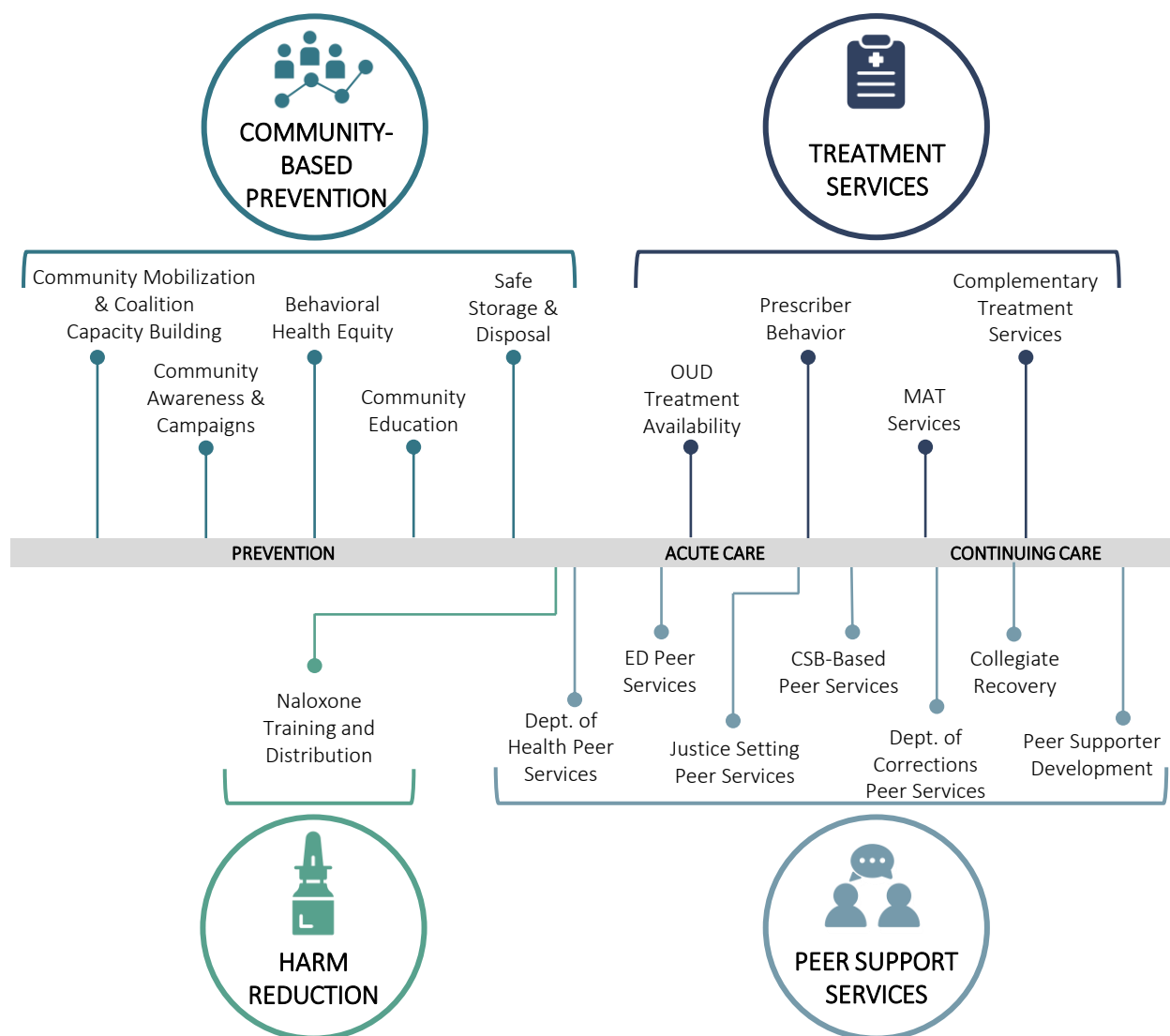


Virginia State Opioid Response Grant 2020-21 Annual Report: Executive Summary

About the State Opioid Response Grant

The State Opioid Response (SOR) grant is distributed by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services (DBHDS). Since 2018, the grant has been distributed to 40 Community Services Boards (CSBs) and other grant partners to address opioid and stimulant use across Virginia. OMNI Institute works with DBHDS as an evaluation partner and created this report to highlight results from the third year of the SOR grant (October 2020 through September 2021).

As shown in the visual below, DBHDS supports several state and local initiatives across the continuum of care to respond to needs and challenges related to opioid and stimulant use disorders and overdose deaths. This report is organized by the four core areas of the continuum of care which DBHDS is funding: community-based prevention, harm reduction, treatment services, and peer support services.





Community Mobilization and Coalition Capacity Building

Coalitions are increasingly effective in driving community prevention efforts, leveraging collaborative partnerships to implement strategies, and mobilizing the community.



- 29** CSBs led from 1 to 5 SOR-funded coalitions.
- 39** SOR-funded coalitions were in place this grant year.
- 1,612** adults and youth participated in these coalitions.
- 25** was the median number of members per coalition, ranging from 8 to 452.

Community Awareness and Campaigns

CSBs and coalitions increased the overall reach of their prevention messaging from prior years by utilizing a variety of established methods of dissemination while also exploring new and innovative ways to share information.



Public Display
targeted

17.9 million

1,061,299 youth
16,921,873 adults



Social Marketing
targeted

6.6 million

264,485 youth
6,372,737 adults



In-Person/Virtual Events
reached

417,993

64,735 youth
353,258 adults



Print Materials
provided to

819,085

25,843 youth
793,242 adults

*Numbers above include duplicate individuals targeted by more than one media messaging campaign. Numbers reported by CSBs for media campaigns often include entire targeted catchment area populations.

Broadcast

- ✓ Cable TV
- ✓ Fueling Station/
Vending Machine
- ✓ Screen Ads
- ✓ Movie Theaters
- ✓ Podcasts
- ✓ Radio

Online

- ✓ Blogs
- ✓ Click-through Ads
- ✓ Online Periodicals
- ✓ Online Videos
- ✓ Social Media
- ✓ Streaming Applications

Direct

- ✓ Promotional items
- ✓ Cell Phones
- ✓ Email
- ✓ Postal Mail
- ✓ Tablets

Print

- ✓ Billboards (including digital)
- ✓ Bus Ads
- ✓ Newspaper
- ✓ Posters/Flyers
- ✓ Rack Cards
- ✓ Rx Bag Stickers

Community Educational Opportunities

CSBs provided various curriculum-based trainings and other educational opportunities throughout their communities, including youth-specific educational programming.

Curriculum-Based Trainings



provided to
7,717
individuals

Provider and Patient Education



provided to
1,428
individuals

Youth-Specific Education








provided to
11,381
individuals



Safe Storage and Disposal

CSBs continued efforts to reduce the supply of opioids in their communities by distributing over 45,000 devices to community members and organizations to safely store and dispose of medications. Drug Take Back events and permanent drug drop boxes provided community-wide opportunities to reduce the supply of prescription drugs.

				
Drug Deactivation Packets	Prescription Drug Lockboxes	Smart Pill Bottles	Permanent Drug Drop Boxes	Drug Take Back Events
30,326	7,958	6,773	1,056,913	15,001
distributed across	distributed across	distributed across	individuals with access across	individuals participated across
34	22	9	10	20
SOR-funded CSBs.	SOR-funded CSBs.	SOR-funded CSBs.	SOR-funded CSBs.	SOR-funded CSBs.

Behavioral Health Equity

In May 2021, DBHDS hosted the third annual Behavioral Health Equity summit, with a focus on promoting health equity through community engagement.



97% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the training **helped them understand trauma-informed communications.**



100% of participants surveyed agreed or strongly agreed that the community engagement workshop **will help them build ongoing relationships with hard-to-reach populations.**



99% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that the training **provided helpful strategies to engage communities of color.**



100% of participants surveyed agreed or strongly agreed that they **will use insights and strategies from the community engagement workshop in their own work.**

SOR funding supported expanded prevention outreach to refugee communities across Virginia. Program staff used a mixture of virtual and in-person formats to deliver workshops, webinars, and multi-day retreats focused on substance use prevention, community/social support, and mental health wellness.



Organizations from **Chesterfield, Harrisonburg, Richmond, Roanoke, and Hampton-Newport News** delivered the programs.



Youth ages **13-18** participated in prevention events and programs.



Program participants included youth from **Afghanistan, Republic of Congo, and Ivory Coast.**





Harrisonburg's Summer Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Program on a field trip to the Library of Congress in Washington, DC.



REVIVE! Training

REVIVE! is the statewide opioid overdose and naloxone education program for Virginia. REVIVE! training is offered to community members, health professionals, law enforcement, emergency medical services, and others interested in preventing and reducing opioid overdoses.

SOR funds have enabled more than 10,000 individuals to gain the skills and knowledge to reverse an opioid overdose.

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Total
 Trainings held:	71	249	508	828
 People trained:	1,140	3,115	6,117	10,372

The number of REVIVE! trainings continued to increase in year 3, resulting in **twice the number of trainings as year 2.**



Bringing REVIVE! to the Community

“Some of the REVIVE! trainings [provided] took place at locally owned gas stations in each of the 7-county catchment area. Partnering with local businesses has allowed us to reach high-risk populations that we may not otherwise reach. Many of the community members who take the Rapid REVIVE! trainings share stories of family members and friends in their community who have overdosed recently and thank us for providing these types of trainings in places that they have access to. Because of the success and positive responses we have been getting from community members and local businesses, we will continue to offer this type of community training in places that are at higher risk.”

– Crossroads CSB

Naloxone Distribution

In the third year of the SOR grant, the Virginia Department of Health distributed 30,736 naloxone kits, bringing the total number of kits distributed over the three years of SOR to 53,164.

The Virginia Department of Health utilized SOR funds to purchase the naloxone kits. 30,736 kits were purchased this year and distributed to the following partners:



In addition, 180 kits were distributed to Department of Corrections locations.



6,488 individuals received SOR-funded treatment services in year 3.

Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Complementary Services

SOR funding provides a wide array of services for thousands of clients each quarter. Throughout the third year of the grant, there was continued growth in the number of people receiving SOR-funded services, shown below by the number of people receiving services each quarter.

MAT Services

Prescription of medications such as buprenorphine for individuals with an opioid use disorder



Oct-Dec '20 Jan-Mar '21 Apr-Jun '21 Jul-Sep '21

Non-MAT Treatment Services

Counseling, psychiatry, crisis support, and other forms of therapeutic support



Oct-Dec '20 Jan-Mar '21 Apr-Jun '21 Jul-Sep '21

Contingency Management

A therapeutic technique used in OUD and stimulant use disorder treatment to support adherence to treatment



Oct-Dec '20 Jan-Mar '21 Apr-Jun '21 Jul-Sep '21

Justice-Based Services

Partnerships between CSBs and justice settings (jails, recovery courts, etc.) have been steadily developing over the course of the grant.

33

Recovery court, jail, or DOC facilities provided SOR-funded **treatment services** this year.

158

people received **MAT services** in a justice setting.

175

people received **other treatment services** in a justice setting. This includes counseling, case management, and other types of treatment services.



Funding MAT Services to Strengthen Outcomes

“SOR treatment funding provides critical support to the medical/MAT department and medication management of the individuals receiving MAT services. SOR funds provided funding for over 82 individuals needing Suboxone, Vivitrol and other psychiatric meds that stabilize their treatment and strengthen their recovery outcomes. Without SOR funds these vital components of OUD and SUD treatment and recovery could not be sustained.”

– Eastern Shore CSB

Client Characteristics

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) survey collects data from individuals receiving SOR-funded treatment services. **A total of 3,352 intake GPRA surveys were completed during the three years of the SOR grant, yielding the following information about participants.**



76% of those screened have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders.



70% have experienced trauma at some point in their life.



88% had been in treatment at least once before. 64% had been in treatment at least twice.

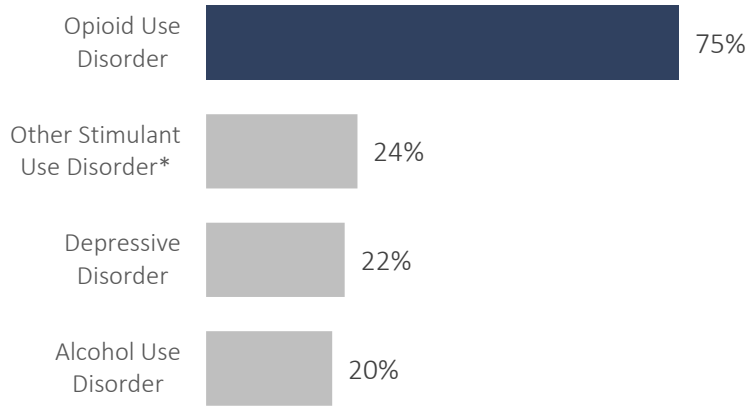


40% referred themselves to treatment and 27% were referred from a justice setting.

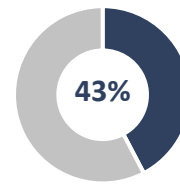
Medication-Assisted Treatment



Opioid use disorders were the most frequently reported diagnoses.



*Any stimulant use disorder besides cocaine-related disorders.

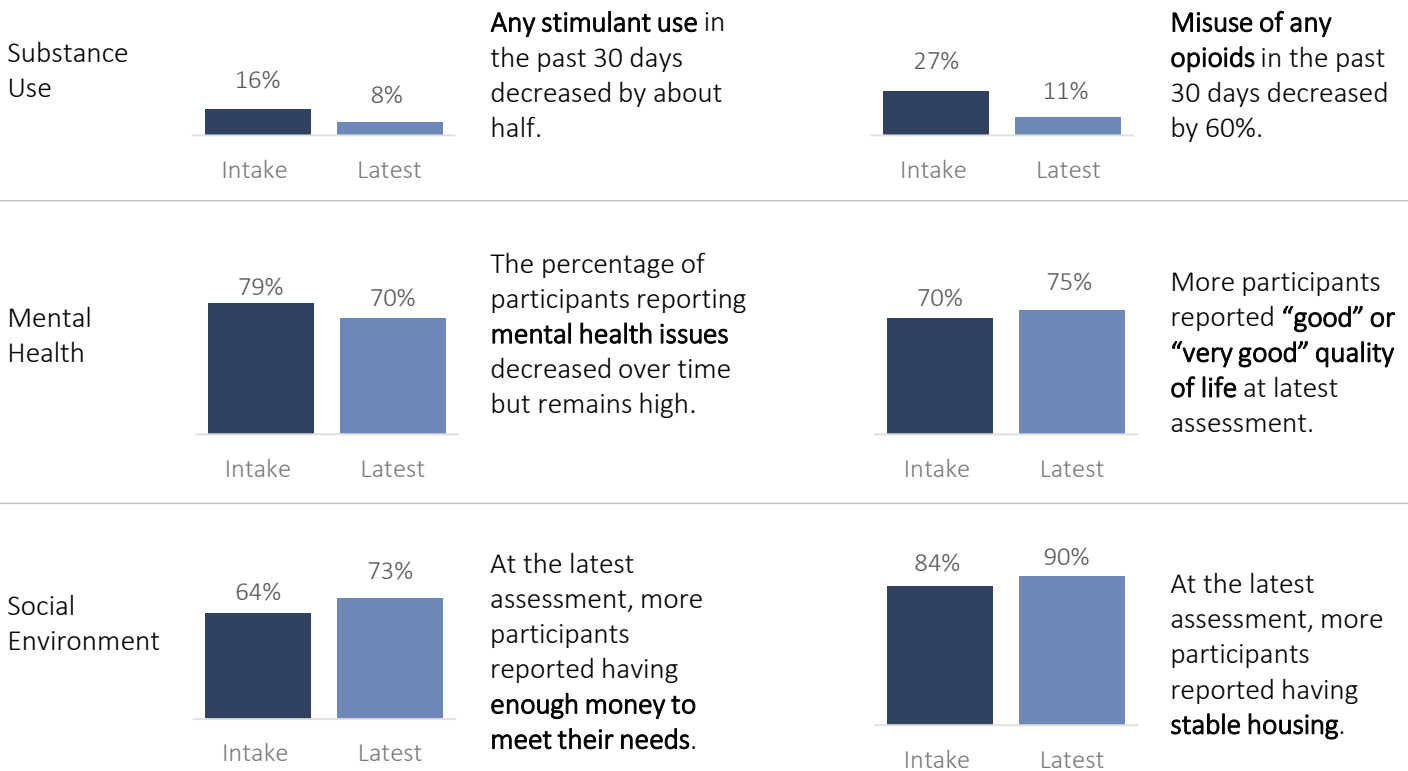


43% of participants (1,341 people) have **overdosed on drugs at least once** in their life.

672 participants reported they have been **revived from an overdose** with naloxone.

Client Outcomes

For all the following measures, there were statistically significant changes in the desirable direction from intake to latest available assessment. In addition to their statistical significance, these data show that **the SOR grant is meaningfully impacting the treatment and recovery journeys of the individuals served**. The data below reflect the 1,153 individuals from the three years of the grant who completed an intake and a second assessment.



Outcome domains can assess change for treatment participants on various aspects of health. Selected items from the GPR assessment were grouped to create domains that represent outcome areas of everyday life: satisfaction and impacts of substance use. Analysis of these domains showed:



Negative impacts of substance use on participants' lives decreased significantly from intake to latest assessment.



Life satisfaction increased significantly from intake to latest assessment.

Peer Support Services



Peer supporters, also referred to as peers or Peer Recovery Specialists, provide recovery support based on their own lived experience of substance use and/or mental health disorder and recovery. SOR funding was provided in year 3 to a variety of agencies that are well positioned to provide peer support services across Virginia that span the entirety of the continuum of care.

Across all partners and providers, year 3 of SOR funding provided recovery-focused support to

37,845 individuals.

Community Services Boards

33,010

individuals received SOR-funded recovery services through a CSB.

87%





of SOR-funded recovery services in year 3 were provided by peer supporters.

125

CSB-based peer supporters were funded by SOR in the last quarter of year 3 (July-September 2021).

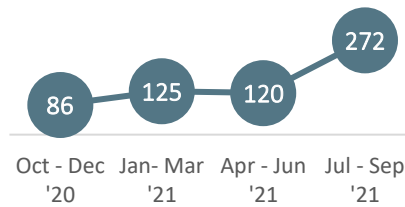
CSB-based peer supporters provided services to thousands of individuals in CSB facilities and other settings, ensuring access to peer services in many formats and locations.

Average number served each quarter in CSB facilities:

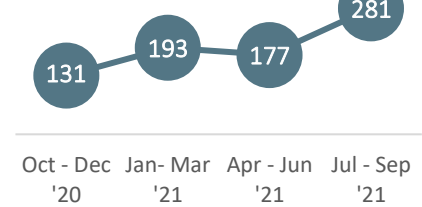
-  **Community outreach**
1,561 individuals
-  **Warmline support**
1,708 individuals
-  **Individual support**
3,162 individuals
-  **Group support**
1,337 individuals

Number served each quarter in other settings:

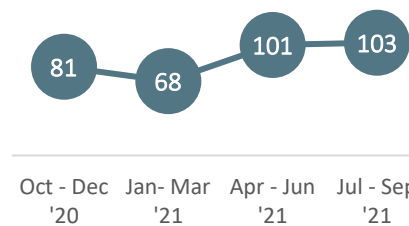
Emergency Departments



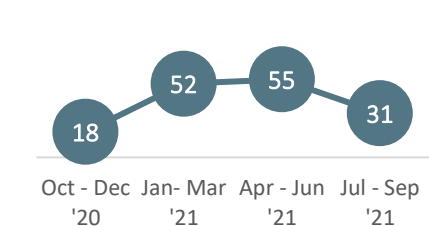
Recovery Courts



Jails



Department of Corrections



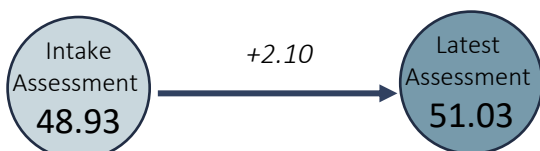
Participants overwhelmingly agree that working with a CSB-based peer supporter was helpful.

95% of individuals working with a peer supporter found it **helpful with their recovery.**



92% of individuals working with a peer supporter found it **helpful in maintaining sobriety.**

In year 3, the BARC-10 (Brief Assessment of Recovery Capital) was implemented to better understand the impact of recovery and peer support services. Scores can range from 10 to 60. Scores of 47 or higher that are sustained over time indicate higher chances for long-term remission from substance use disorders.

Individuals engaged in CSB-based treatment and recovery services showed significantly increased recovery capital from intake to latest assessment.



Recovery capital domains on the BARC-10 that showed the largest increase in scores:

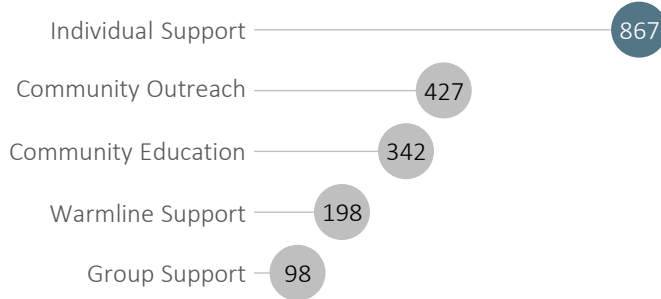
-  Global psychological health
-  Fulfillment in life without substance use



Virginia Department of Health (VDH)

Throughout year 3, 3,557 individuals received SOR-funded peer support from 12 peers at seven VDH sites.

Number of individuals served across VDH sites, July - Sept 2021:



“A couple participating in my recovery groups regained custody of their children after having them removed because of their addiction issues over a year ago... I am very proud of these two and look forward to watching both of them grow.”

- VDH Peer Supporter

Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC)

Through the SOR-funded DOC Peer Recovery Specialist (PRS) Initiative:

18 PRS facilitated

39 ongoing groups, serving

136 participants across Virginia.

The majority of DOC PRS group participants found the support helpful.

- 91% reported that working with a peer supporter was **helpful with recovery**.
- 87% reported that working with a peer supporter was **helpful with maintaining sobriety**.

Collegiate Recovery

SOR-funded collegiate recovery programs (CRP) provided services to students and the surrounding communities. In total, the seven programs supported:



584

Student Members



1,053

Recovery-Focused
One-on-Ones



859

Recovery Meetings



103

Campus Events

SOR-funded CRPs received consultation and technical assistance from the lead program, Rams in Recovery at Virginia Commonwealth University.

In total, Rams in Recovery provided **almost 500 hours** of TA and consultation that supported:

- CRP staff training and capacity
- Financial support of CRPs
- Engagement of university administration

“The support and consultation have been extremely impactful in our efforts to develop and implement a CRP at our University. Without their support I don't think it is something we would have on our campus at all.”

- CRP Lead