

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Behavioral Health/Bureau of Substance Abuse
Opioid Update for Wednesday, March 6, 2019

The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics to Julie Jones at julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov.

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Department News

AmeriCorps Update

IDPH currently has half time, quarter time, and minimal time member slots available in the IDPH AmeriCorps Substance Abuse Prevention Program. These positions are perfect for summer projects. Members can serve any amount of time from May 1, 2019, through November 30, 2019. As part of AmeriCorps, members can:

- Help with mentor and volunteer recruitment
- Enhance, improve or commence program sustainability and growth
- Train volunteers and mentors, and assist with curriculum development
- Enhance and improve parent and family engagement
- Assist and take lead on special projects and initiatives
- Plan, organize and facilitate community based education on substance abuse prevention
- Help establish recovery community organizations and other prevention programs throughout the state
- Create, enhance, improve volunteer recruitment programs, policies and procedures

This program year, AmeriCorps members will be focusing their efforts on the opioid and prescription drug misuse epidemic within the state of Iowa. The IDPH AmeriCorps Substance Abuse Prevention Program will focus on theory of change around education, community engagement and capacity building. These three components together address the needs outlined and impact the long-term goal of reducing substance use and addressing opioid and prescription drug abuse.

The next application deadline is March 14, 2019.

To learn more about AmeriCorps positions, please click on the following link: [AmeriCorps](#). For more information on funding opportunities, please go to [IowaGrants.Gov](#).

Reminder Regarding Treatment Licensure Revisions

Licensed substance use disorder treatment programs, which include opioid treatment programs, are required to provide the division with written notification prior to making a revision to an issued license. The written request shall be submitted to the division at least 30 days prior to any change of address, executive director, clinical oversight staff, facility or licensed program services. The division will determine if the requested revision can be approved or if the change is significant enough to require the submission of an application for license renewal by the licensee.

For more information regarding written requests, please contact Lori Hancock-Muck at lori.hancock-muck@idph.iowa.gov.

IDPH Receives ASTHO Funding Opportunity

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)'s Planning for National and State Viral Hepatitis Elimination Program awarded funds to the IDPH Bureau of HIV, STD and Hepatitis for an innovative project in partnership with the Bureau of Substance Abuse. The three main components of the project include gathering feedback from populations of lowans who are disproportionately impacted by hepatitis C virus (people who inject drugs); implementing hepatitis C testing at substance use disorder treatment facilities; and providing patient navigation services to lowans diagnosed with hepatitis C to improve linkage to medical care and treatment.

For more information regarding this funding opportunity, please contact Joe Caldwell at joe.caldwell@idph.iowa.gov.

Iowa News

Current Opioid Related Legislation

Several bills have been introduced this legislative session that involve opioid-related efforts. Some of those that are still active include:

House File 208

An act relating to substance use disorder prevention and treatment, including creating an excise tax on the gross receipts of certain controlled substances sold at wholesale and an opioid abuse prevention and treatment fund, making appropriations and providing penalties.

House File 580

An act relating to the establishment of a needle exchange pilot program by the Iowa Department of Public Health.

House Study Bill 200

An act relating to prior authorization for medication assisted treatment under the Medicaid program.

Senate File 122

An act relating to a prohibition against prior authorization for medication-assisted treatment under the Medicaid program.

Senate File 178

An act relating to the criminal offense of manufacturing, delivering, selling or possessing drug paraphernalia by exempting hypodermic needles or syringes delivered, sold or possessed through an approved needle exchange program.

Opioid News

ASAM Opioid Addiction Treatment Guide for Patients, Families and Friends

The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) has created a patient guide that provides information on assessment, treatment overview (including treatment plans, patient participation and counseling), and all the medications available to treatment opioid use and overdose. It also provides links to find a provider and support groups for patients and families.

This guide is a useful tool for clinicians to provide to their patients and their families, along with a resource for pharmacies and patient groups looking to inform people about their options to treat the challenging disease of addiction involving opioid use.

To access the guide, please click on the following link: [ASAM](#)

Upcoming Trainings

- **NatCon19**
March 25-27, 2019.
For more information, please click on the following link: [Nashville](#).
- **Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse**
April 16-17, 2019
For more information, please click on the following link: [Des Moines](#).
- **National Rx Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit**
April 22-25, 2019.
For more information, please click on the following link: [Atlanta](#).