

PROJECT BRIEF



PROJECT NAME

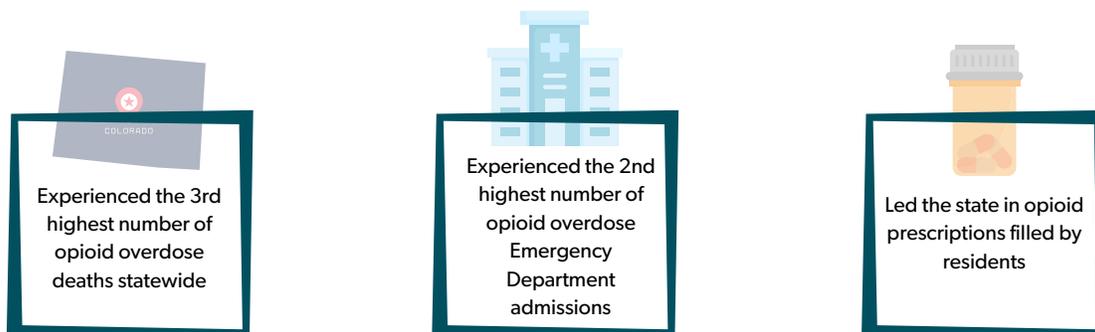
Coalition for Prevention Education, Addiction, and Recovery (CPAR)

PURPOSE

CPAR is a collective impact organization dedicated to building the community's capacity to respond to substance use disorder (SUD) and helping to establish an effective and accessible continuum of behavioral health care. 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. This partnership works to pool collective knowledge and resources to identify and resolve systemic obstacles to resource access for individuals experiencing SUD and their families.

DEFINING THE ISSUE

In 2020, El Paso County:



The increasing prevalence of fentanyl has continued to drive a sharp increase in the number of overdose deaths. The El Paso County Coroner predicts that there were more than 100 fentanyl related deaths in 2021, doubling the total of 47 such deaths in 2020. CDPHE reports that the opioid crisis also impacts populations of color disproportionately. Black, Hispanic, and American Indian Coloradans are more likely to die from overdose than their white counterparts.

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

- SUD is an issue that cannot be solved through the criminal justice system.
- Effectively responding to SUD will require the development of a single comprehensive strategy that incorporates access to care that ranges from harm reduction to long-term recovery support.
- Access to care prior to crisis is critical to mitigating the impacts of addiction for individuals suffering with SUD, their families, and the community at large.

CALL TO ACTION

- Join a CPAR working group!
- Prevent overdose by carrying Narcan and naloxone and encouraging those around you to be trained in its use.
- Meet people suffering with SUD where they are at and encourage colleagues, friends, and family to do the same.



Contact: **P.J. Higgins, Project Manager** | pj.higgins@ppchp.org

719.632.5094 | 121 S. Tejon St, Suite 601 COS, CO 80903 | www.ppchp.org |

