

PROJECT BRIEF



PROJECT NAME

Coalition for Prevention Education, Addiction and Recovery (CPAR)

PURPOSE

CPAR is a collective impact organization dedicated to reducing the physical and mental health impacts of opioid addiction and helping individuals suffering with Opioid Use Disorder and their families to lead healthy lives. CPAR partners with a wide and growing cross-section of government organizations, non-profits, and private organizations that are involved in treatment, crisis management, recovery, criminal justice, emergency response, peer navigation, and other related fields to pool collective knowledge and resources to identify and resolve systemic obstacles to long-term recovery.

DEFINING THE ISSUE

In 2019, El Paso County:



Experienced the 3rd highest number of opioid overdose deaths statewide.



Experienced the 2nd highest number of opioid overdose Emergency Department admissions.



Led the state in opioid prescriptions filled by residents.

COMMUNITY HEALTH PARTNERSHIP'S ROLE

Community Health Partnership (CHP) established CPAR in 2016 and as the backbone organization:

-  Provides full time paid staff dedicated to the project.
-  Convenes partners and provides training to build their capacity to do this work.
-  Works with local partners to reduce barriers to accessing treatment and recovery.
-  Seeks out, applies for and manages additional grant funding.
-  Advocates for policies and best practices.

KEY MESSAGES

- CHP convenes partners to create collective goals, develop channels to efficiently share information, and reduce duplicative efforts in generating innovative and effective solutions to long-standing substance use issues.
- Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) is an issue that cannot be solved through the criminal justice system.
- Access to care prior to crisis is critical to mitigating the impacts of addiction for individuals suffering with OUD, their families, and the community at large.

CALL TO ACTION

- Join a working group (Community Education, Harm Reduction, or Mental Health and Substance Use).
- Meet people suffering with OUD where they are at and encourage colleagues, friends, and family to do the same.
- Work to improve access to OUD treatment via employee based health care or increased services.
- Build systems with an understanding that simultaneous access to mental health treatment and OUD are critical to positive outcomes in both areas.



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