November 2020 Newsletter

Welcome Director Jones!

David T. Jones joined IDHS as Director of the Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery (SUPR) on October 19th.

We are excited to have Director Jones join the team and continue the Division’s mission: to provide a system of care along the continuum of prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support where individuals with substance use disorder, those in recovery and those at risk are valued and treated with dignity and where stigma, accompanying attitudes, discrimination, disparities and other barriers to recovery are eliminated. Director Jones is invested in expanding SUPR’s partnership with the Provider network along with people with lived experience. Goals include increasing mobile treatment services, connecting treatment with the social or vital determinants of health and expanding the incorporation of evidenced informed as well as evidenced based practices.

Opioid Response Network Collaboration:

Join the Opioid Response Network (ORN) Virtual Community Collaboration (VCC) to discuss building capacity in four counties in Eastern Illinois (Vermillion, Edgar, Douglas and Coles) to address the opioid epidemic using evidence-based practice.

Live Session 1: November 17, 1-3pm CT
Live Session 2: Jan 12, 1-3pm CT

For more information and to register, please visit: https://forms.gle/G2s6y5PBu0OoQjiHm7

Illinois Gambling Webinars:

Please register for any of the upcoming webinars below by clicking on the title of your preferred training. Details for logging-in and participating in the webinar will follow.

November 10, 2020: Understanding Gamblers Anonymous
December 8, 2020: Gambling and Young Adults/Understanding Youth Gambling
January 5, 2021: Financial Recovery
February 9, 2021: Talk’in ‘Bout My Generation: Generational Differences in Gambling Behavior and Attitudes
March 9, 2021: Older Adults and Problem Gambling
April 13, 2021: Psychosocial Treatments: Motivational Interviewing and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy
May 11, 2021: Women and Gambling
June 15, 2021: Helping Problem Gamblers Cultivate Stress Coping Strategies

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Daily COVID-19 Reporting:
IDHS/SUPR is tracking Person Under Investigation (PUI) and COVID-19 cases for IDHS/SUPR licensed or funded organizations. This information is reported to the SUPR Director to share updates with IDHS leadership. Given the increase in positivity rates around Illinois, it is very important that SUPR maintain an understanding of how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting treatment and intervention services.

SUPR licensed or funded organizations are highly encouraged to report if you have staff or patients and clients or residents who are PUI or positive for COVID-19. There is no need to share names, you only need to report numbers. In addition, your organization only needs to share information when there are new cases to report.

As a reminder, IDHS/SUPR is tracking:
1. How many- by staff and patients, clients and residents- are Person Under Investigations cases?
2. How many- by staff and patients, clients and residents- are positive for COVID-19?
3. If it is a residential facility licensed to provide Level 3.1, 3.2, 3.5, 3.7 or recovery home services- what is the total number of beds?

Please email the information to Kim Fornero, Administrator of Compliance and Monitoring, at Kimberly.Fornero@illinois.gov daily. If you have any questions, please contact Kim Fornero. We greatly appreciate your assistance with tracking this important information!

How Right Now Initiative
The How Right Now initiative aims to address people’s feelings of grief, loss and worry during the COVID-19 pandemic. It offers information and support to help people cope and be resilient during this time. This initiative is made possible with funding through the CDC Foundation. Visit www.howrightnow.org to explore the resources.

SAMHSA COVID-19 Training & Technical Assistance:
The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is committed to providing regular training and technical assistance (TTA) on matters related to the mental and substance use disorder field as they deal with COVID-19. View the updated TTA resources here.

Talk, They Hear You Campaign:
The Talk, They Hear You campaign is a SAMHSA prevention project that has a variety of resources for parents to help them continue the substance use prevention conversion with their youth. To explore the resources, visit https://www.samhsa.gov/underage-drinking.

Let’s Talk Cannabis Illinois:
Visit the Let’s Talk Cannabis Illinois website (https://www.prevention.org/lets-talk-cannabis/) for fact sheets that can be downloaded and copies for targeted populations such as parents and pregnant and breast feeding women.

Free Mutual Aid Group for Illinois Frontline Staff:
Frontline staff are facing unprecedented stressors during the COVID-19 pandemic. Join Advocates for Human Potential for a free mutual aid group to share experiences, feel supported and get resources. 

When: Tuesdays at 12pm (CT)
Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC):

Celebrating a successful two years would not be complete without thanking the ROSC Councils for their undying and positive work in communities around the state! This program established networked, geographically distributed ROSC Councils that assist communities with building local Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care. To learn more about our ROSC Councils, visit www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=117096.

This month we are celebrating the fall kick-off for Cohorts one and two! We currently have active applications for another nine ROSC Councils across the state, moving our geographical coverage area to approximately 30 counties which includes several in Cook! Well done ROSC partners!

Recovery Residences Registry

The IDHS/SUPR Recovery Residence Registry has been moved to the Illinois Helpline for Opioids and Other Substances at https://helplineil.org/ to streamline searches, rather than looking in a separate place for recovery residence information. Information in the registry helps IDHS/SUPR better understand recovery residences’ capacity and support for Medication Assisted Recovery. If you partner with a residence that is not listed, please invite them to register and/or contact Jennifer.Jennings@illinois.gov to list the organization. Search the recovery residences registry at https://helplineil.org/app/account/opa_result.

OCR Updates:

As of September 30, 2020, 25,428 persons with opioid use disorder (OUD) have been served through these Opioid Crisis Response (OCR) Grants. Updated OCR accomplishments are summarized each month at http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=105980.

Smart Alerts and Other Communications:

DHS Coronavirus:
http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=123118

SAMHSA COVID-19: samhsa.gov/coronavirus
The health, safety and well-being of all those we serve are amongst our highest priorities. Please visit the State of Illinois Coronavirus page at https://coronavirus.illinois.gov

Summary of SUPR Resources During the COVID-19 Pandemic:
https://www.dhs.state.il.us/OneNetLibrary/27896/documents/IDHS-SUPR_Coronavirus_Summary_Index.pdf

Smart Alerts:
http://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=42567

• IDHS/SUPR Recovery Residences Registry Has Been Moved!

SUPR COVID-19 Communications: