



# Data-Driven Initiatives: Examples from the Community

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October 25, 2022

**RHODE  
ISLAND**

# Agenda

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- Welcome and Introductions (1:00 p.m. – 1:05 p.m.)
- Background and Overview (1:05 p.m. – 1:25 p.m.)
- Small Group Workshops (1:25 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.)
  - Session One: 1:25 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.
  - Session Two: 1:50 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
- Group Discussion and Q&A (2:15 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.)
- Next steps (2:25 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.)

# Welcome and Introductions

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# Overview: Guiding Principles of Race Equity and Sustainability

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Associate Director of Health, RIDOH

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Lead Administrator for Prevention and Recovery  
Services, BHDDH

# State's Allocation: Guiding Principles for Decision-Making

To guide decisions for use of these funds, the state's Opioid Settlement Committee agreed to:

## Spend money to save lives.

It may be tempting to use the dollars to fill holes in existing budgets rather than expand needed programs, but the Committee should use the funds to add to rather than replace existing spending.

## Use evidence to guide spending.

At this point in the overdose epidemic, researchers, clinicians, and community partners have built a substantial body of evidence demonstrating what works and what does not. States and localities should use this information to make funding decisions.

## Invest in youth prevention.

Support children, youth, and families by making long-term investments in effective programs and strategies for community change.

## Focus on racial equity.

This process should be guided by public health leaders with the active engagement of people and families with lived experience, clinicians, as well as other

## Develop a fair and transparent process for funding recommendations.

This process should be guided by public health leaders with the active engagement of people and families with lived experience, clinicians, as well as other key groups.

## Consider future sustainability in all recommendations.

Although there may be some on-time funding recommendations, the Committee should consider the financial sustainability of all investments and try to plan for investments that can be sustained long-term.

*\*The first five items are paraphrased and summarized from the Johns Hopkins' "The Principles To Guide Jurisdictions In The Use Of Funds From The Opioid Litigation, We Encourage The Adoption Of Five Guiding Principles".*

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# Race and Health Equity

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**Health Equity:** the idea that everyone has a fair opportunity to be healthy and get the quality care they need.

**Racial Equity:** the presence of deliberate policies and practices that provide everyone with the support they need to improve the quality of their lives.

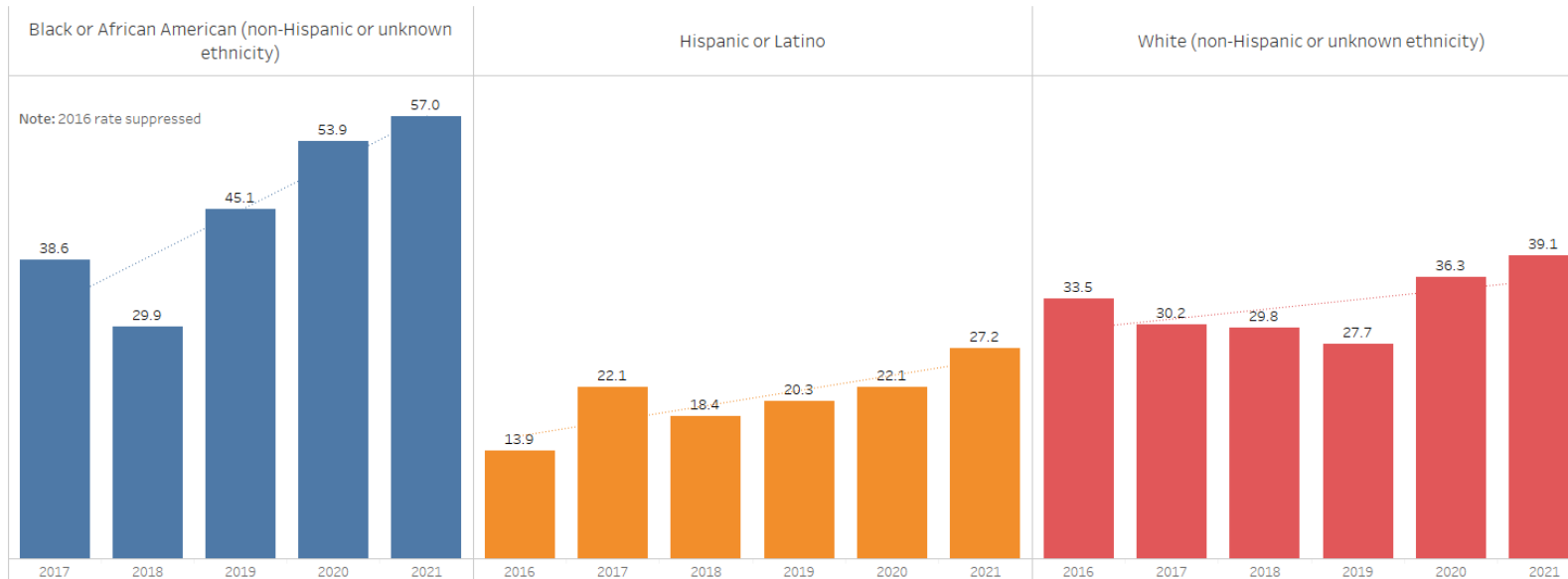
- ▶ Inequities in drug overdose deaths continue to worsen for people of color.
- ▶ Black residents in Rhode Island have faced higher rates of overdose death each year compared to other groups.

# Race and Health Equity

- ▶ Addressing structural racism is foundational to reversing the local drug overdose epidemic.

Overdose Death Rate per 100,000 person-years by **Race and Ethnicity**, 2016 to 2021

Note: Due to approximately 7% of deaths missing ethnicity from 2016 to 2021, Hispanic deaths may be undercounted. Independent of Hispanic ethnicity status, the health disparities when comparing White and Black individuals remain.



Note: Rates are calculated using CDC WONDER single-race population estimates for each year. 2019 estimates applied for 2020 rates. The rate is the number of deaths, divided by the total population for each category, multiplied by 100,000.  
Note: Hispanic or Latino includes people who identify as any race. All other racial and ethnic groups include people who identify as non-Hispanic ethnicity or have unknown ethnicity.  
Note: People whose race was "Unknown" or "Asian" have been excluded.  
Note: Data are limited to accidental drug overdose deaths pronounced in Rhode Island among Rhode Island residents.  
Note: Some data have been suppressed due to unstable rates.  
Note: Dashed lines represent linear trends over each 5-year period.



# Health Equity Institute



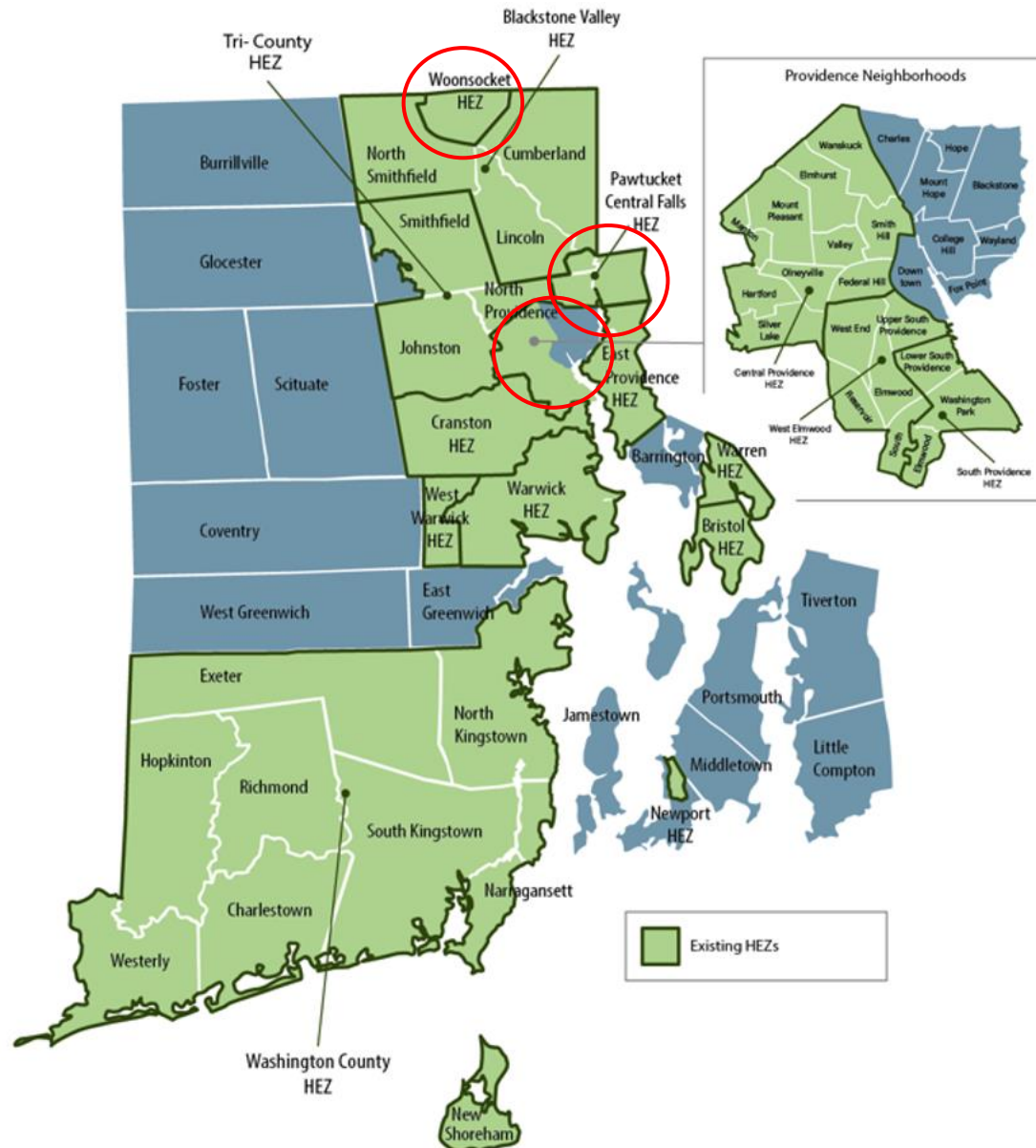
**Mission:** To collaborate with Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) staff, state leaders, and community partners to ensure every Rhode Islander has a fair and just opportunity to be healthy.

## What we do:

- ▶ Identify the root causes of uneven health outcomes across population groups.
- ▶ Collaborate with partners to address those root causes.
- ▶ Monitor Rhode Island's progress toward more equitable outcomes for all.

For more information, visit: [https://health.ri.gov/programs/detail.php?pgm\\_id=1099](https://health.ri.gov/programs/detail.php?pgm_id=1099)

# Rhode Island Health Equity Zones (HEZ)



**HEZ:** place-based, community-led solutions to address the social determinants of health.

- ▶ 15 collaboratives across the state
- ▶ Circled towns have existing CODE (Community Overdose Engagement) Collaboratives
  - Providence
  - Pawtucket/Central Falls
  - Woonsocket
- ▶ CODE collaboratives use state and local data to drive strategies to address the overdose crisis

# Get Involved



## The Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Taskforce

- ▶ A coalition of professionals and community members statewide with the goal of preventing overdoses and saving lives.

### Task Force Meetings:

- ▶ The Task Force meets monthly from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month.

Join Zoom Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/97783841890>

Zoom Meeting ID: 977 8384 1890

Dial In: 646-558-8656

For more information and to join a workgroup, please visit: <https://preventoverdoseri.org/the-task-force/>

# Get Involved



## The Governor’s Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force Work Groups

Task Force Work Groups	State Co-Chair	Community Co-Chair
Prevention	<b>Tara Cooper</b> (EOHHS) <b>Elizabeth Farrar</b> (BHDDH)	<b>Obed Papp</b> , City of Providence Healthy Communities Office
Rescue	<b>Jennifer Koziol</b> , (RIDOH)	<b>Michelle McKenzie</b> , Preventing Overdose and Naloxone Intervention (PONI)
Harm Reduction	<b>Katie Howe</b> (RIDOH)	<b>Katelyn Case</b> , AIDS Care Ocean State
Treatment	<b>Linda Mahoney</b> (BHDDH)	<b>Dr. Susan Hart</b>
Recovery	<b>Candace Rodgers</b> (BHDDH)	<b>George O’Toole</b> , Recovery Community Co-chair
First Responder	<b>TBD</b> (RIDOH)	<b>Chief John Silva</b> , North Providence Fire Department
Racial Equity	<b>Monica Tavares</b> (RIDOH)	<b>Dennis Bailer</b> , Project Weber/RENEW <b>Alexis Morales</b> , Project Weber/RENEW
Substance Exposed Newborn (SEN)	<b>Margo Katz</b> (RIDOH) <b>Kristy Whitcomb</b> (RIDOH)	<b>Michelle Sherman</b> , South County Home Health First Connections Program
Family Work Group	<b>Trisha Suggs</b> (BHDDH)	<b>Laurie MacDougall</b> , Resources Education Support Together (REST) Family Program at Rhode Island Community for Addiction Recovery Efforts (RICARES)

For more information and to join a workgroup, please visit: <https://preventoverdoseri.org/task-force-work-groups/>

# State Websites



## RIDOH Drug Overdose Surveillance Data Hub:

<https://ridoh-overdose-surveillance-rihealth.hub.arcgis.com/>

- Deep dive into state and local data
- Access municipal-level data reports, past presentations, and heat maps
- Data can be downloaded

### RIDOH's Drug Overdose Surveillance Data Hub

Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)'s Drug Overdose Surveillance Data Hub provides several sources of non-fatal and fatal overdose data with a special focus on municipal, county, and statewide trends. This Data Hub is managed by the Substance Use Epidemiology Program.

RIDOH's Overdose Surveillance Data Hub features the following:



Biosurveillance



Emergency  
Department Visits



Emergency Medical  
Service Runs



Integrated  
Surveillance System



Overdose Fatalities



Prescription Drug  
Monitoring  
Program

The Data Hub adheres to a [Small Numbers Reporting Policy](#) to ensure the confidentiality of individual identities. Data are suppressed when counts are fewer than five. The time period of analyses may vary depending on the data source, data availability, and counts. Some data sources are updated more frequently than others.

The Data Hub works together with the state's overdose information dashboard, [PreventOverdoseRI.org](https://PreventOverdoseRI.org) (PORI), to create a holistic view of how opioids and

# State Websites

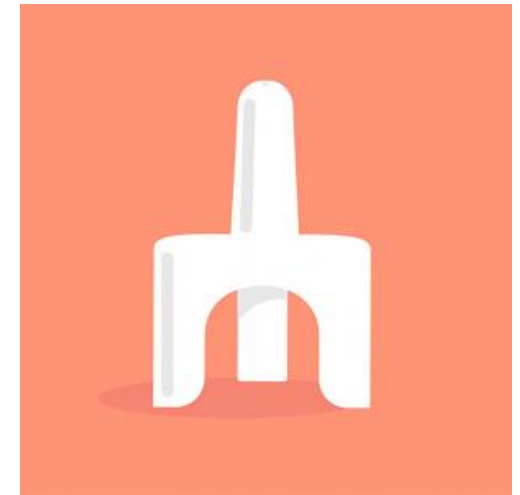


Naloxone Request for Community Partners:

<https://surveys.health.ri.gov/redcap/surveys/?s=READ>

[AWTCRT](#)

- Use this link to order free naloxone for community distribution



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# Sustainability

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## Rhode Island sustains substance use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery activities through diversified funding:

- Substance Abuse Prevention Treatment (SAPT) Block Grant
- Discretionary grants from SAMHSA
  - State Opioid Response (SOR) grant:
- Discretionary grants from CDC
  - Drug-Free Communities (DFC) grant
  - Community Overdose Engagement (CODE)
- Other Settlements
  - McKinsey Settlement
  - Opioid Stewardship Dollars
- Medicaid reimbursement for treatment services



# Sustainability

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**Rhode Island sustains substance use disorder prevention, treatment and recovery activities through making short-term investments into long-term programs:**

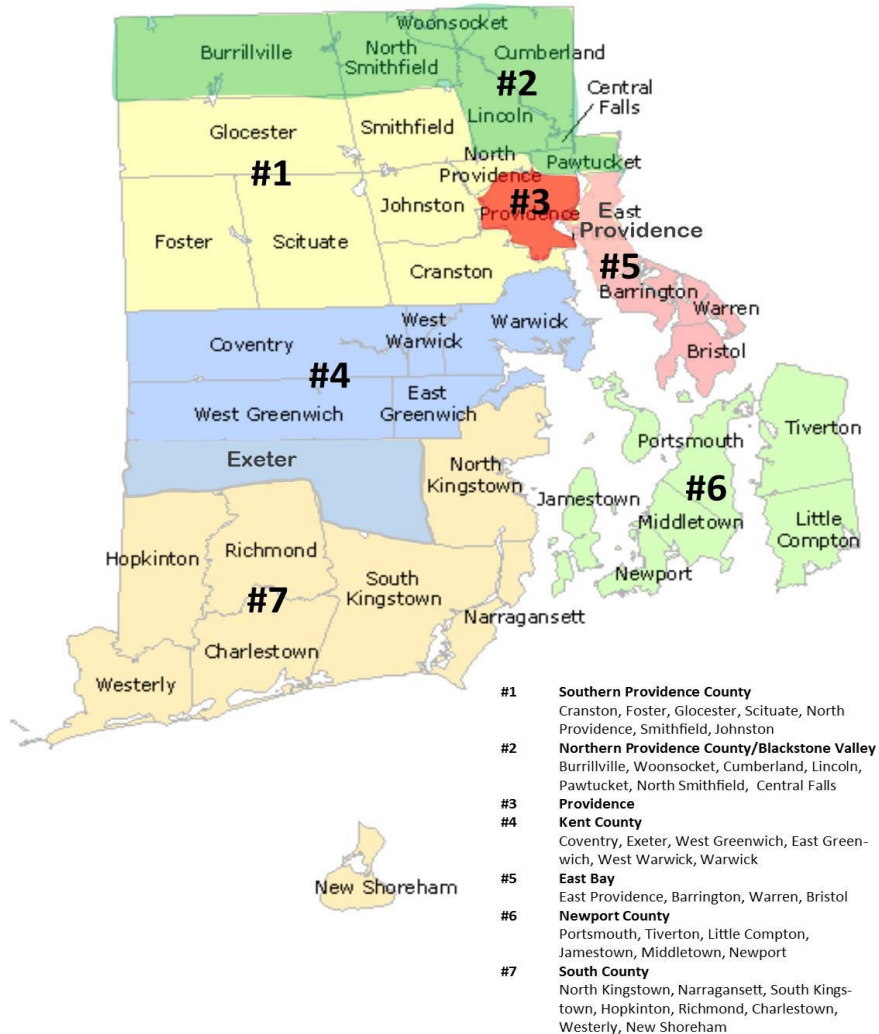
- Training of evidence-based programs
  - Creating web-based training
  - Training-of-trainers (ToT)
  - Multi-disciplinary training
- Building systems-changed through process improvement
- Creating engagement opportunities for previously disenfranchised populations
- Embedding programs within existing systems like SBIRT or academic detailing
- Infrastructure needs
- Link to existing programs that receive other funding

# Rhode Island's Treatment Providers



- Rhode Island Centers of Excellence (COE) are specialty centers that:
  - Use evidence-based practices to provide treatment
  - Coordinate care to individuals with moderate to severe opioid use disorder that need immediate access and/or physician support on complex cases.
    - The goal is to ensure timely access to appropriate Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) services with medications such as Buprenorphine, Methadone or Naltrexone
- An updated list of the state's substance abuse treatment providers can be found here: <https://bhddh.ri.gov/substance-useaddiction/licensed-treatment-providers-0>
  - This list includes detoxification services, residential treatment services, outpatient services, and Centers of Excellence

# Regional Prevention Coalitions (RPCs)



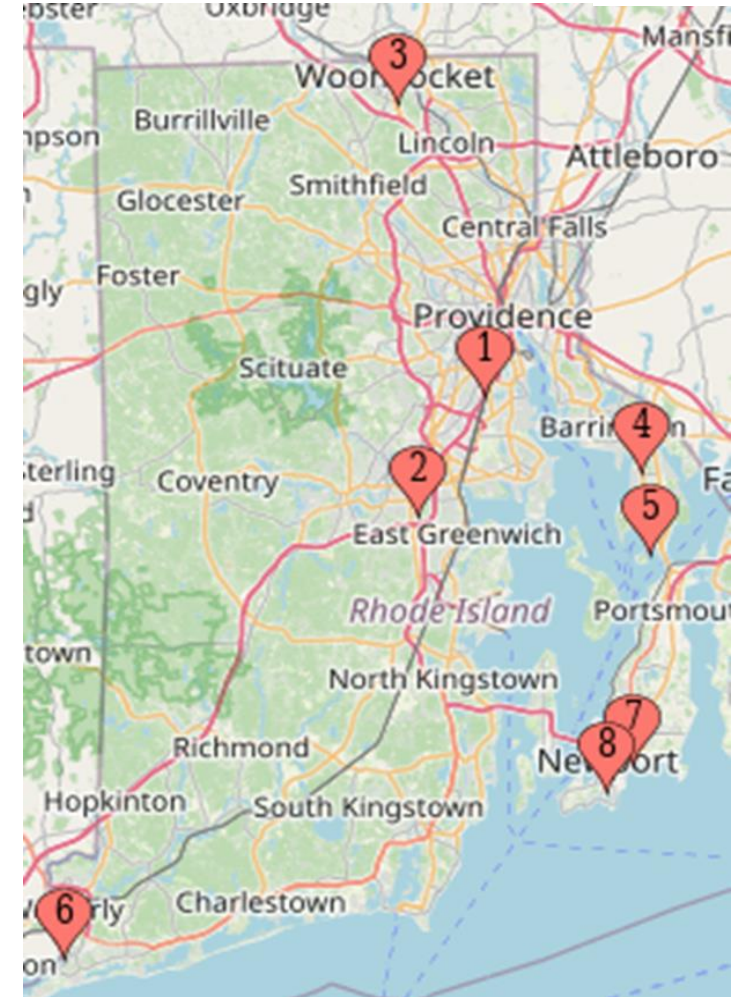
- Groups of dedicated community members and partners working together to provide **evidence-based substance use prevention strategies, mental health promotion and resources**, and advocate for **policies** that support healthy and safe communities
- 7 RPCs that provide statewide coverage: [Rhode Island Regional Prevention Coalitions \(riprevention.org\)](http://riprevention.org)

# Rhode Island's Recovery Community Centers



▶ Recovery community centers provide peer-based recovery supports and activities to help individuals maintain active recovery. They also provide services in Emergency Departments (EDs) and through community outreach.

- ▶ 1: Anchor Recovery Community Center of Providence
- ▶ 2: Anchor Recovery Community Center of Warwick
- ▶ 3: The Serenity Center of Woonsocket
- ▶ 4: East Bay Recovery Center of Warren
- ▶ 5: East Bay Recovery Center of Bristol (part time)
- ▶ 6: Hope Recovery Center of Westerly
- ▶ 7: Hope Recovery Center of Middletown
- ▶ 8: Hope Recovery Center of Newport



# Small Group Workshops

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# Small Group Workshop Overview



<p><b>Session 1: 1:25 p.m. – 1:50 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Choose One:</b></p>	<p><b>Session 2: 1:50 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.</b></p> <p><b>Choose One:</b></p>
<p><b>Engaging with Public Safety and Crisis Response Teams</b></p> <p>Heather Seger, MSW, LICSW, QMHP, <i>RIDOH</i> Major Dennis Leahey (Ret.), <i>Rhode Island Hope Initiative</i></p>	<p><b>Primary Prevention Strategies</b></p> <p>Candace Rodgers, MPH, MCHES, <i>BHDDH</i> Rebecca Elwell, MA, ACPS, <i>Newport County Prevention Coalition</i></p>
<p><b>How to Build Recovery Capital in Your Community</b></p> <p>Cathy Schultz, MPH, <i>RIDOH</i> Candace Rodgers, MPH, MCHES, <i>BHDDH</i></p>	<p><b>Strategies for Harm Reduction</b></p> <p>Cathy Schultz, MPH, <i>RIDOH</i> Katie Howe, MPH, <i>RIDOH</i></p> <p><b>Increasing and Supporting Treatment Expansion in Your Community</b></p> <p>Linda Mahoney, CAADC, LCDCS, <i>BHDDH</i> Alex Donoyan, MBA, <i>VICTA Treatment Program</i></p>

- You will have the opportunity to attend two small group workshops about the topic of your choice.

# Discussion and Q&A

# Next Steps





# Small Group Presenter Contact Information

## Engaging with Public Safety and Crisis Response Teams

Heather Seger, MSW, LICSW, QMHP, *RIDOH*  
[Heather.Seger@health.ri.gov](mailto:Heather.Seger@health.ri.gov)  
Major Dennis Leahey (Ret.), *Rhode Island Hope Initiative*  
[dleahey@rihopeinitiative.com](mailto:dleahey@rihopeinitiative.com)

## How to Build Recovery Capital in Your Community

Cathy Schultz, MPH, *RIDOH*  
[Cathy.Schultz@health.ri.gov](mailto:Cathy.Schultz@health.ri.gov)  
Candace Rodgers, MPH, MCHES, *BHDDH*  
[Candace.Rodgers@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:Candace.Rodgers@bhddh.ri.gov)  
Ian Knowles, *RICARES*  
[iknowles@ricares.org](mailto:iknowles@ricares.org)

## Primary Prevention Strategies

Candace Rodgers, MPH, MCHES, *BHDDH*  
[Candace.Rodgers@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:Candace.Rodgers@bhddh.ri.gov)  
Rebecca Elwell, MA, ACPS, *Newport County Prevention Coalition*  
[elwell@riprevention.org](mailto:elwell@riprevention.org)

## Strategies for Harm Reduction

Cathy Schultz, MPH, *RIDOH*  
[Cathy.Schultz@health.ri.gov](mailto:Cathy.Schultz@health.ri.gov)  
Katie Howe, MPH, *RIDOH*  
[Katharine.Howe@health.ri.gov](mailto:Katharine.Howe@health.ri.gov)  
Katelyn Case, *ACOS*  
[katelync@aidscareos.org](mailto:katelync@aidscareos.org)

## Increasing & Supporting Treatment Expansion in Your Community

Linda Mahoney, CAADC, LCDCS, *BHDDH*  
[Linda.Mahoney@bhddh.ri.gov](mailto:Linda.Mahoney@bhddh.ri.gov)  
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