



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT**

# Public Health: Responding to the Opioid Epidemic

Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD

Director

*Code Blue! The State of Texas Healthcare*

August 17, 2018

# Joint Opioid Taskforce

- Judge Nelson Wolff and Mayor Ron Nirenberg, convened the Joint Opioid Overdose Prevention Task Force in June 2017
- Goal to address the increase in opioid overdose deaths in Bexar County and San Antonio
- The Task Force held its first meeting August 8, 2017 and will present its final report in September

# Taskforce Workgroups

- Naloxone - expand the availability and use of naloxone
- Provider Education - improve training for providers on evidence-based opioid prescribing and the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP)
- Community Education - educate community on safe disposal of prescribed opioids and risks of heroin and other opioids
- Treatment - improve access/navigation of treatment services for addiction

# Naloxone – Update

- Secured two grants to expand access to naloxone
- Monitoring the use of naloxone in the community and mapping EMS utilization by zip code
- Purchased \$1 million of naloxone for distribution

## *Goals by September, 2018*

- Naloxone trainings for law enforcement and community
- Deployment of reversal tracking database to evaluate naloxone distribution program



# Provider Education – Update

- Opioid trainings curriculum map for medical students
- San Antonio Substance Use Symposium
- Launch of the “Get Waivered SA” website
- Discussions with HASA to link to the PMP

## *Goals by September, 2018*

- Provider education about the required use of the TX PMP in 2019
- Increase the number of MAT waived prescribers



# Community Education – Update

- Map of permanent drug drop off locations
- Distribution of Deterra®
- SACADA Youth prevention toolkit and videos developed for use by ISDs

## *Goals by September, 2018*

- Treatment map for the community
- Work with naloxone group on community trainings
- Share toolkit and videos in community settings for wider use



Your safe and easy way to dispose of unwanted medicines.

# Treatment – Update

- Identified existing treatment providers
- Explored treatment options and selected a federal framework to determine which treatment options will be mapped



## *Goals by September, 2018*

- Work with Community Education Workgroup to develop treatment map for the community
- Work with Task Force to prepare “shovel-ready” grant ideas for rapid submission

# Additional Interest Groups

- **Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS)**
  - Exploring treatment and recovery options
- **Syringe Services Programs**
  - Hosted a Syringe Services Summit in May
  - Hosted a “how to” training in July
  - Plan launch of map of Syringe Services Programs in October





Thank you. Any Questions?



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO  
**METROPOLITAN HEALTH DISTRICT**

Colleen M. Bridger, MPH, PhD  
Director