

# La Junta 2019 Opioid Epidemic Summit

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# Signal's Reach

- Signal, a Colorado nonprofit, in partnership with the Office of Behavioral Health, offers care to clients in need of substance use disorder services throughout Colorado as a part of the MSO system
- Regions of responsibility include Southeastern Colorado
- Offers treatment, recovery, and prevention through our local provider agencies

# MSO System

- Substance Abuse Services Managed Service Organizations (MSO) historically provided only **treatment** services to indigent (300% of FPL)
- Under **SB202**, the MSOs have been able to invest in **recovery** and **prevention** supports, as well as expanding access to treatment.
- Further, the Office of Behavioral Health has partnered with the MSOs to assist in their State plan for the STR and SOR grants, which provide services across the entire continuum

# Major sources of funding for services

- Federal SAMHSA Substance Abuse, Prevention, and Treatment (SAPT) block grant
- Other State-funded programs
- SAMHSA State Targeted Response Grant services for Opioid Epidemic (and upcoming SOR grant)
- Special Connections: Residential Treatment for pregnant women

# SB202

- SB202 is providing increased access to recovery, treatment, and prevention services. Examples in Southeast Colorado and Arkansas Valley:
  - SEMHS detox integration with crisis services
  - Residential and detox support and expansion of services with RESADA
  - Lamar MAT clinic
  - SBIRT in local health practices
  - OpiSafe app support
- This has been one of the most powerful interventions of funding for community-informed SUD services and supports

# Costs of SUD

- \$442 billion annually in **criminal justice, avoidable health care, and economic impact, such as lost productivity**<sup>1</sup>
  - That is **2% of US GDP**
  - US News and World Report called this figure “**economy-wrecking**”<sup>2</sup>
  - According to the CDC, this is approximately **twice** the costs associated with **diabetes**<sup>3</sup>

1. Sacks, J. J., Gonzales, K. R., Bouchery, E. E., Tomedi, L. E., & Brewer, R. D. (2015). 2010 national and state costs of excessive alcohol consumption. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 49(5), e73-e79 and National Drug Intelligence Center. (2011). *National drug threat assessment*. Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.

2. 2016: US News and World Report: The Staggering Costs, Monetary and Otherwise, of Substance Abuse

3. 2014, CDC

## Costs of SUD (Cont'd)

- “Mental health and substance use disorders together were the **leading cause of disease burden** in 2015, surpassing cancer and cardiovascular disease, among others.”<sup>1</sup>
- Unintentional poisonings, mostly from **drug overdoses is 500% more likely** in the US than other comparable developed countries<sup>1</sup>
- Early analysis from HCPF estimates the potentially avoidable costs of SUD at **\$63,000,000 in Colorado**

# Effective strategies

- Evidence shows that early screening works very well, particularly when performed in primary health care encounters, using tools like Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)<sup>1</sup>
- Effective treatment options include withdrawal management, outpatient care, medication-assisted treatment, residential, inpatient
- Ongoing recovery services, drug-free housing, supportive linkages to employment, etc.

1. 2012, NIH: Behavioral counseling after screening for alcohol misuse in primary care: a systematic review and meta-analysis for the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force

# Recent Legislation in Colorado

- 2016 SB202
- 2017 Study commissioned to consider the addition of residential to Medicaid
- 2018 HB1136

# Current Legislation Under Consideration

- Recovery Living Bill (HB1009)
  - Definition of recovery residences
  - Certification for recovery residences
  - Oversight structure for opioid settlement funds

# Current Legislation Under Consideration

- Criminal Justice Legislation (SBoo8)
  - MAT in Jails
  - Directs HCPF to pursue Federal waiver to allow Medicaid to cover individuals who are incarcerated
  - Simplifies cases involves drugs
  - Expands funding for co-responders

# Current Legislation Under Consideration

## Treatment, Prevention, Harm Reduction Bill

- \$5m fund for rural expansion of services
- Capacity availability for consumers and referral sources
- Care coordination
- Streamlines requirements around MAT access for new clients
- Expands drug takebacks
- Expansion of mobile units to support MAT for jails
- Expands research and support
- And many, many other things

# Current Legislation Under Consideration

- Other bills
  - Parity
  - Licensing alignment
  - Access to services for pregnant women
  - MAT expansion in SE Colorado

# Federal Legislation

- STR Grant
- SOR Grant
- 2018 Federal Omnibus bill with dozens of interventions including:
  - Expanded treatment funding
  - Recovery Housing support
  - Residential treatment rule change
  - Privacy law modification

# Q&A