Southside Healing Space

Presented by

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Buncombe County Commissioners Briefing

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Opioid Settlement FY24-FY26 Recommendations: A Dual Approach

Prioritize life-saving and harm-reducing measures today

Fatal Overdose Emergency Response

- Collaborative goal setting, objective identification, & prioritization
- Real-time information sharing
- Streamlined & consistent messaging

MAT Expansion

- Expand access to MAT in high impact areas
- Streamline data across County MAT programs

Acute Response Resources

- Fund **Recovery Support Services** to address Social Determinants of Health
- Fund **Naloxone Distribution** & Community Education

Invest in prevention and longer-term planning to address root causes of substance use

Early Intervention

- Invest in youth voice and leadership
- Education & awareness-raising
- Community-based resources (e.g. youth peer support programs)

Employment-Related Services

- Holistic care models support job readiness in treatment/shelter settings
- Employer collaboration to promote hiring & recovery-friendly workplaces

Recovery Housing

- Support housing providers in meeting best-practice quality benchmarks
- Create opportunities to expand evidence-based housing options

Fatal Overdose Response Team

- Objectives
  - Increase points of access to connection, building relationships, meeting people where they are.
  - Increase awareness and education to address the harms of stigma and community resources.
  - Increase education, awareness, and technical support to decrease barriers to the intake process and access to MOUD through provider agencies.
    - Create culturally informed strategies to ensure education, access to life-saving treatments and trust-building in disparately impacted communities

North Carolina Reports 22% Increase In Overdose Deaths

NCDHHS Continues Fight Against Overdose Epidemic

Overdose Death Rates by Year and Race, Increase from 2019 to 2021

Race	2019 rate	2021 rate	Increase
American Indian/Indigenous	43.3	94.1	117%
Black/African American	16.1	38.5	139%
White	27.4	42.0	53%

Deaths per 100,000 residents; Non-Hispanic

Hope & Healing Campaign

- Enhanced Video and Audio advertising
  - Stories of Substance Use Disorder & Recovery









Southside Healing Space

Where Every Journey Finds its Strength

Dogwood Health Trust Grant Key Activities

- Awarded $510,000 for 2 years.
- Opening, staffing, and building community awareness of a community-located safe place for individuals to seek support, resources, and mutual aid.
- Combating negative stereotypes and stigmatization associated with mental health problems and substance use disorder.
- Connecting individuals and families to culturally competent treatment providers



Brown Temple CME

Southside Healing Space

Services

- Services Provided
  - Peer support specialists/Community Health Workers
    - Onsite
    - In Community
  - Psychoeducation and Wellness activities
  - Access to local supports and resources

Outcomes

- Success Indicators
  - Level of Engagement
    - *# of unique individuals accessing the healing space*
  - Impact on Combating Negative Stereotypes and Stigmatization
    - *% change Community Survey measuring Internalized Stigma of Mental Illness Inventory (ISMI)*
  - Impact on Connecting to Treatment
    - *#, type, and mode of referrals*

On the Horizon

- Soft Opening June 24th
  - Brown Temple CME Church, 32 Phifer St. Asheville, NC 28801
  - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 10 AM-6 PM
- Grand Opening Late Summer
- Quarterly Updates to Dogwood Health Trust on Success Indicators
- One year staff report to the BOCC on progress and Success Indicators



Discussion