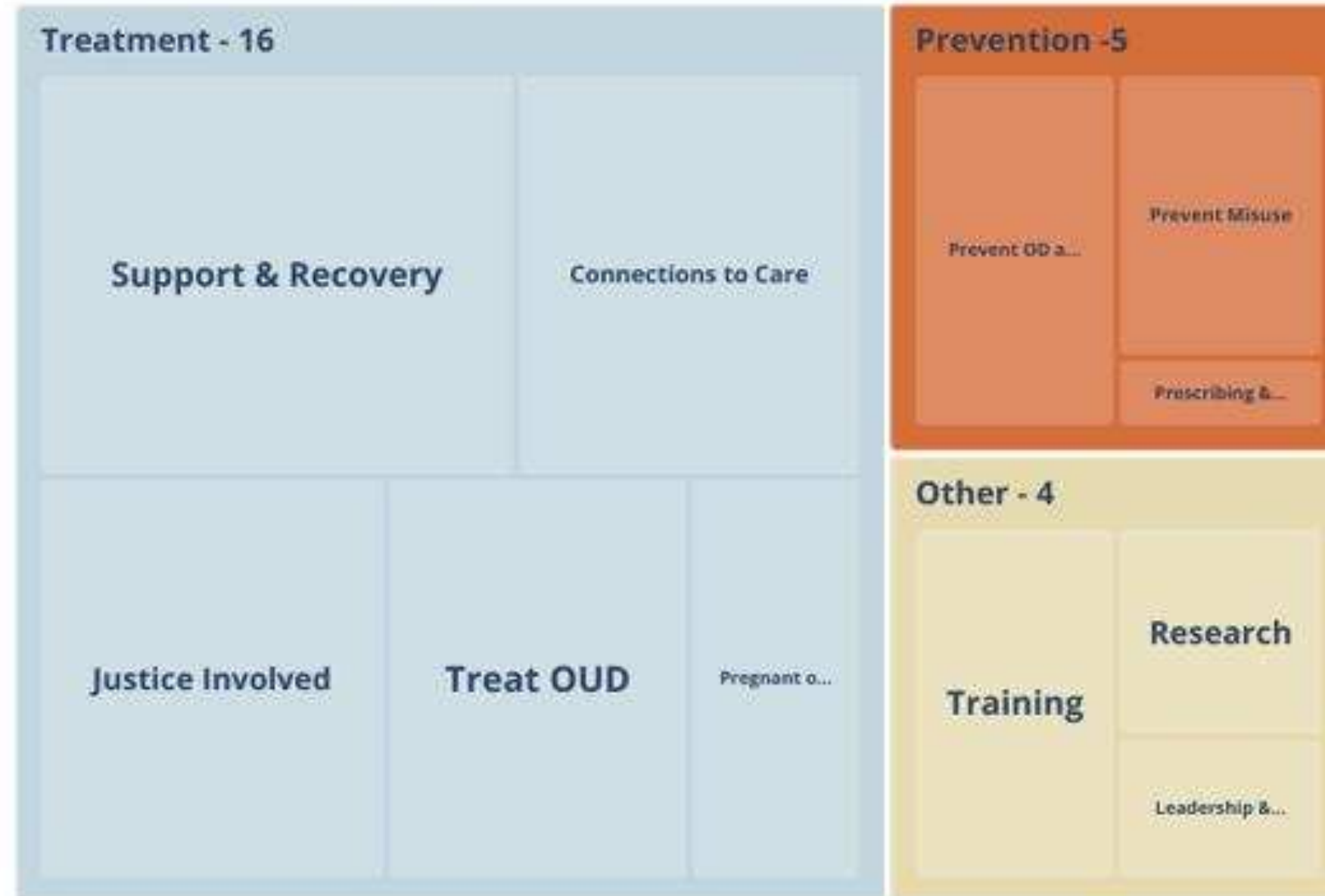
COMMUNITY OPIOID RESPONSE
ERIE COUNTY, NY

Opioid Settlement



*Taylor Winter,
Community Opioid Response Director
May 2025*

Contracted Projects



28 funded projects, \$7.8m

does not include DMH contracts that provide funding for across the continuum including professional recruitment and retention

SOON TO COME

- External evaluation team
 - evaluation rooted in collective impact and participatory research
 - multi-focus evaluation
 - Erie County processes
 - Funding impact
 - community funded initiatives
 - Erie County funded positions
- Juvenile Justice Coordinator
 - assist justice-involved & high-risk youths
- Accounting Analyst
 - prepares financial reports
 - provides fiscal recommendations of OSF dollars

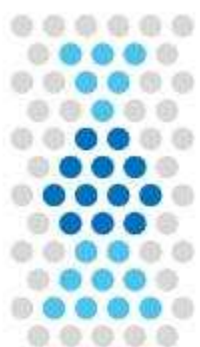


Questions, Comments

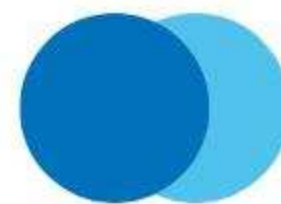
opioidsettlement@erie.gov

taylor.winter@erie.gov





MATTERS[®]
Medication for Addiction Treatment & Electronic Referrals



WELCOME TO THE NETWORK



www.mattersnetwork.org



How It Works

1

Referral Site

Our referral site partners encounter an individual with opioid use disorder.

2

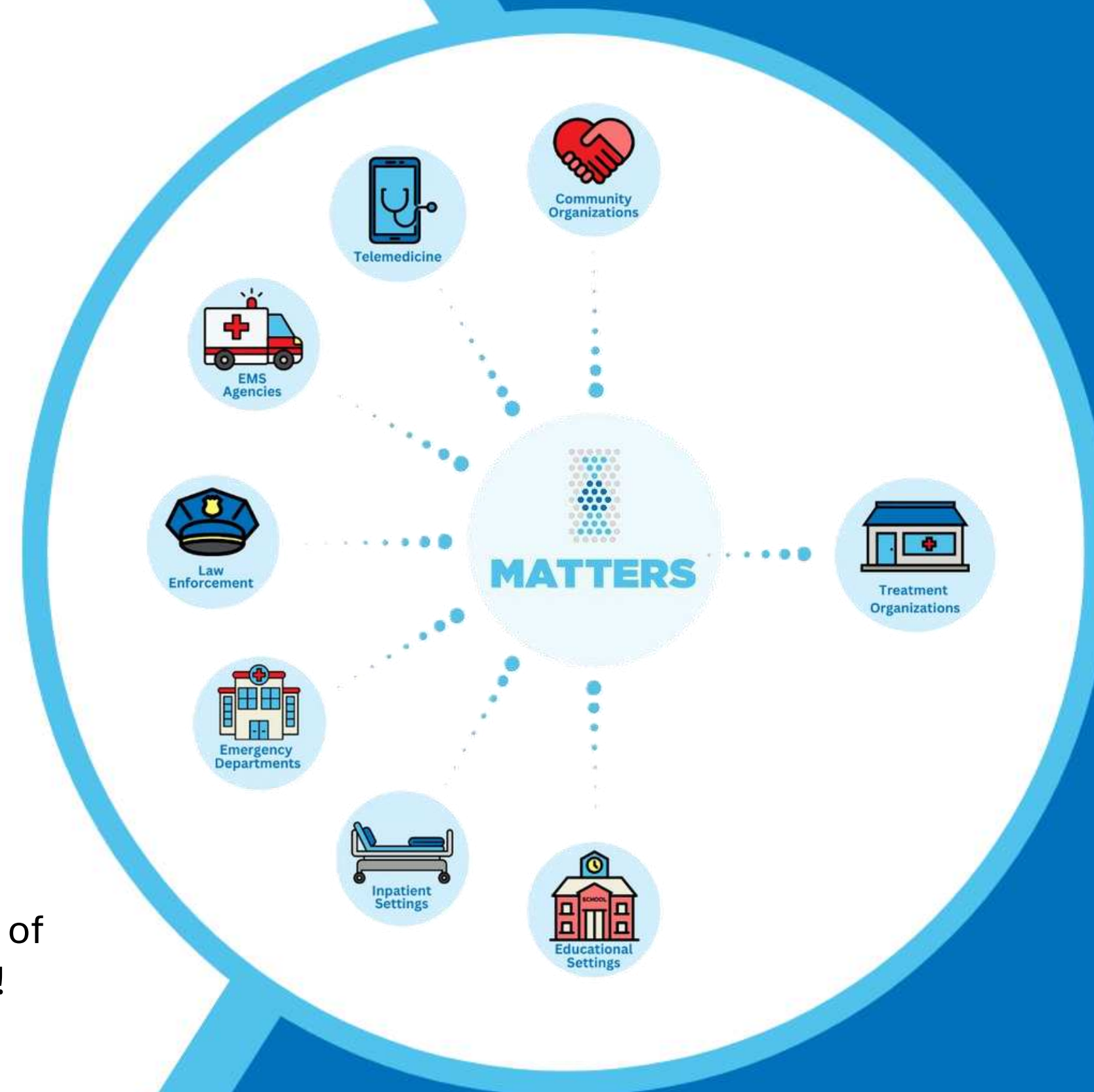
Rapid Referral

MATTERS facilitates rapid referrals, offering medication vouchers, transportation vouchers, and peer referrals to assist individuals in getting to their first clinic appointment.

3

Treatment Organization

Individuals are connected to an outpatient treatment organization of their choice and are seen in as little as 24 hours from their referral! Gaining access to over 2,500 available appointment slots.



Telemedicine Evaluations

MATTERS offers virtual evaluations for individuals across New York State



Rapid
Evaluation



Access to
Medication



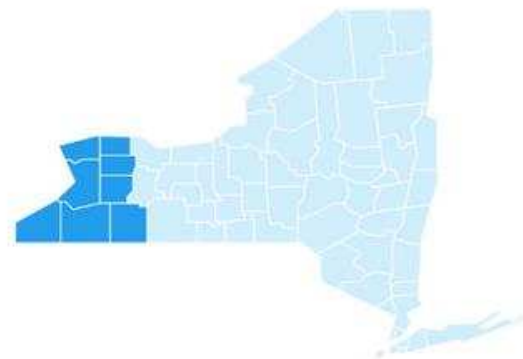
Referral to
Treatment



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CONNECT TO VIRTUAL CARE

MATTERS partners with several virtual treatment providers to improve access to care for substance use disorder. Select one of the options below to make an appointment to receive an evaluation, medication prescription (as applicable), and referral to outpatient treatment for follow-up.



Western New York

Available 24 hours a day
7 days a week



New York State

Available Every Day
11am – 11pm

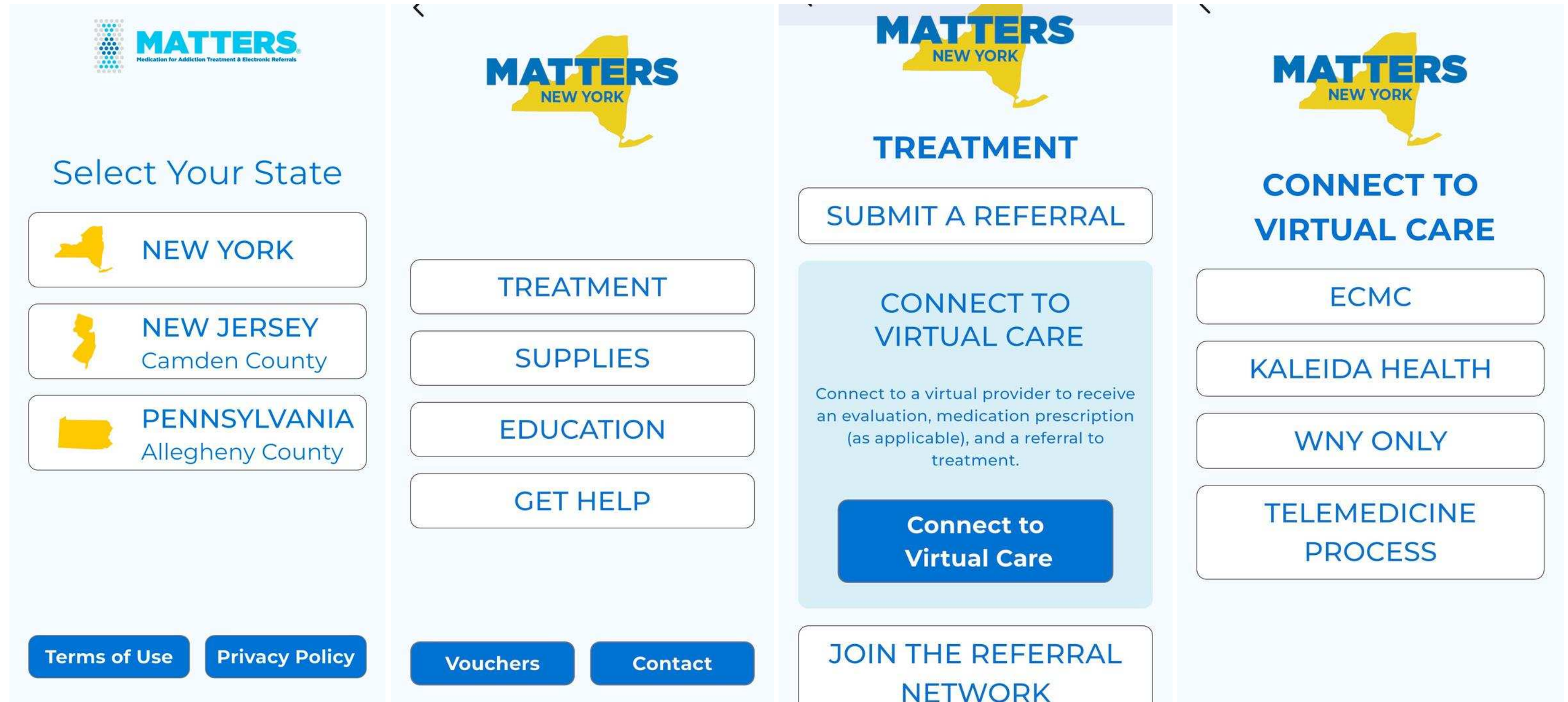


Allegheny County, PA

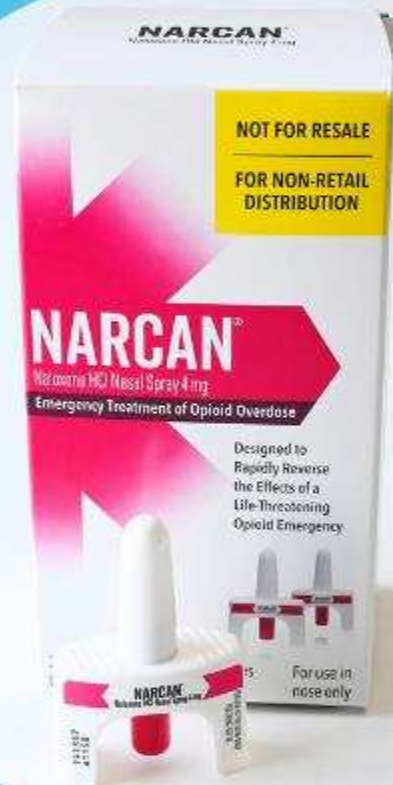
Weekdays: 5pm – 11pm
Weekends: 11am – 11pm



Our New “MATTERS Network” App



Harm Reduction Distribution



Naloxone
(Narcan)



Drug Test Strips
(Fentanyl & Xylazine)



Syringe Services

Harm Reduction Vending Machine Program

These vending machines are placed in locations that are available to the public 24/7, 365 days a year. All supplies in the vending machine are free.



Vending Machine



Vending Machine Locations

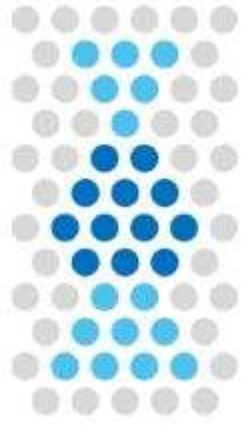


Supplies Inside

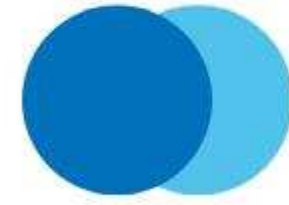
Erie County Sherriff's Office Collaboration

- Pilot for corrections programs statewide
- Re-entry support for corrections based MOUD programs
- Attempt to break the cycle of of incarceration, release, relapse and recidivism





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Medication for Addiction Treatment & Electronic Referrals



HOW TO SUBMIT A MATTERS REFERRAL



www.mattersnetwork.org



SUBMIT A REFERRAL

Access Interface

To access the referral interface, enter your access code:

Access Code *

[Forgot code?](#)

Submit

PATIENT REFERRAL INTERFACE

Note: All parts of this interface must be completed in a single session. If you close your browser prior to completing it in full, all data entered will be lost. This is done for security purposes to ensure that no Protected Health Information (PHI) is compromised.

Part 1 of 3 (continued)

Patient Information

First Name*

Middle Name/Initial

Last Name*

Preferred First Name if applicable

Preferred Pronouns if applicable

☐ **She/Her/Hers** ☐ **He/Him/His** ☐ **They/Them/Their** ☐ **Ze/Hir/Hirs** ☐ **Ze/Zir/Zirs**

Gender*

☐ **Male** ☐ **Female** ☐ **Non-Binary**

Unique Identifier (enter at least one identifier)*

Mother's Maiden Name

OR

Last 4 Digits of SS#

Date of Birth*



Are you experiencing an unstable housing situation?*

☐ Yes ☐ No

Contact Information*

Cell Phone Number*

Alternate Phone Number

(---) --------

Email

Confirm Email

What type of health insurance do you have?*

- ☐ Private insurance ☐ Tricare ☐ Medicare ☐ Medicaid ☐ No insurance ☐ Other

Individuals who are underinsured will be issued a voucher to cover the cost of up to 14 days of any combination buprenorphine/naloxone prescription. This is a voucher for payment, not a prescription. The voucher must be presented at a participating pharmacy along with a prescription written by a licensed medical provider. The voucher will be provided as part of the referral confirmation and a copy will be sent to the patient's email and/or phone number.

Peer Support

Peer support services connect you with an individual who has had success in their recovery from substance use disorder. They use their own lived experiences to provide guidance and support to people in earlier stages of recovery.

When opting in for peer support services, only the patient's name and contact information are shared with the peer organization. The organization will reach out to the patient within 24-48 hours of submitting this form.

Would you like to be connected to a peer support organization?*

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Additional notes

Please submit any additional information regarding the patient that you would like to include.

Additional notes

Acknowledgment and Approval

- ☐ I have reviewed and agree to the MATTERS [Terms of Use](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

PATIENT REFERRAL INTERFACE

Part 2 of 2

Select a Receiving Treatment Organization

Below are organizations within

10 miles



of your zip code

Zip/Postal Code

You may use the following options to further filter your results:

Filter by treatment delivery model:

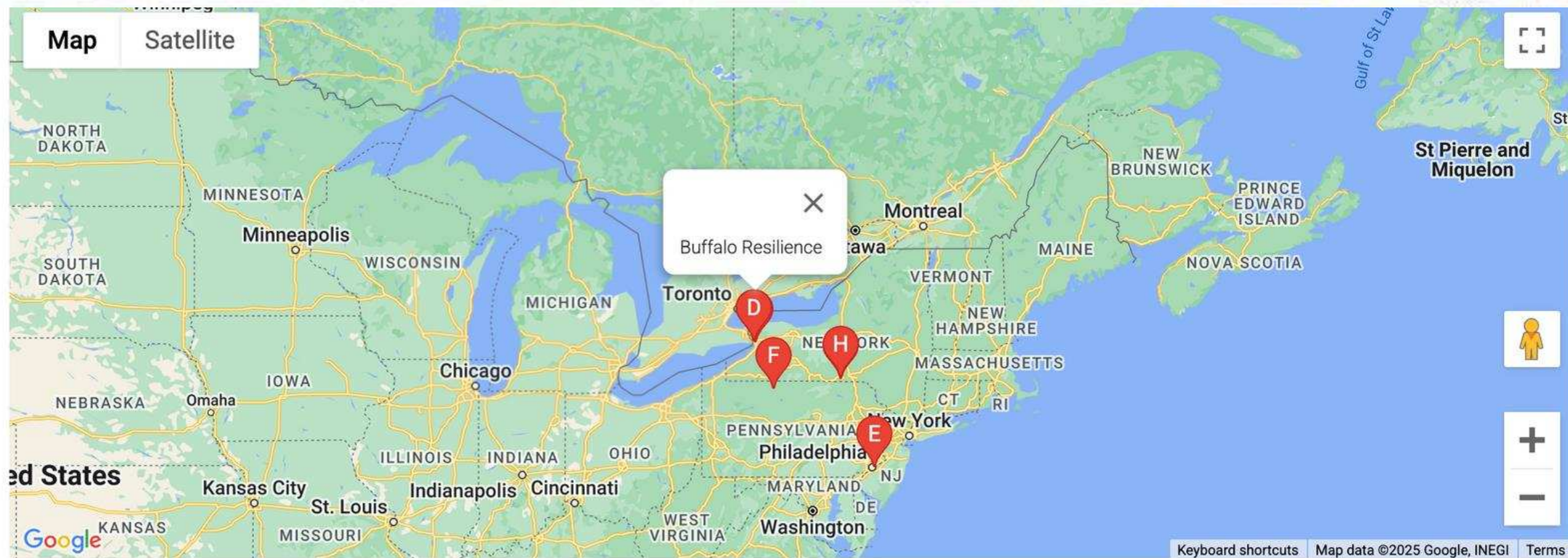
☐ All ☐ In-person ☐ Virtual ☐ Hybrid

Name search:

Use the following search box to locate a specific treatment program by name

Enter program/clinic name

Search



PATIENT REFERRAL INTERFACE

Partner Information

Details

Organization	TEST WNY Tx
Department	N/A
Main Phone Number	(716) 462-2905
Website	N/A
Address	265 Potters Road
Suite/Apt #	N/A
City/Town	Buffalo
State/Province	New York
Zip/Postal Code	14220
Country	US
Service Delivery Model	Hybrid

Appointment Availability

Monday	2 slots
Wednesday	2 slots

Treatment Overview

MAT/MOUD Services

Adolescent MAT Sublocade

Other SUD Services

Benzodiazepine Use Treatment Cocaine Use Treatment

Other Medical Services

Counseling Gender-Affirming Care Group Therapy
HIV Treatment Outpatient Program (OP)

Other

LGBTQIA+ Services Syringe Exchange Program

Insurance info

Is there any insurance you do not accept?

No

Do you accept those without insurance?

No

Do you have access to a facilitated enroller?

Partner Information

Please select the preferred appointment date.

Note: Only the dates that are in bold are available for selection.

Appointment Date*

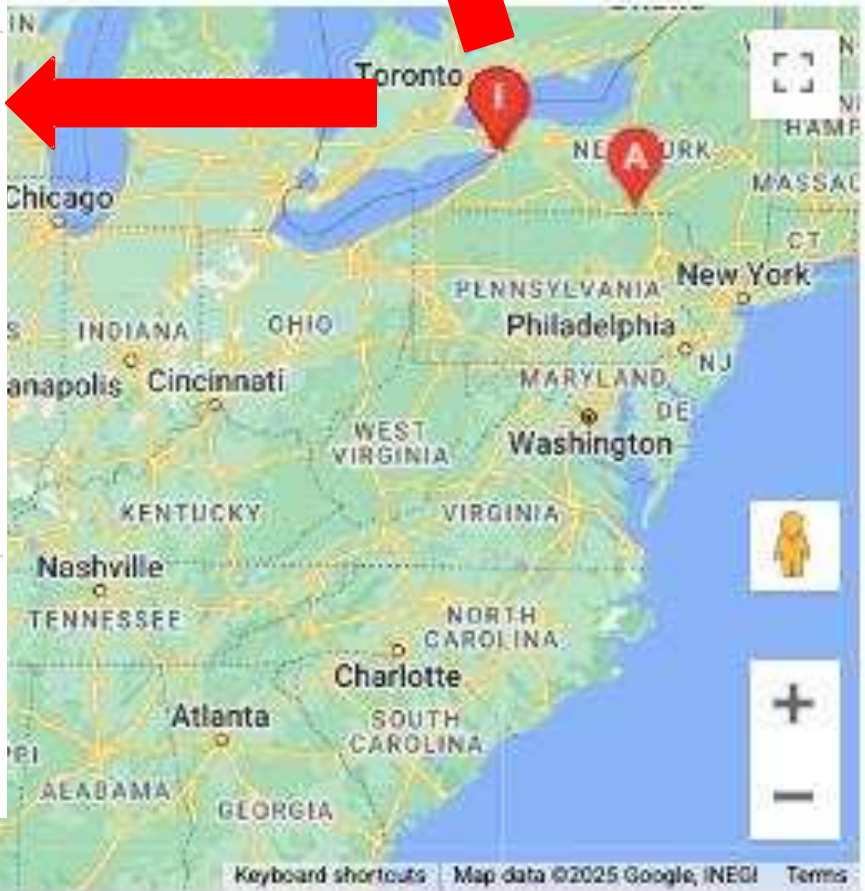
03/31/2025

Do you need free transportation assistance for this appointment?*

☒ Yes ☐ No

Close

Select



PATIENT REFERRAL CONFIRMATION

Print

For instructions on how to save this confirmation to your computer, click [here](#).

Please Read! There is important information on this page pertaining to the selected treatment program, peer support, transportation, and the medication voucher. DO NOT close this page until you have received a copy of this confirmation.

The following treatment referral is confirmed

Treatment Program: NewYou MAT

Address: 77 Goodell Street

Suite/Apt #: N/A

City/Town: Buffalo

State/Province: New York

Zip/Postal Code: 14203

Main Phone Number: (949) 499-6100

Website: [www.yahoo.com](#)

Referral ID

579

Requested Appointment Date

01/15/2025

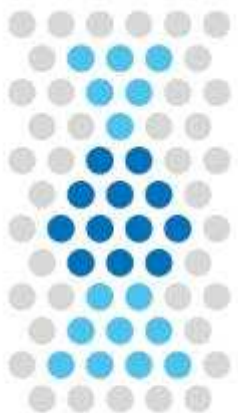
NOTE: The selected treatment organization will reach out to you within 24 to 48 hours to confirm your appointment. If you have not been contacted within this timeframe, please contact the treatment program at the phone number listed above.

If the patient is experiencing an unstable housing situation and has no contact number, the referring staff member should contact MATTERS to coordinate free roundtrip transportation and contact the chosen receiving treatment organization directly to schedule the patient's appointment.

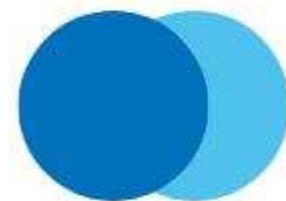
Transportation

Your request for transportation for your FIRST appointment with the treatment program has been received. Please call MATTERS to schedule your ride at **765-**

MATTERS (628-8377).



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Medication for Addiction Treatment & Electronic Referrals



THANK YOU



SCAN QR CODE
TO LEARN MORE

Reach out for more information!



765-MATTERS (628-8377)



www.mattersnetwork.org



bkeane@mattersnetwork.org

Erie County Overdose Prevention Task Force Meeting Sign In

May 2025



**DETECT
TO PROTECT**

Erie County Harm Reduction Campaign

Year 2



Erie.gov/Detect



Highlights of Year 1 Campaign Activities

Quick recap: Year 1 ads ran across:

- Radio
- Streaming audio and video
- Social media
- Audience-based display ads
- Location-based display ads
- Out-of-home ads (posters, coasters, and take ones)



Year 2

Year 2 of the **Detect to Protect** campaign focuses on empowering the community, under the "City of Good Neighbors" theme, to take proactive steps in harm reduction. This includes encouraging businesses, organizations, and places of worship to keep fentanyl test strips available and promote the carrying of Narcan by community members. The campaign also further involves people with lived experience. For Year 2, we :

- Reviewed current opioid use and overdose data in Erie County
- Conducted focus group interviews with behavioral health providers, community members, and people with lived experience and those affected by opioid overdoses
- Completed a photo/video shoot in Erie County with campaign ambassadors
- Created curated lists of high-risk overdose locations, businesses, and places of worship within zip codes where most opioid overdoses are occurring in Erie County to help inform and continue to refine media placements
- Started creating promotional materials

Expand harm reduction efforts and tackle stigma to increase community involvement

- Using the campaign to promote the "City of Good Neighbors" theme to foster a sense of shared responsibility and normalize harm reduction
- Creating talking points for ambassadors and faith-based leaders to ensure consistent messaging to the community
- Using targeted media placements in high-risk areas to ensure the message reaches those who need it most
- Encouraging local organizations to stock and distribute harm reduction supplies and information
- Developing multilingual materials to reach diverse populations (e.g., Spanish, French, Kinyarwanda, Swahili)
- Updating the website with more shareable materials, instructional videos, and maps of harm reduction supply locations

Goals for Year 2

Leverage ambassadors to be more actively involved in cross promotion and material distribution individually and through their organizations

They will use their testimonials and our talking points to:

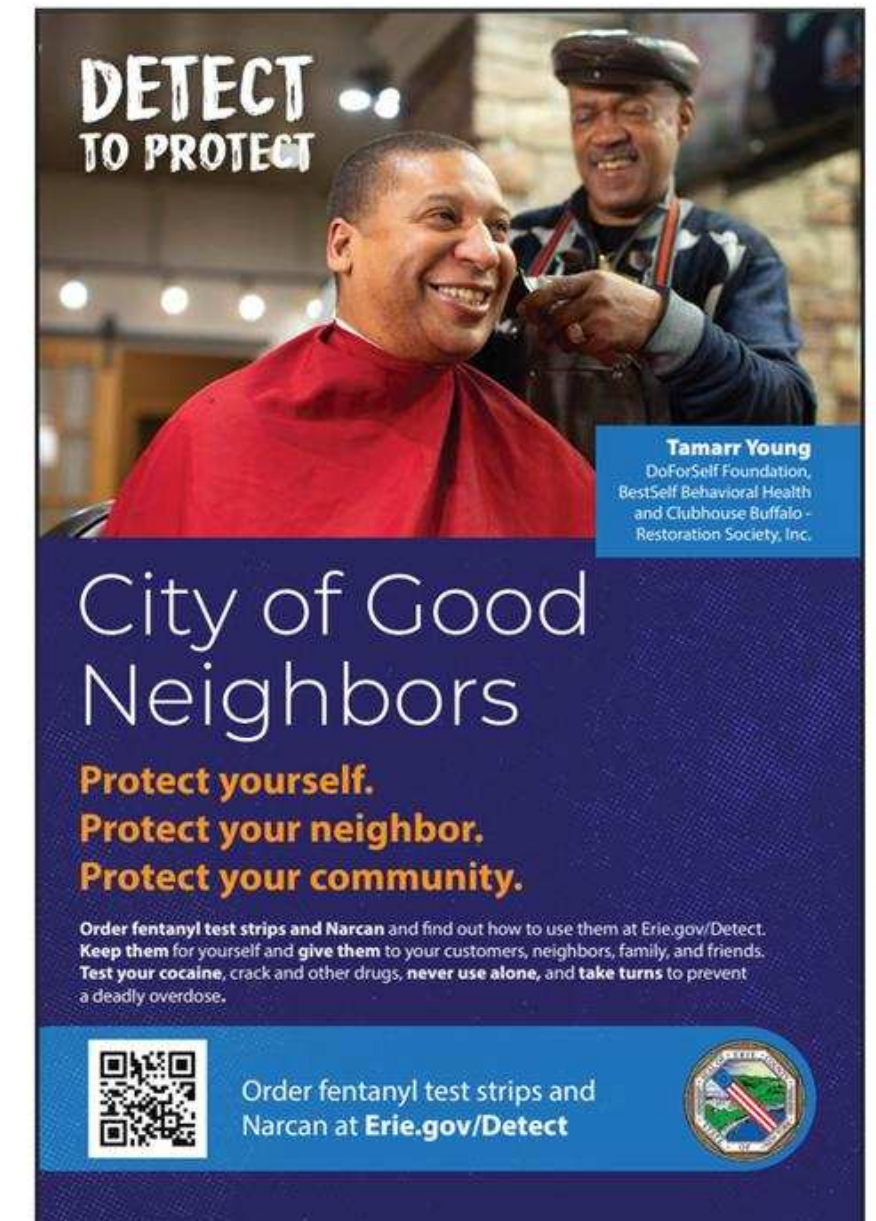
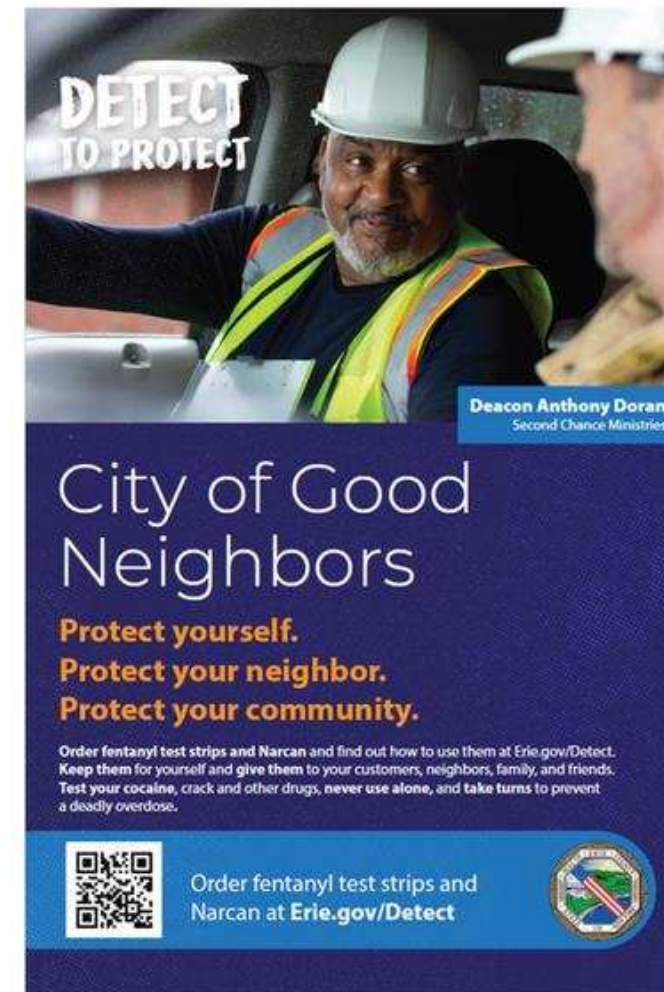
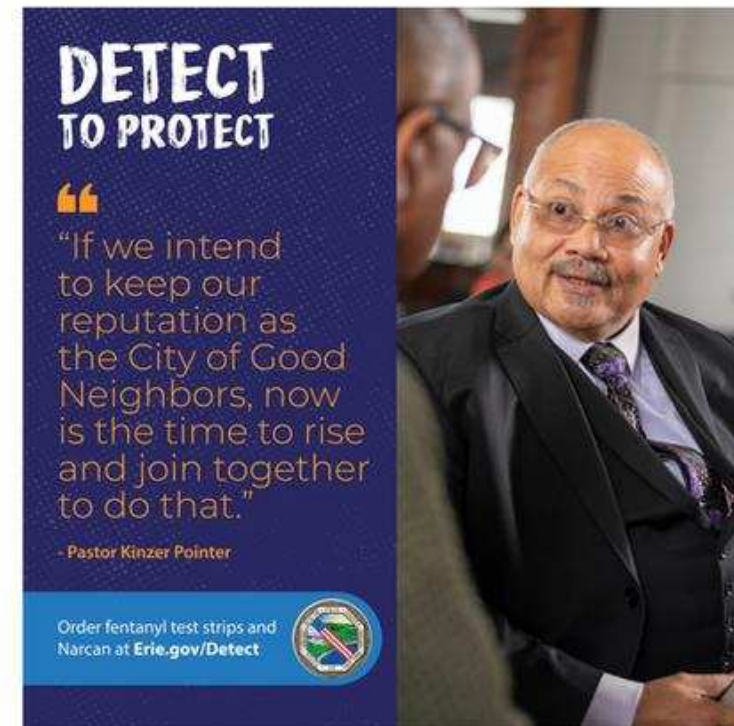
- Normalize conversations about harm reduction by integrating it into community spaces (e.g., barbershops, churches, workplaces)
- Debunk common misconceptions about harm reduction
- Encourage community members and organizations to get involved, order materials, and spread the message
- Support placements of posters and promotional materials throughout the community to complement the media buys and placements

Call to Action

- Encourage community members to order harm reduction tools and share them with their networks
- Promote the idea that harm reduction is for everyone, not just those directly affected by drug use

Products and Placements

- Out-of-home ads in zip codes with highest rates of overdoses (posters, coasters, take ones) and in blue collar breakrooms
- Materials for specific community settings (e.g., posters in barbershops and churches featuring well-known ambassadors)
- Social media content (reels and static ads) featuring ambassadors
- Radio and streaming audio ads
- Streaming video ads



Behind the Scenes



Behind the Scenes



Behind the Scenes



Behind the Scenes



Behind the Scenes



Public Health Conference

Outstanding Contribution for Local Health Department Service

- 1) **Kara Kane:**
Public Information Officer, Erie
County Department of Health
- 2) **Office of Health Equity:**
Nassau County Department of
Health
- 3) **Dr. Kevin Watkins:**
MD, MPH, Public Health Director,
Cattaraugus County Department
of Health



Reported Overdose Heat Map Updates

April 2025



**Erie County
Department of
Health**



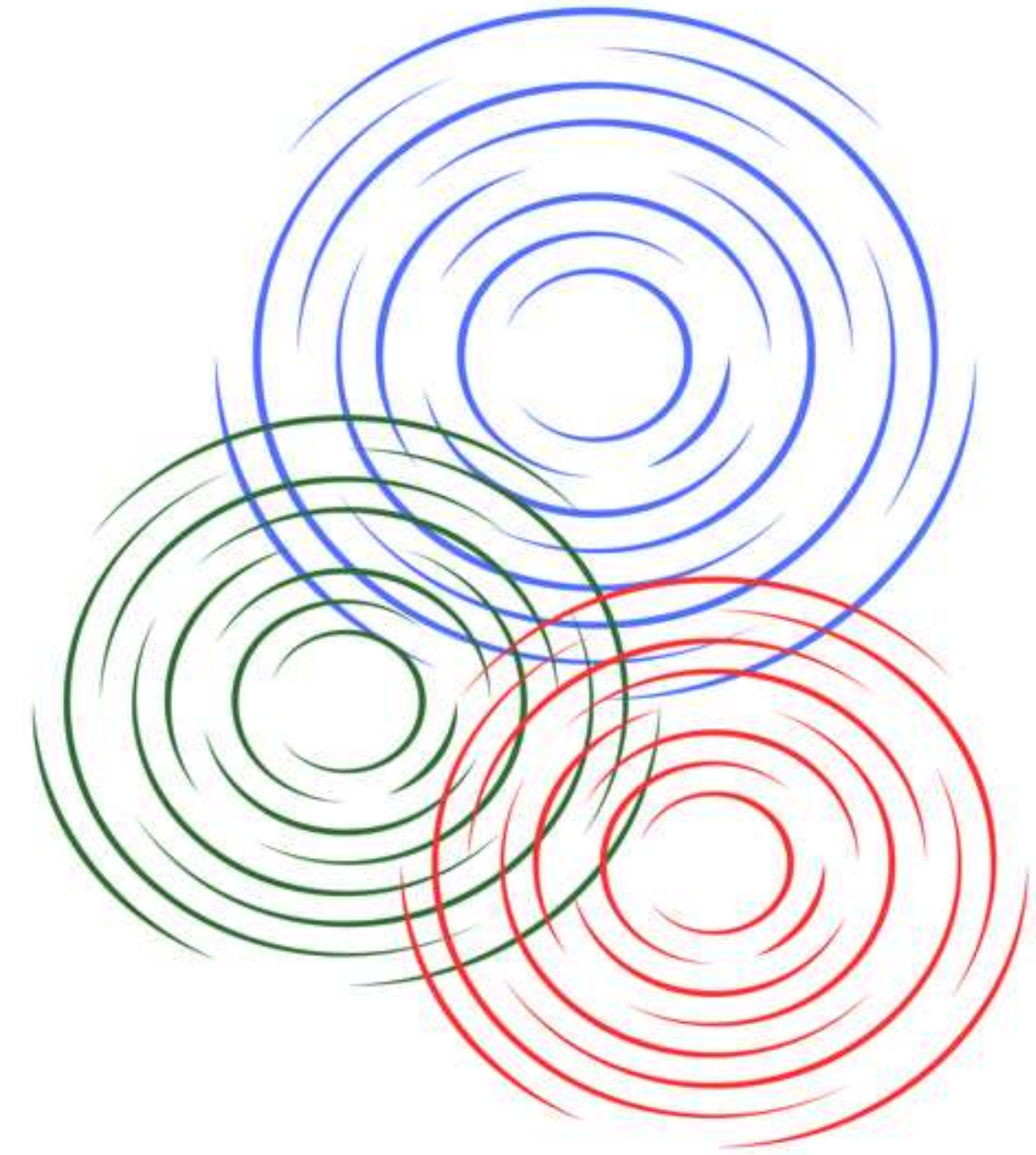
Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Data Sources

- **Law enforcement reports and emergency service calls**
 - Both fatal and non-fatal reports, about 75% non-fatal
 - Collected by HIDTA office and sent to ECDOH daily
 - HIDTA evaluates reports and determines if they are likely overdose events
- Heat maps are based on the locations of overdoses and emergency service calls
 - Heat maps are specific to a location and time period
 - 13-week time periods

A Helpful Analogy

- Overdose reports are like pebbles dropped in water, making ripples
- We can only show where the ripples of multiple pebbles overlap with each other due to privacy concerns
- The more ripples overlap with each other, the “hotter” the cluster



Erie County
Department of
Health



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

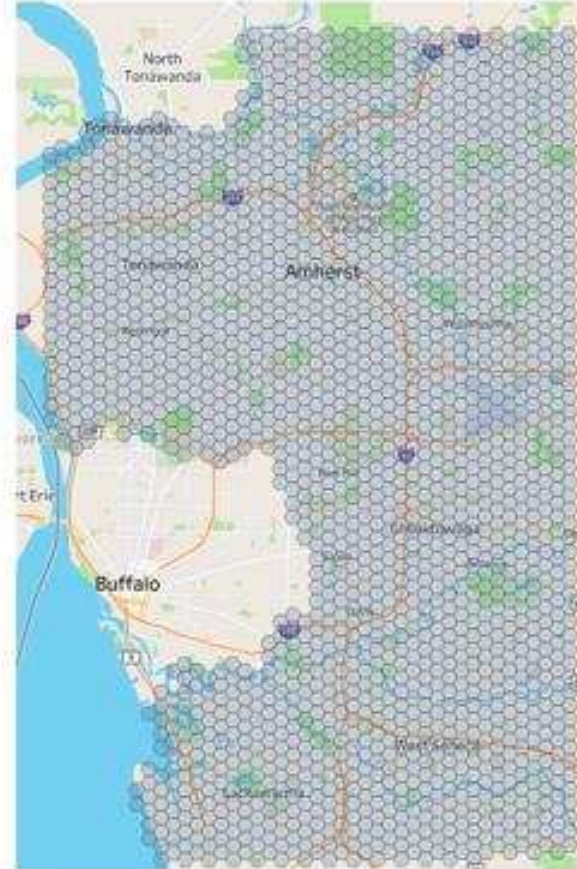
Layers of Erie County: Accounting for Dense Regions

- It is difficult to create a heat map for all of Erie County simultaneously
 - Reports from the city tend to be closer together than those from the suburbs and rural areas, due to population density
 - We need to adjust the distance threshold for “ripples” overlapping
 - Allows us to see clusters in all areas more clearly

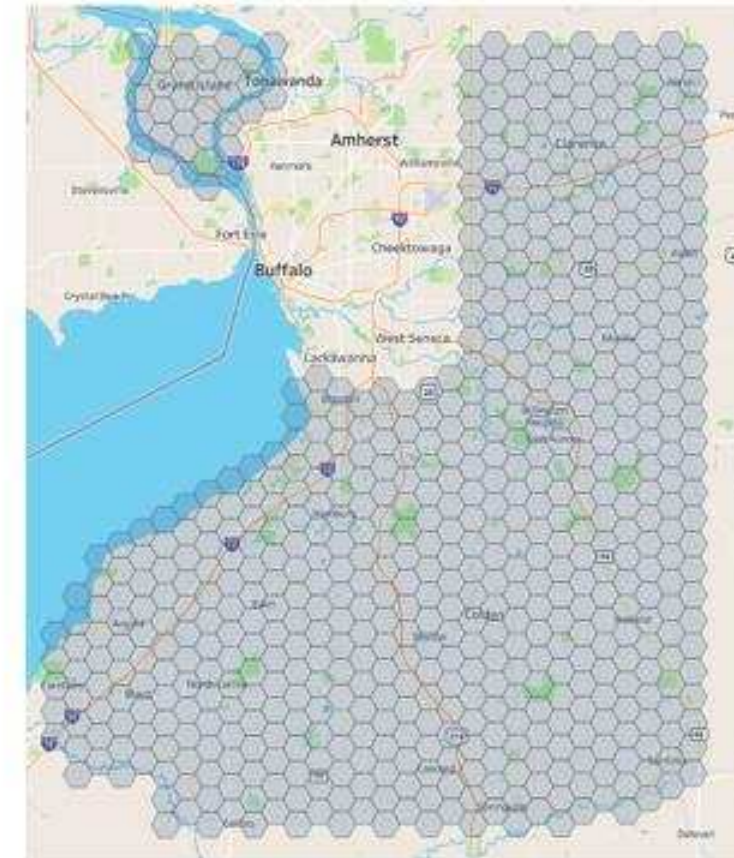
Inner Region



Intermediate Region

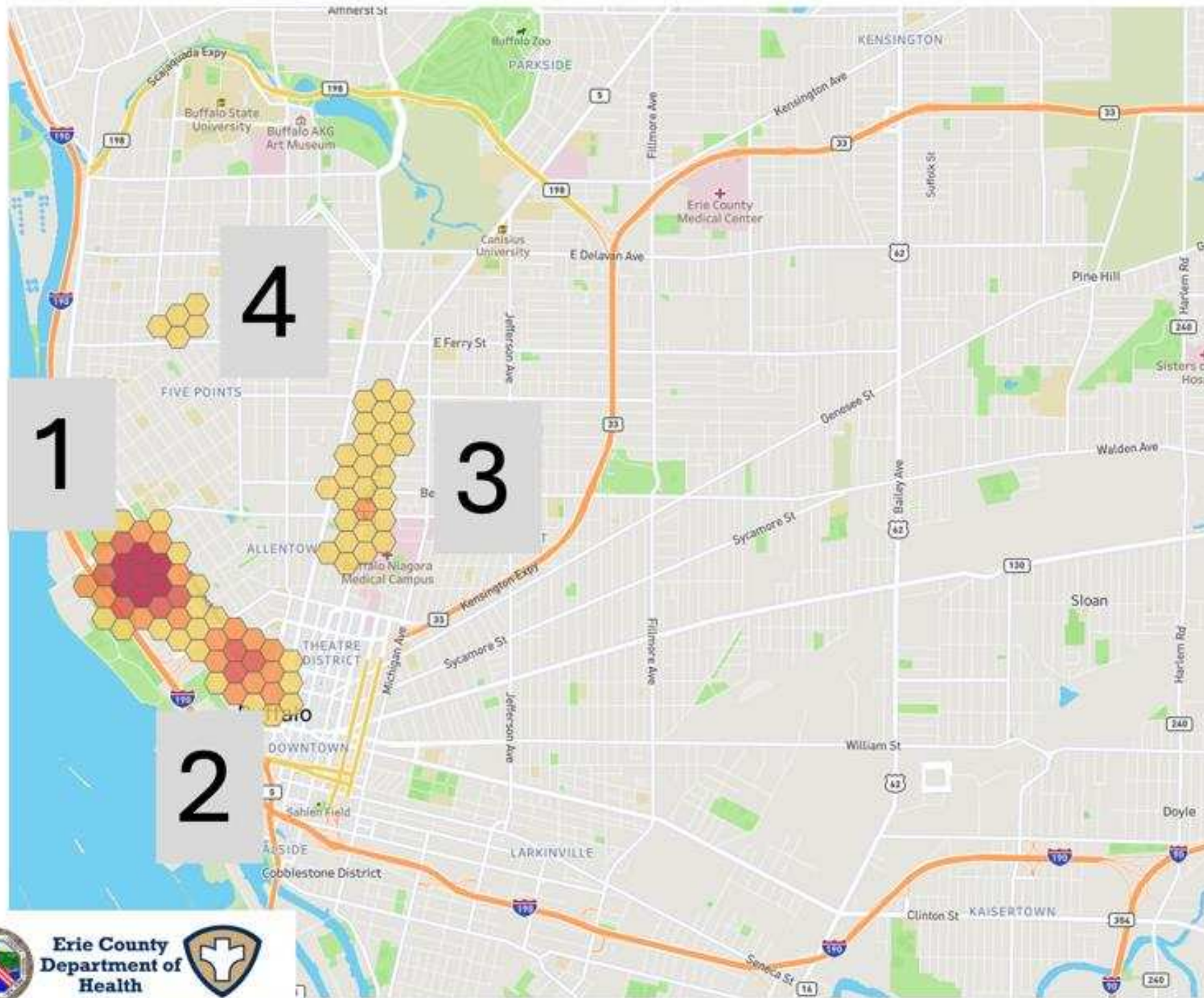


Outer Region



Cluster Identification: February through April 2025, Inner Region

City-Inner February 2025 through April 2025

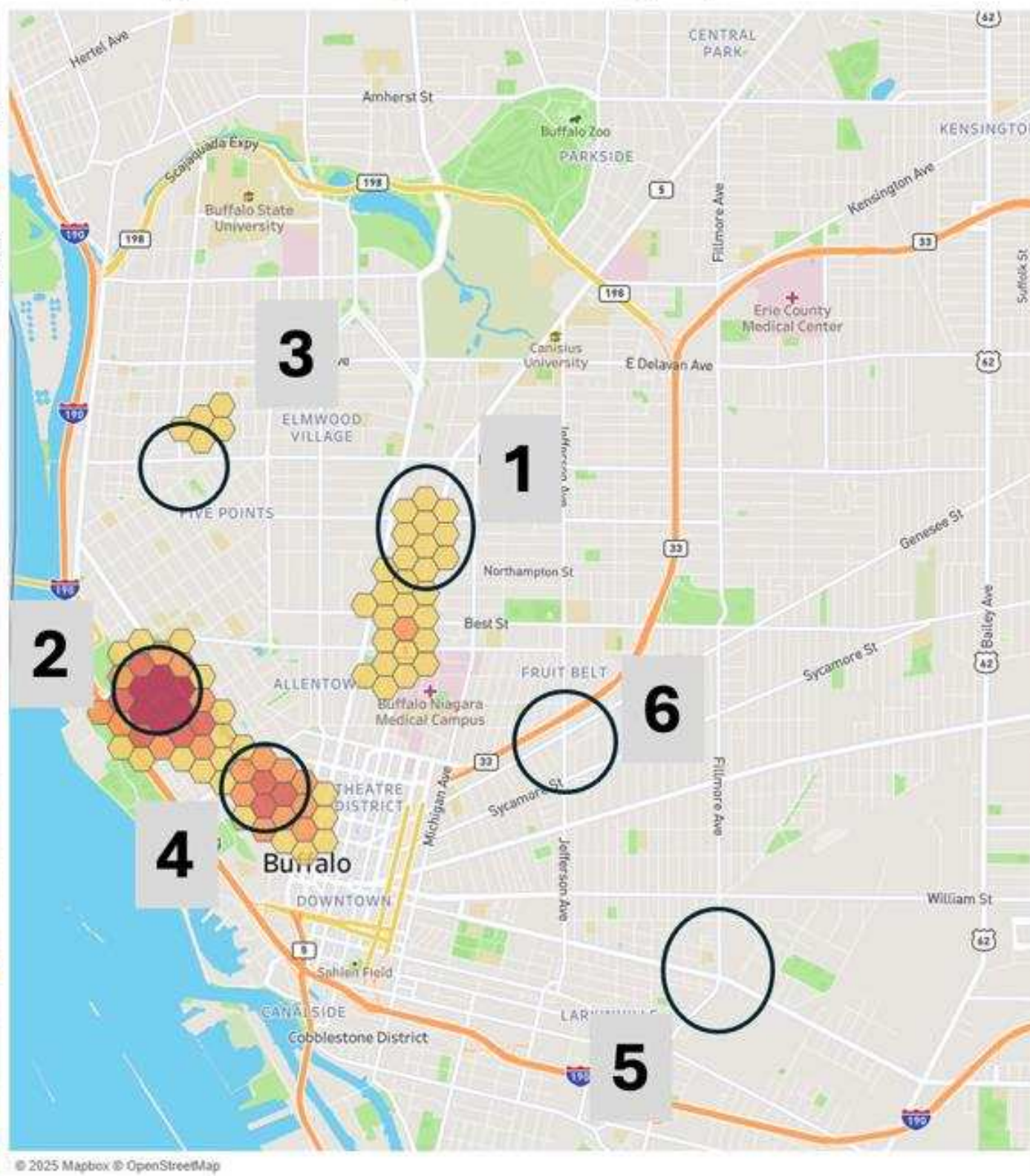
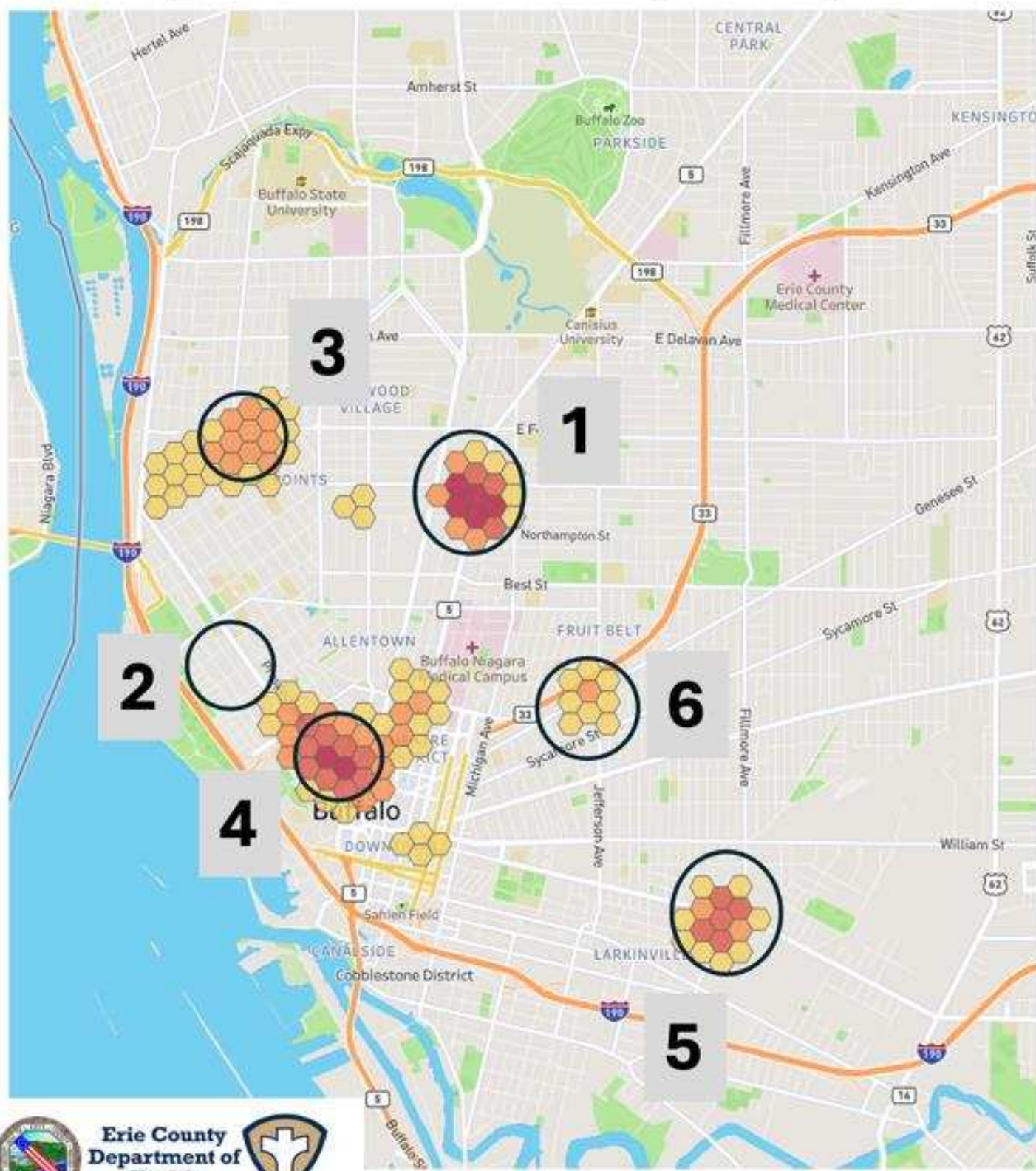


1. Busti Avenue
 - Between Porter Ave and Hudson St
2. Carolina Street
 - Along Niagara St from City Hall to Virginia St
3. Main Street
 - Centered on North St
 - Extends from Allen St to Utica St
4. Grant Ferry
 - Between W Ferry St and Auburn Ave

Cluster Comparison: Inner Region, 3-Month Periods

Inner Region November 2024 through January 2025

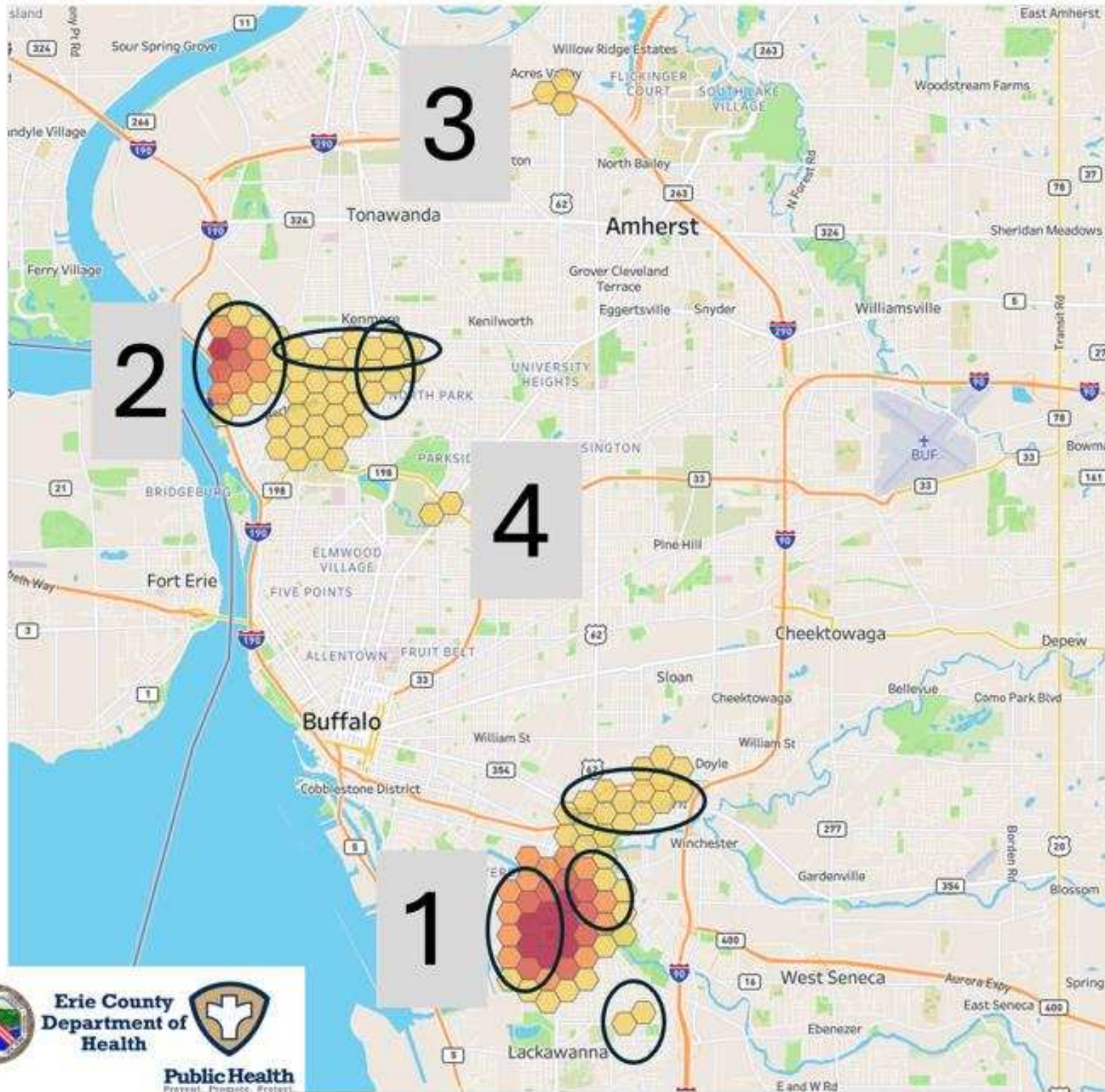
Inner Region February 2025 through April 2025



1. Main-Utica
2. Busti-Jersey
3. Grant-Ferry
4. Niagara-Carolina
5. Clinton-Fillmore
6. Jefferson-Genesee

Cluster Identification: February through April 2025, Intermediate Region

Intermediate Region February 2025 through April 2025

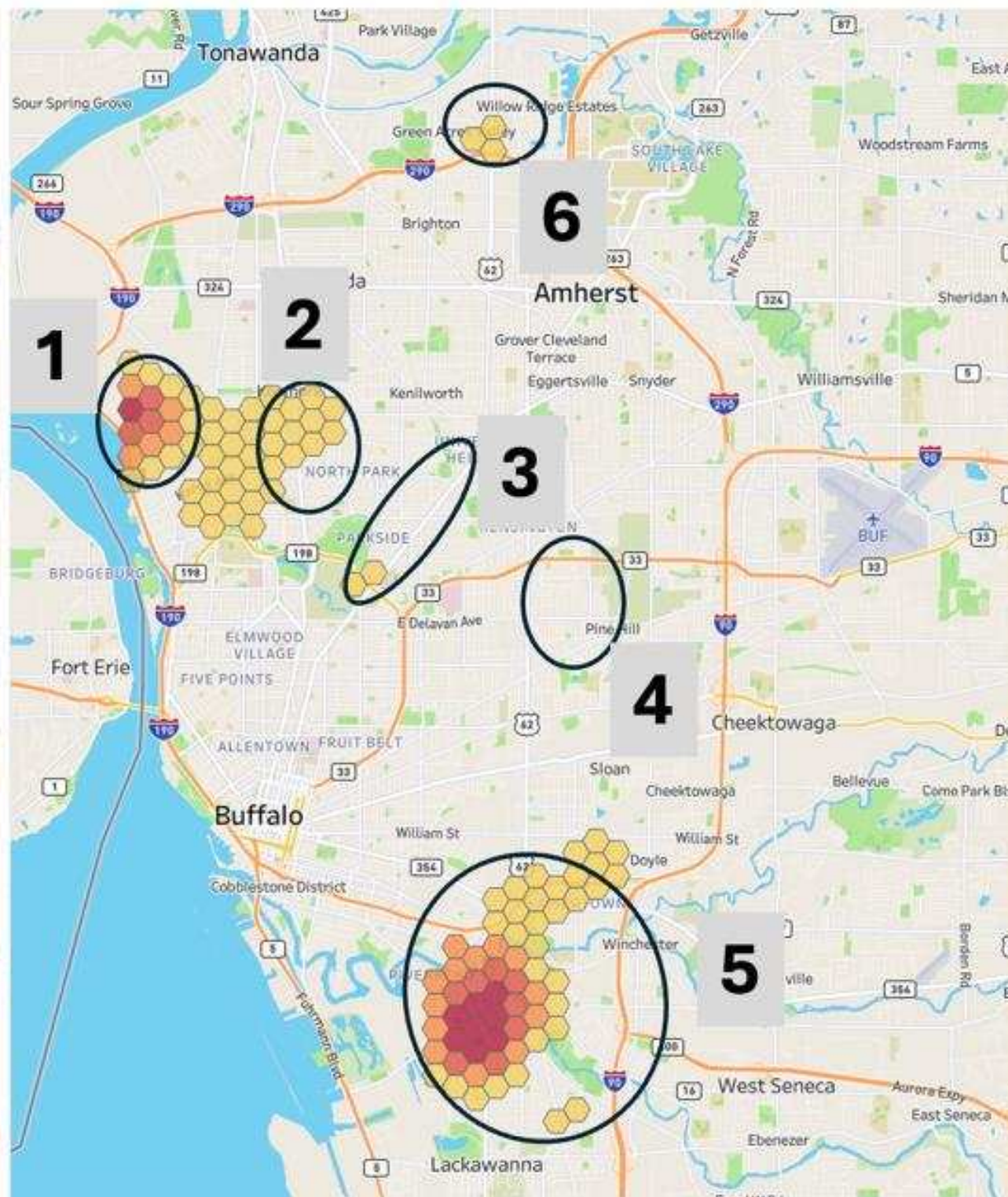
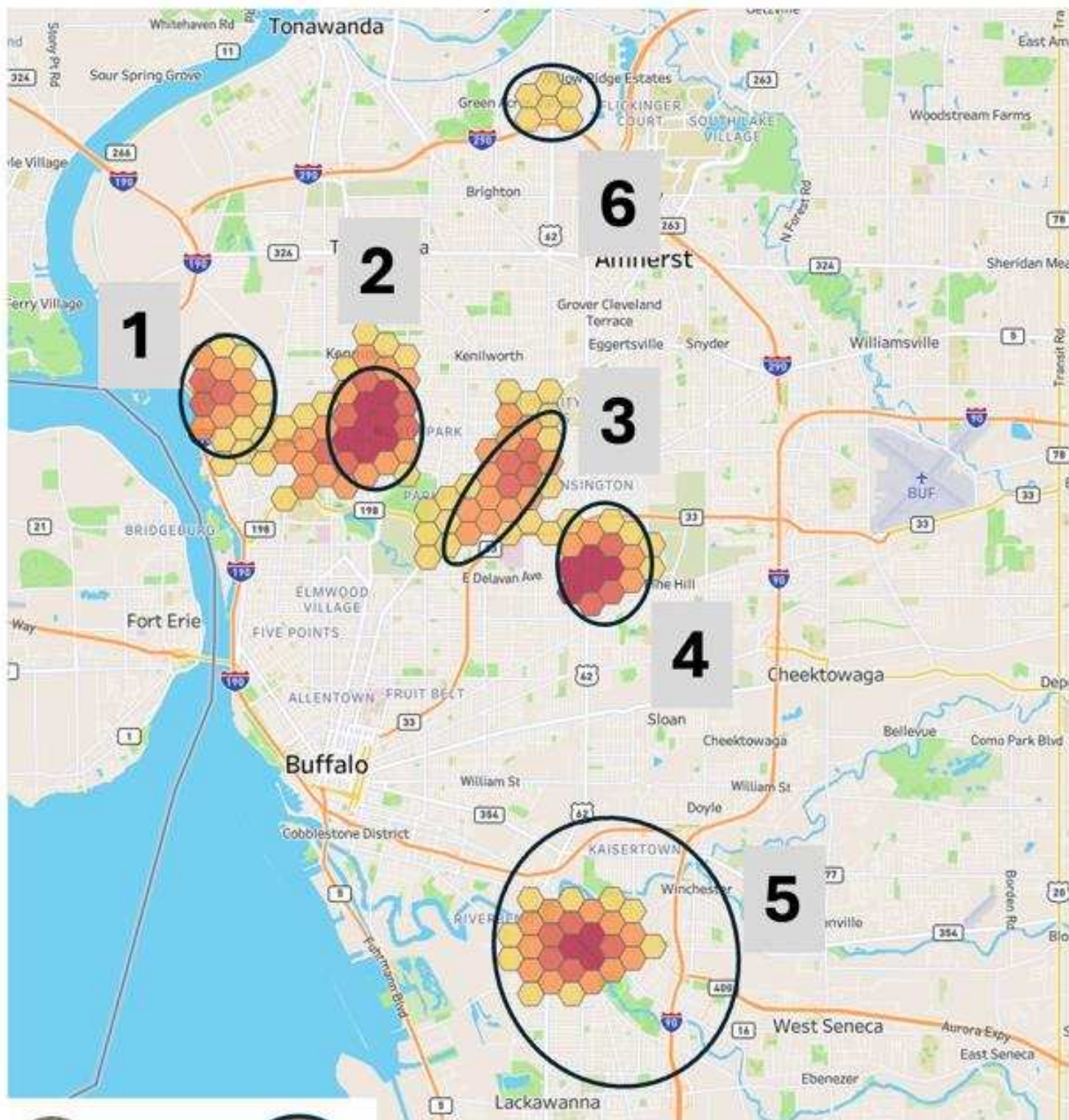


1. South Buffalo and Kaisertown
 - S Park Ave, Seneca St, Dorrance Ave, Clinton St
2. Riverside and North Buffalo
 - Concentrated near Vulcan St, Tonawanda St
 - Extends along Kenmore Ave
 - Concentration near Delaware Ave and Hertel Ave
3. Niagara Falls Boulevard
 - North of I-290
4. Kensington and Main
 - Near Scajaquada Expy / Rte 33

Cluster Comparison: Intermediate Region, 3-Month Periods

Intermediate Region November 2024 through January 2025

Intermediate Region February 2025 through April 2025

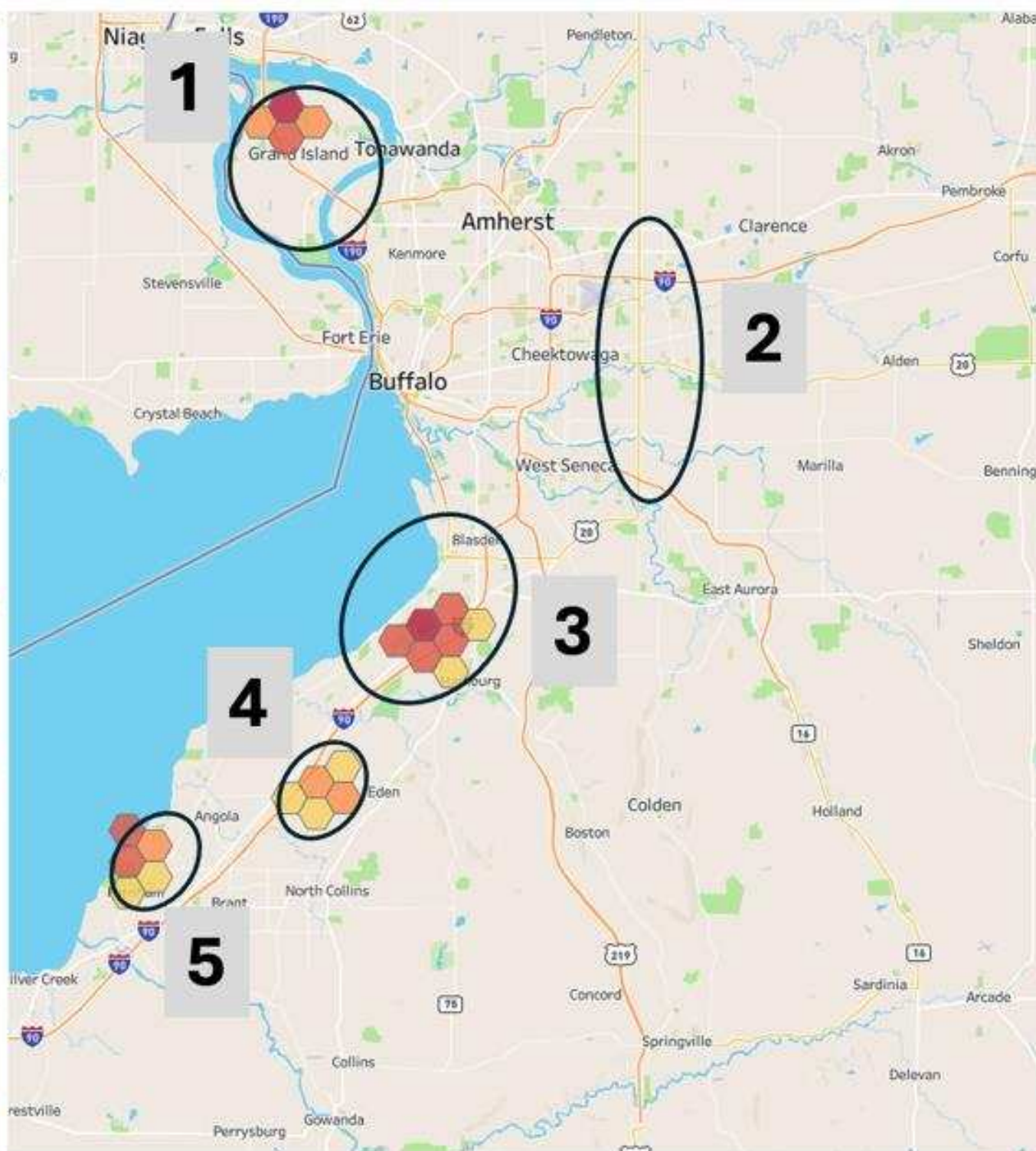
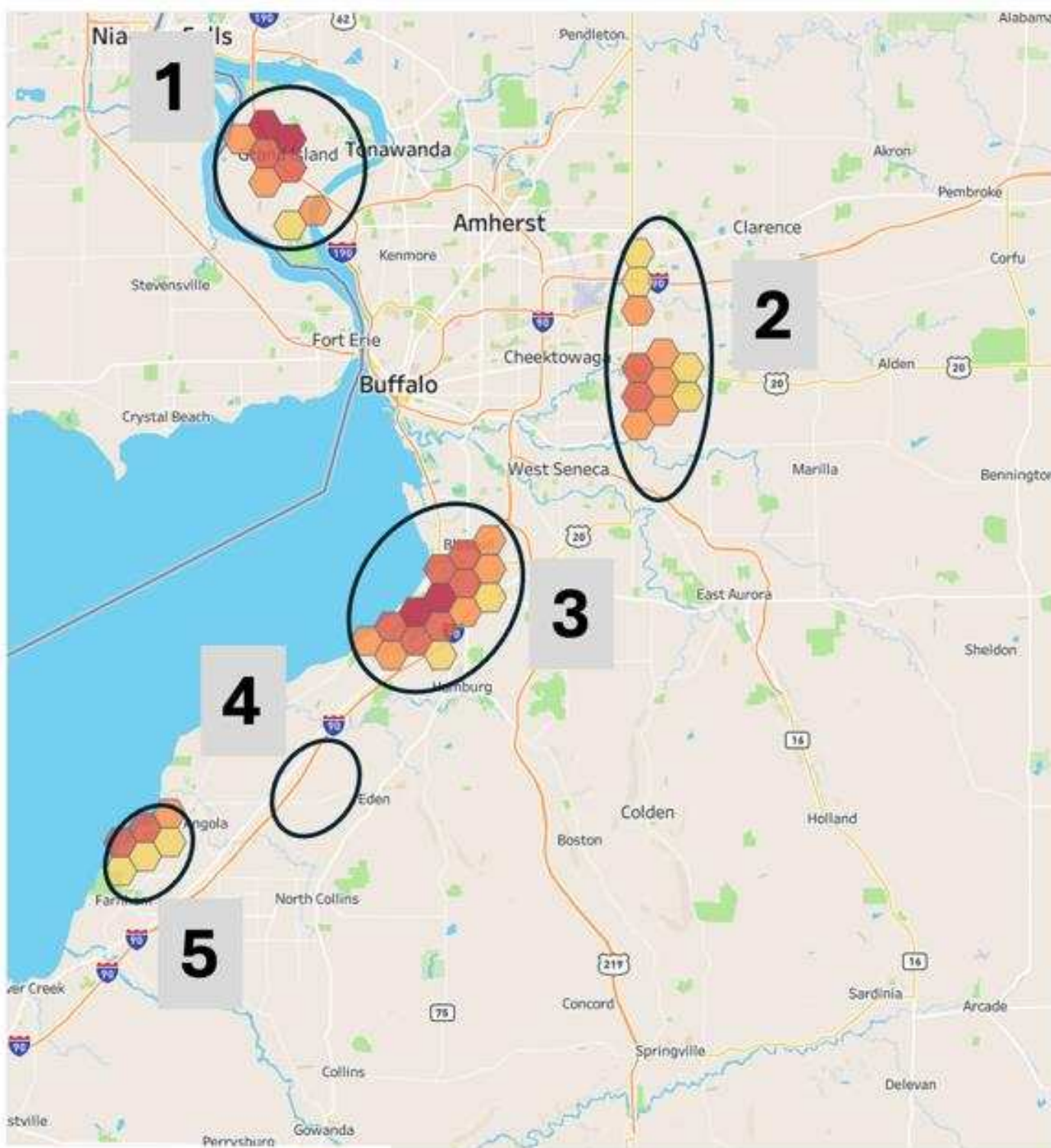


1. Riverside
2. Delaware-Hertel
3. Main, North of Kensington
4. Bailey-E Delavan
5. South Buffalo and Kaisertown
6. Niagara Falls Boulevard

Cluster Comparison: Outer Region, 6-Month Periods

Outer Region May 2024 through October 2024

Outer Region November 2024 through April 2025



1. Grand Island
2. Transit Road
 - Near Wehrle Drive and William St
3. Hamburg and Blasdell
4. Eden
5. Angola

Heat Map Data Webinar Updates

- Next Data Webinar 5/19 and 5/22
 - More in-depth look at heat maps!
 - Come to discuss current overdose trends with OHR and other community organizations!
 - Same presentation both dates
- Waiting on MOU to be finalized for data dissemination
 - Webinar attendees will be able to sign up for monthly heat map updates

Community Share Out

New section of TF meeting

Do you have something to share with the larger community but not enough to be on the agenda? Share out here!

Overdose Data Review for Community Partners

By understanding drug involvement, we can
better identify appropriate prevention and
response activities throughout the City of Buffalo.

- Analyze City of Buffalo data from 2024-2025
- Use heat-maps to identify clusters
- Establish significant changes over period of time
- Support proactive outreach efforts

SCAN ME



[Or click the link here](#)

Dates Available

May 19, 2pm-3pm

May 22, 10am-11am

July 14, 2pm-3pm

July 17, 10am-11am

Scan QR Code to Register

or reach out to harm.reduction@erie.gov



Erie County
Department of
Health



Public Health
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Opioid
Response
Network

**Erie County Office of Harm Reduction and the
Opioid Response Network Presents:
Harm Reduction 101**

**Whether you're new to harm
reduction or just want a refresher,
this training is a welcoming space
to learn and ask questions.**

SCAN ME



Or click the link [here](#)

Please reach out with any
questions or concerns

Jordon Frank
Jordon.Frank@erie.gov
716-858-7783

Join Us!

May 30, 2025

9am-Noon

Erie County Fire Training Academy
Room 133
3359 Broadway Ave
Buffalo, NY 14227

*Virtual option available if needed

Funding for this initiative was made possible (in part) by grant no. 1H79TI088037 from SAMHSA. The views expressed in written conference materials or publications and by speakers and moderators do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does mention of trade names, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

Future Task Force Dates (2025)

Mon, Aug 4, 2025 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Mon, Nov 10, 2025 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Question & Answer

Ask away

All Q&As will be sent to the listserv post-meeting.

Melissa, our virtual moderator will ask virtual questions out loud.

OPTF February Quarterly Meeting

Feedback & Input



Next Meeting: August 4, 2025