



OPIOID WORK GROUP
CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

**STRATEGIC
THREE YEAR
PLAN**

CALENDAR YEAR 2023-2026

FOCUS AREA 1

Utilize Prevention and Education Efforts to Reduce Opioid Misuse and its Harmful Effects Throughout the City of Alexandria

GOAL 1

Create and maintain continuing education and prevention opportunities and resources across the city

- Create and release a statement about safe needle disposal and work with providers and medication prescribers/distributors to promote with patients
- Expand awareness of substance use disorders as treatable diseases, not moral or character defects
- Develop a standard educational presentation. Partner with homeowners associations, civic associations and others to offer educational programs regarding the signs and dangers of opioid misuse, Narcan overdose reversal and treatment resources.
- Develop a presence at citywide community events with educational materials,

GOAL 2

Develop and maintain opioid prevention and education in partnership with Alexandria City Public Schools, colleges in the city, and the private school community

- Ensure that opioid prevention and education are included in the ACPS strategic plan
- Implement comprehensive school-based prevention programs aimed at education about the dangers of opioids, over the counter medication and substance misuse of any kind
- Continue to partner with the Teen Wellness Center around harm reduction initiatives
- Develop a social media campaign in partnership with ACPS
- Participate in Red Ribbon Week, the national drug-abuse prevention campaign

GOAL 3

Update and maintain the City's opioid website and communication plans

- Utilize social media in prevention efforts led by youth
- Hire a public relations firm to lead opioid messaging
- Work with local media outlets to promote stories and materials related to opioid misuse
- Develop a communications plan for International Overdose Awareness Day and National Fentanyl Awareness Day
- Update and streamline opioid website

GOAL 4

Strengthen data collection and analysis

- Develop a streamlined and accurate data collection system
- Develop a dashboard for the sharing and analysis of information to better identify opportunities for intervention
- Develop a monthly data report that can be distributed as needed
- Work with the Regional Opioid Group to develop a shared quarterly report
- Track emerging substance trends

GOAL 5

Expanded educational and distribution of Harm Reduction Efforts

- Partner with the prescribing community and provide education regarding Narcan distribution
- Partner with Alexandria INOVA Hospital to dispense Narcan to all patients prescribed an opioid
- Partner with Alive! to distribute harm reduction supplies
- Distribute Narcan to Lyft and Uber drivers
- Partner with local restaurants and business to distribute Narcan
- Continue Harm Reduction Mail Out Program
- Develop a program to distribute fentanyl test strips



FOCUS AREA 1 CONT'D.

Utilize Prevention and Education Efforts to Reduce Opioid Misuse and its Harmful Effects Throughout the City of Alexandria

GOAL 1

Create and maintain continuing education and prevention opportunities and resources across the city

Narcan and treatment information. Include community cookouts, National Night Out, Drug Take Back days and partner with the faith-based community to provide education and support

- Partner with Alive! for Narcan distribution and community education
- Develop an online community training registration and post on the Opioid website
- Develop a Citizens Counsel to work alongside the OWG
- Observe Fentanyl Awareness Day
- Observe Overdose Awareness Day
- Develop a public education campaign to address misinformation and stigma
- Provide education to housing communities to address stigma related to substance use disorders and recovery

GOAL 2

Develop and maintain opioid prevention and education in partnership with Alexandria City Public Schools, colleges in the city, and the private school community

- Continue partnering with the local private school community around Narcan distribution, prevention, education, and materials

GOAL 3

Expand awareness of substance use disorders as treatable diseases

- Implement a Youth Intake Reduction Program (At any point of youth contact, including hospital discharges, we provide as appropriate Narcan, fentanyl test strips, medication lock boxes and treatment resources in several languages)
- Form a partnership with Dash Bus to provide an educational campaign for riders and Narcan distribution
- Develop and implement interventions aimed at directly assisting the Hispanic community



FOCUS AREA 2

Provide Evidence Based and Effective Treatment Services to Promote Long Term Recovery

GOAL 1

Increase availability of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in currently under-served locations and populations

- Continue to ensure collaborative and supportive access to MAT for Guest House residents
- Implement the next phases of the MAT program in the Adult Detention Center
- Conduct a SWAT assessment for development of a MAT program in the Juvenile Detention Center
- Implement a MAT Bridge Program in partnership with Inova Alexandria Hospital to provide medication-assisted treatment and counseling to help adults and youth who are battling addiction
- Plan a day-long summit for all child-serving agencies to gain universal understanding of what it is like for youth in need of residential treatment and identify gaps
- Create a Relapse Protocol for youth/families upon return to the community from residential treatment and detox
- Work toward earlier identification of youth needs before they need substance use residential treatment (i.e. accessing intensive outpatient services to avoid residential and outpatient MAT)
- Develop a Regional Mobile Detox to provide support at home
- Develop a program to assist with transportation to MAT dosing hours
- Evaluate expansion of dosing hours at the MAT Clinic

GOAL 2

Youth treatment

- Identify a stop gap for youth while detoxing from opioids, including access to withdrawal management medications (physicians) and providers to do in-home visits during the time of withdrawal to support youth and family
- Increase and enhance resources available for court involved youth and families

GOAL 3

Expand peer support programs for youth and adults

- Increase the number of community and treatment-based Peer Recovery Coaches
- Meet with peers from other regional agencies and learn about their roles in opioid response
- Work with INOVA Alexandria Hospital to embed a peer in the Emergency Department



FOCUS AREA 3

Reduce Excess and Illegal Opioid Supply Throughout the City of Alexandria

GOAL 1

Expand current drug disposal options and events and increase public participation across the city

- Continue to implement communications strategy to advertise Drug Take Back Day events, along with a list of appropriate venues
- Continue to encourage pharmacies to promote Drug Take Back Day events and permanent medication drop box locations in the city
- Educate funeral homes about proper drug disposal methods
- Expand education campaign aimed at families about the importance of cleaning medication cabinets and prompt and safe medication disposal
- Continue distribution of medication lock boxes

GOAL 2

Continued focused law enforcement work on opioid supply reduction

- Continue to focus on distribution/investigation (identifying drug trafficking organizations)
- Conduct operational activities to disrupt street level use/dealing
- Reduce the overall supply of illegal drugs in the City of Alexandria
- Track and map overdoses in real time to gain information on trends and issue overdose spike alerts as needed
- Research a grant to pay for a spectrometer for use in the field



FOCUS AREA 4

Provide Opportunities for Diversion from the Criminal Justice System into the Treatment System

GOAL 1

Maintain the Alexandria Treatment Court

- Continue to support the development of the Alexandria Treatment Court, to include refining the Court's processes and procedures, data collection and analysis, etc.

GOAL 2

Expand the Alexandria Treatment Court

- Expand eligibility criteria through work with the City's Legislative Director.
- Provide communications to the jail population and specific communities about how treatment can be effective outside the legal system
- Develop ways to entice participants
- Explore ideas for expanded housing opportunities for participants
- Identify funds to assist in providing participants with cell phones
- Develop training/education for PDO, attorneys, public defenders. Offer printed materials in multiple languages for clients
- Expand available services for Spanish speaking population

GOAL 3

Secure long-term funding for Alexandria Treatment Court

- Continue to look for funding options to sustain ATC

GOAL 4

Sharing Treatment Court successes

- Develop communications to share Treatment Court graduations



FOCUS AREA 5

Implement Immediate, Effective and Collaborative Responses to All Opioid Overdoses

GOAL 1

Narcan at every City government building

- Provide education and materials as needed
- Develop a Narcan collaboration with local libraries

GOAL 2

Expand Narcan distribution

- Work to provide Narcan and education to corporations, taxi drivers, hospitals, high opioid providers, large housing complexes
- Continue training opportunities for Narcan and Fentanyl Test Strips

GOAL 3

Utilize ACORP for calls

- Meet with the ACORP team to develop a partnership
- Develop a role for ACORP teams in overdose responses

GOAL 4

Expand EMS role in overdose outreach

- Train Emergency Medical Services providers in the Recovery Bag distribution programs
- Utilize the new EMS HIDTA Overdose Map program





Department of Community
and Human Services