

Impact of the 21st Century Cures Act – Illinois

The Illinois Opioid-STR grant from SAMHSA, that is enabled through the 21st Century Cures Act, continues to be a source of invaluable support to our state in confronting the varied and serious impacts of the opioid crisis that are being experienced by the residents of Illinois. This grant supports a range of services and activities that have been implemented by the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (IDHS/DASA) through contracts with multiple provider organizations and local governmental entities. Provided below are brief summaries of these services and activities, and their accomplishments to date.

Expanded Outpatient Methadone Treatment (OMT) Services. A total of 12 community-based licensed provider organization have been contracted to provide expanded methadone treatment services through the Opioid-STR grant. As of January 11, 2018, **1,333** clients have been admitted to these expanded services.

Vivitrol Assisted Services for County Jail Inmates. IDHS/DASA is supporting pre-release medication assisted treatment (MAT) for persons with opioid use disorder (OUD) in ten Illinois county jails, including Cook County. As of January 2, 2018, **131** persons have been served. Of these 131 released offenders, **93.9% (123)** were successfully linked to community-based treatment upon release.

Hospital Warm Hand-off Services for Persons with OUD. Also as part of the STR award, IDHS/DASA is working with four providers to provide screening, brief intervention, and warm hand-off services for individuals experiencing an opioid overdose or who have an OUD in targeted Illinois hospitals. Services have thus far been initiated in four targeted hospitals and **711** patients have been served to-date. Of these 711 discharged patients, **83.7% (595)** were successfully admitted to community-based treatment upon release from the hospital.

Community-based Outreach/Linkage/Referral Services. IDHS/DASA entered into a contract to provide community-based outreach, referral, and linkage services for persons with OUD in high-need areas across the state. Through this contract, **766** opioid users have been approached by street outreach teams, with **459 (59.9%)** of these completing a meeting with a linkage manager, and **363 (47.4%)** agreeing to enter, and successfully starting substance use treatment.

Opioid Crisis Helpline. Illinois Opioid-STR funds are being used to support a statewide 24-hour, 7-day/week, 365 day/year helpline for persons with OUD-related issues. The helpline was launched on December 5, 2017, in conjunction with a press conference convened by Governor Bruce Rauner. In its first month, the helpline assisted **452 callers** with information and referrals to substance use disorder treatment.

Expanded Naloxone Purchase/Training/Distribution Services. Opioid-STR funding supports an expansion of naloxone purchase, training, and distribution services. Using these funds, to date there have been **1,685 individuals trained** through these services and **75 opioid overdose reversals** have been reported.