

**Opioid Response Metrics and Targets to Support
the Paterson Coalition for Opioid Assessment and Response (COAR)
Applicant: City of Paterson, New Jersey / Criteria: PA1**

COAR Members

Executive Working Group

Paterson Police Department
Paterson Health & Human Services
Passaic County Prosecutor's Office
Passaic County Health & Human Services
St. Joseph's Health Medical Center
Health Coalition of Passaic County

Data-Sharing Specific Collaborators

Paterson Fire Department (via Emergency Medical Services Division)
Paterson Innovation Team
US DEA HIDTA

Documentation of Strategic Plan on this Topic

Paterson is fortunate to have been awarded resources through four separate grant opportunities, each focused on supporting data-driven solutions to address and combat the opioid crisis in its jurisdiction. The City is, therefore, beholden to metrics and tracking progress among each respective program. Mayor Andre Sayegh had this to say regarding its recent influx of opioid-specific resources, "[Paterson plans to] work proactively to tackle this ongoing crisis in our community...patrolling on foot and by car opioid/open-air markets to identify those who may be in need of rehabilitation services, as well as distributing educational materials outlining available services individuals can access. The ultimate goal is to disrupt the cycle of addiction before an overdose or arrest." ([Source](#))

The four grants in question are time-bound with program-specific scopes of work and metrics/measures:

1. Opioid Response Team (ORT)
 - a. Sub-awarded by NJ Office of the Attorney General in October 2019
 - b. Budget: \$150,000
 - c. Timeline: October 2019 through June 2021 (one-year extension is pending with DOJ)
 - d. Scope: To develop teams of EMS, Police, and Social Services personnel trained to proactively approach those seeking information on addiction services. Such services will be available on a 24/7 basis.
 - e. Partners: Police, EMS, HHS
2. Partnerships to Support Data-Driven Responses to Emerging Drug Threats
 - a. Awarded by Institute for Intergovernmental Relations in October 2019
 - b. Budget: \$600,000
 - c. Timeline: October 2019 through December 2022
 - d. Scope: To develop a working coalition that hosts monthly meetings and a higher-education evaluation partner in order to discuss policies and evaluate data sets related to the opioid crisis. Post-data collection/planning period, these meetings are used as a mechanism/forum to formulate pilot projects to address the crisis on-the-ground.
 - e. Partners: All COAR Executive Team Members (listed above), as well as inclusion of local stakeholders, such as community members/leaders and treatment/service providers.
3. Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) Statewide Expansion and Response
 - a. Sub-awarded NJ Office of the Attorney General in June 2020
 - b. Budget: \$135,910
 - c. Timeline: September 2019 through December 2022
 - d. Scope: To support any technology innovations/personnel needed to establish and operate an ODMAP reporting tool within the City's jurisdiction.
 - e. Partners: Police, EMS

4. Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP)
 - a. Awarded by US Department of Justice in October 2020
 - b. Budget: \$900,000
 - c. Timeline: September 2020 through August 2023
 - d. Scope: To support/continue data collection, expand pilot projects, and support internal capacity to manage all relative grants on behalf of the COAR team.
 - e. Partners: All COAR Executive Team Members (listed above)

Performance Goals/Data Needed to Support the City’s Strategic Plan on this Topic

1. **Increase the percentage of overdose victims from a targeted area (where Paterson witnesses the highest concentration of overdoses in the city) that gain access/information to treatment services post-overdose incident**

Problem: There is a gap in referral to opioid treatment services for those who need it most. This gap results when overdose victims refuse hospitalization. Overdose victims who accept hospitalization have the opportunity to benefit from bed-side outreach in a proactive attempt to connect them to treatment services [a program hosted by COAR partner St. Joseph’s Health Medical Center, known as the Opioid Overdose Recovery Program (OORP)]; those who refuse are not readily contacted by such service providers, thus they do not get first-hand knowledge of the local resources at their disposal.

Intervention: A proactive outreach strategy to reach overdose victims that refused hospital treatment is in process. The scope is to have no less than three specially-trained outreach team members proactively call/locate victims who had refused medical care in order to discuss treatment and case management/support program options. Proactive outreach will be targeted to victims who overdosed within the COAR-identified target area (i.e. physical area where the City sees the highest concentrations overdose events) and refused hospitalization.

Metric	2020 Baseline	Target	Timeframe
Total number of overdose events city-wide that were able to be mapped	1,468	N/A	N/A
Number of overdose events in target area that were able to be mapped	307	N/A	N/A
% of overdose victims from target area that were hospitalized and eligible for OORP resources	78.8% (242 total)	85%	Achieve by 12/2022
% of overdose victims from target area that refused hospitalization	20.5% (63 total)	15%	Achieve by 12/2022
% of overdose victims from target area connected with treatment providers even if they originally refused hospitalization	0%	50%	Achieve by 12/2022

**Note: The remaining 0.7% of all overdoses in the project area in 2020 were considered to be Dead-on-Arrival (2 total). Please note that this data set only includes cases that were able to be mapped and geographically confirmed. A total of 213 overdose cases from 2020 were not able to be mapped.*

2. Reduce the percentage of repeat overdoses city-wide through proactive prevention measures

Problem: Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) services as an alternative to addiction are not currently normalized in Paterson, despite data that shows MAT yields a higher success rate than traditional abstinence/detox methods [75% of all those entering a buprenorphine (MAT) regime and provided counseling were sober after one year post-overdose; 0% of all those on a placebo and provided counseling were sober after one year post-overdose].

Intervention: Normalize MAT through proactive outreach, thorough education, and provision of fruitful/reliable referral points (i.e. clear direction on hours of operation for each viable support network/provider). The hope is that this mindset permeates all facets of users, so that those who have never overdosed would still have the knowledge and encouragement to seek MAT, avoiding overdose altogether. The more direct goal is to assure MAT awareness and treatment options provided to those who have already overdosed and are at risk for a repeat overdose. For those who are hospitalized, this information reaches them through the OORP program; for those who refused hospitalization, this information will reach them through the above-described proactive outreach strategy.

Metric	2020 Baseline	Target	Timeframe
Total number of overdose events city-wide where victim was identifiable	1,573	N/A	Achieve by 12/2022
% of confirmed repeat overdose events within calendar year 2020	32% (503 total)	20%	Achieve by 12/2022

**Note: Data accounts for all EMS and Police Department runs to identifiable individuals who overdosed more than one time in calendar year 2020; data does not include repeats that happened over a multi-year period, nor does it include John Doe or otherwise unidentifiable cases. The total number of overdose calls city-wide in 2020, including John Doe and otherwise unidentifiable cases, equals 1,907.*