Winnebago County Overdose Fatality Review

Summary
Winnebago County was one of six counties selected to receiving funding, training, and support to develop a drug overdose fatality review program. In response to an increasing number of drug overdose deaths, this cross-sector, county-wide partnership seeks to identify innovative prevention strategies that create real change in the systems that touch the lives of our community members impacted by substance use. The team will begin monthly overdose death reviews spring of 2018.

Funding
Funding, training, and support are provided by Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health and Wisconsin Department of Justice through an award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Other funded counties include Dane, La Crosse, Kenosha, Milwaukee, and Sauk.

Current Overdose Fatality Review Team Member Agencies:

- Addiction Medical Solutions of Wisconsin (AMS)
- Ascension
- Aurora Medical Center of Oshkosh
- City of Menasha Health Department
- City of Menasha Police Department
- City of Oshkosh Fire Department
- City of Oshkosh Police Department
- Fox Crossing Police Department
- Gold Cross Ambulance Service
- Lake Winnebago Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group
- Neenah Police Department
- Nova Counseling Services
- Omro Police Department
- Oshkosh Area School District
- Partnership Community Health Center
- Solutions Recovery, Inc.
- ThedaCare
- University of Wisconsin Oshkosh Police Department
- Village of Winneconne Police Department
- Winnebago County Coroner’s Office
- Winnebago County Health Department
- Winnebago County Human Services Department
- Winnebago County Office of District Attorney
- Winnebago County Safe Streets Committee
- Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office

Support Team
Dr. Jennifer Skolaski, PhD, of Community & Nonprofit Leadership Consulting, serves as a consultant for the program, supporting its development and convening and facilitating the team. Winnebago County Health Department serves as the fiscal agent for the grant and provides a team of staff to support the program.

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Current Efforts

- This effort does not exist in isolation. There are many partnerships and efforts already occurring within our community. This program offers an opportunity to develop new, innovative, cross-sector strategies and guide our community’s energy and resources.

- Partners have been convening to address the local substance use issue for many years. Many of the partners on the Overdose Fatality Review Team are members of the Winnebago County Drug and Alcohol Coalition. The coalition supports this effort in three primary ways:
  - Coalition members identified the grant opportunity and wrote the application
  - Existing relationships within the coalition laid the foundation for a successful grant application and will support the review process
  - Coalition provides structure and capacity for implementing prevention strategies identified through the review process

Process

Team will meet monthly beginning spring of 2018 to review all Winnebago County fatal drug overdoses.

- Facilitated inter-agency data sharing and strategic discussions allow for the identification of missed opportunities for intervention and prevention on a case-by-case basis.

- By capturing themes that emerge across cases, the team will develop and improve targeted strategies that address overdose deaths, overdoses and substance use in Winnebago County.

- Partners at the table and in the community will implement the strategies, leading to real change in the systems that touch the lives of the people impacted by substance use.

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