



University of Colorado **Anschutz Medical Campus**

# Center for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention



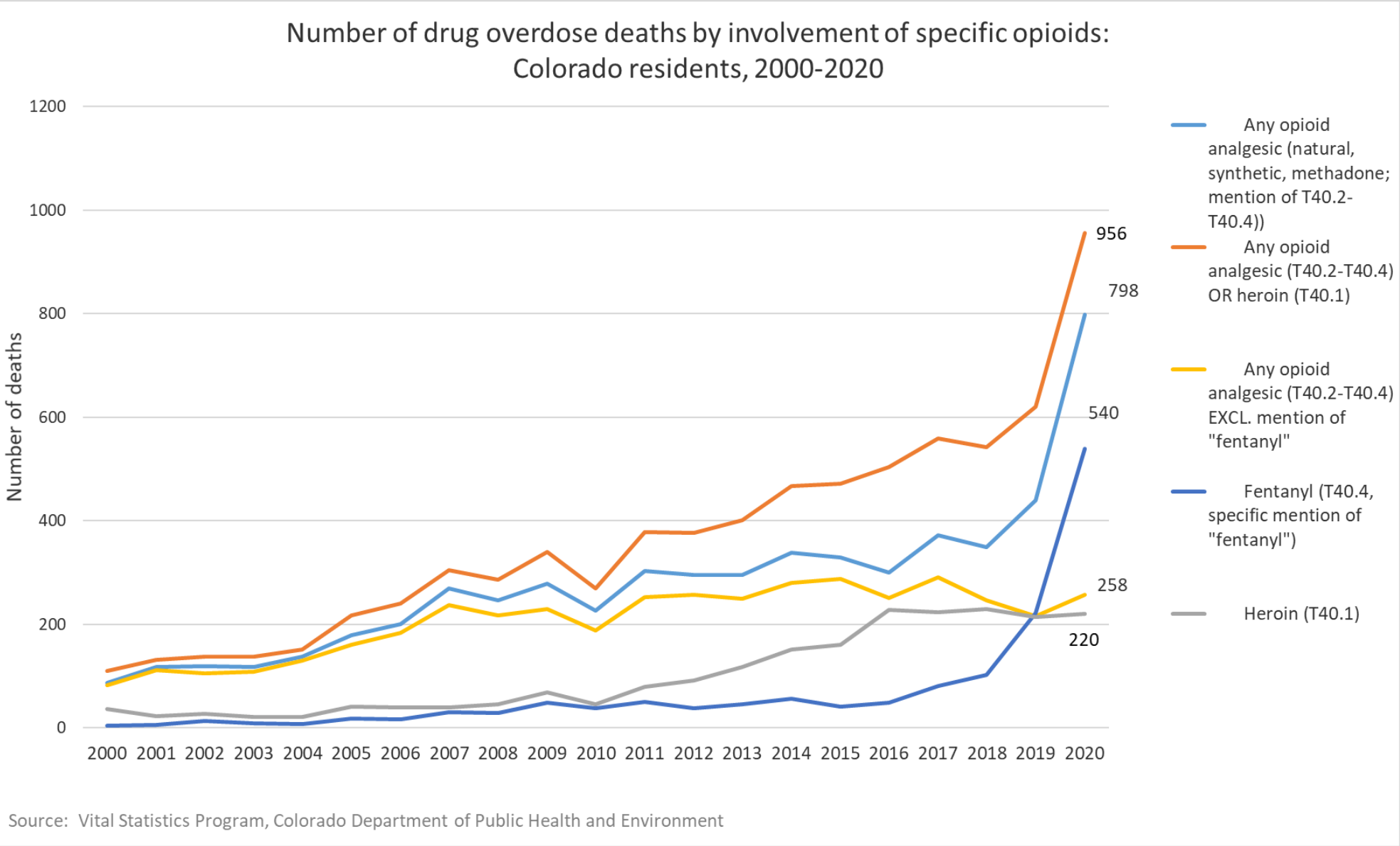




## **Overview of the Center/Consortium**

*Developing programs, partnerships and policies to address  
prescription drug misuse*

# Drug Overdose Deaths





## Progress Made: Provider Education in Rural and Frontier Communities

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- Funding received from CoBank
- Partnered with Farm Bureau and Rocky Mountain Farmers Union to create new modules specific to the agriculture community
- Chronic Pain in Agriculture: Alternative Approaches to Long Term Solutions
- Running on all Cylinders: Understanding Agricultural Communities
- Behavioral Health Issues Among Farming and Ranching Populations-Panel Discussion

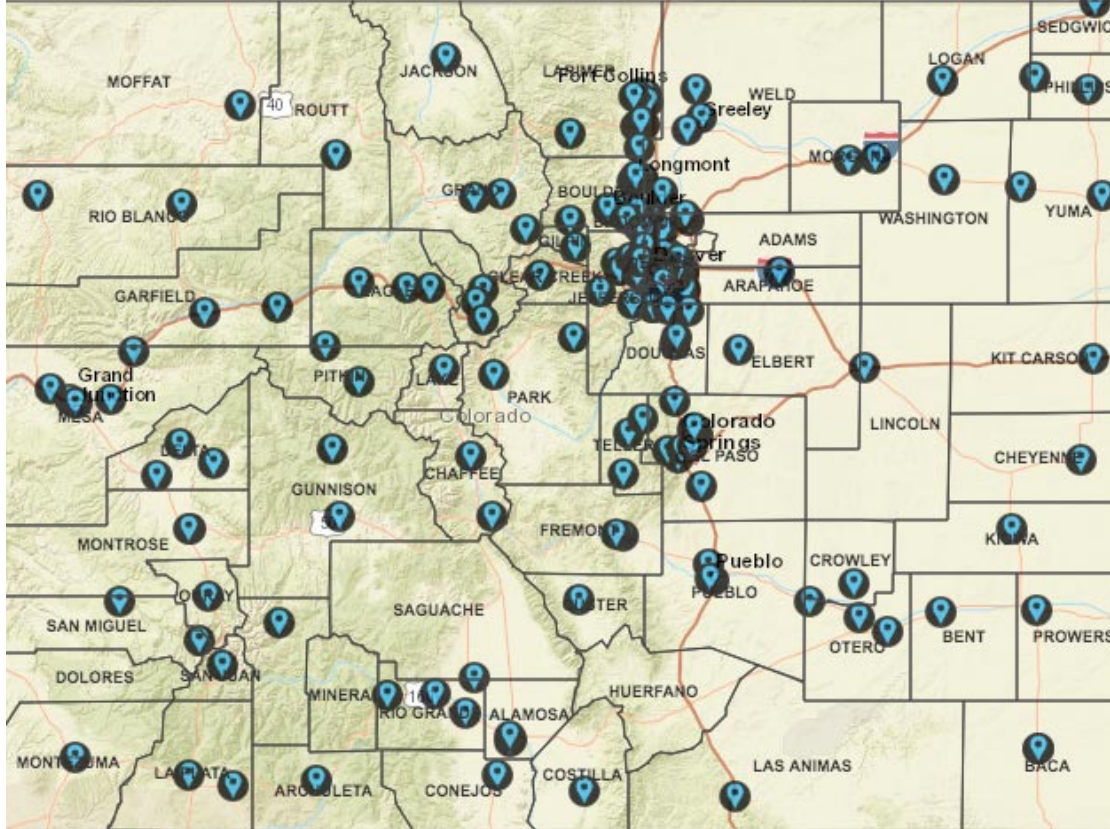


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# Progress Made: Added Needle Disposal to the Colorado Household Medication Take Back Program



- 62 of 64 counties have a permanent collection box
- 203 locations (pharmacies, hospitals with pharmacy or law enforcement offices)
- <https://takemededback.org/>
- New needle disposal program in Nov 2020
  - Mail back option
  - Permanent drop boxes





## Progress Made: Grant Writing Assistance Program

From beginning of program in August 2019 to present:

- Number of contracted grant writers: **18**
- **68** organizations were successful in winning grant awards
- Total amount of awards: **\$13,587,217**
- Program cost: **\$424,770**

**Represents a 32:1 return on investment**



# Progress Made: ED Recovery Support Specialist Pilots

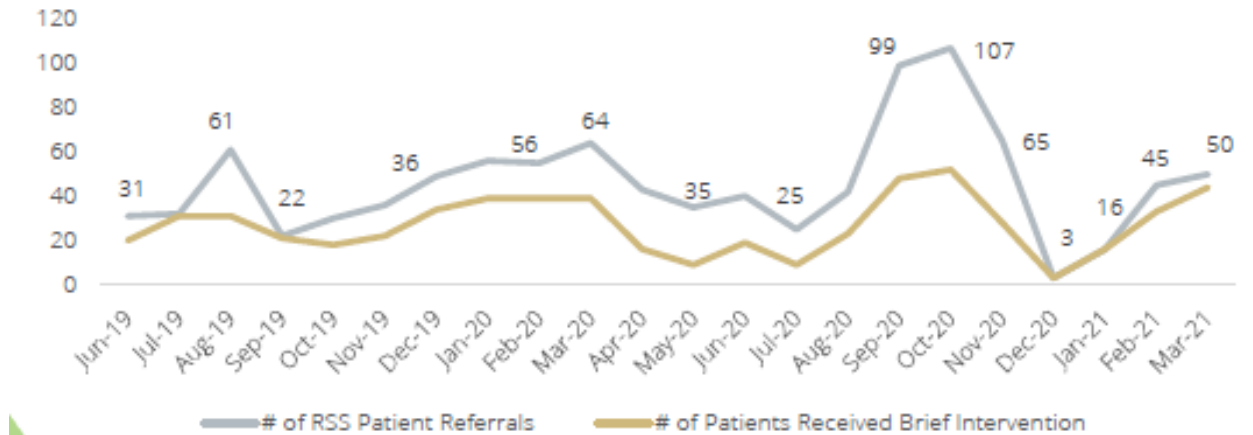
## Colorado Springs Site

- UCHealth Memorial Hospital Central
- Springs Recovery Connection

## Englewood Site

- Swedish Medical Center
- Advocates For Recovery Colorado

Figure 2: Number of RSS Patient Referrals and Interventions



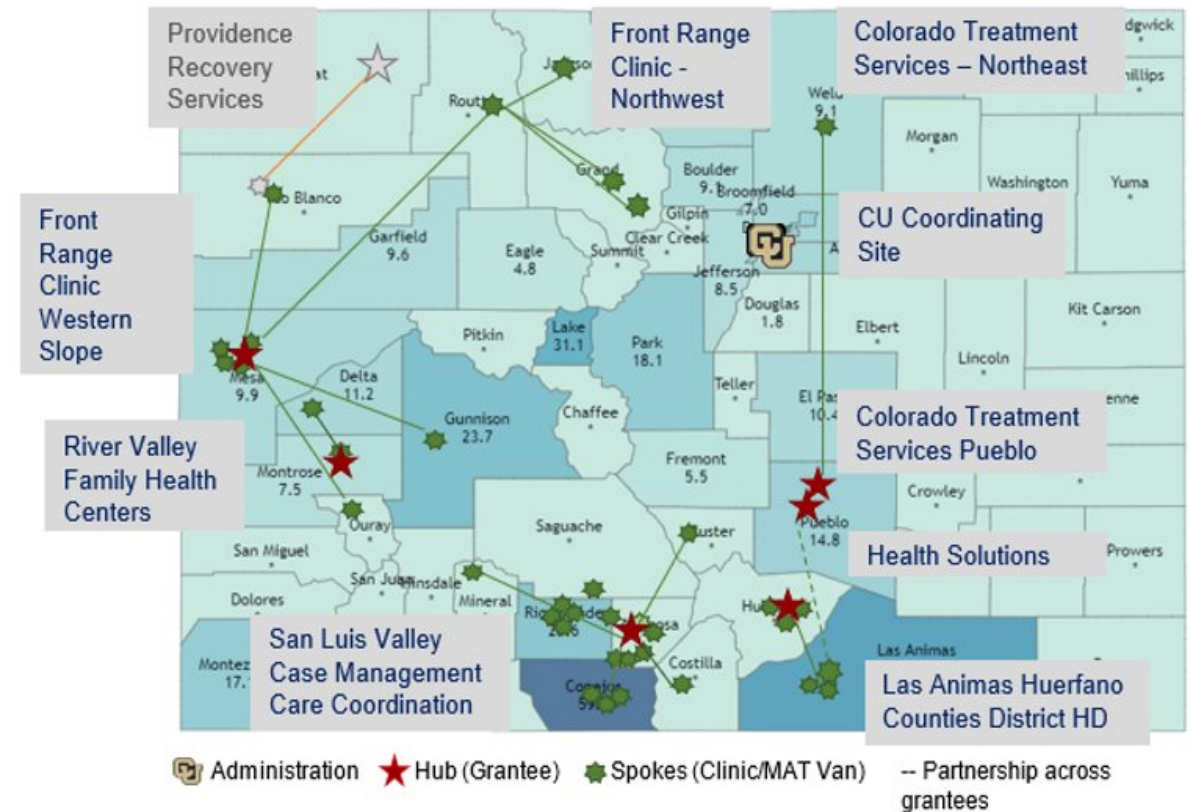
## Impact

*Of the patients who had a high level of participation in the program, **64.3% decreased their ED visits** in the six months following engagement compared to 24.8% of patients who did not participate.*

# Progress Made: Medication-Assisted Treatment Expansion Program

## From July 2019-present

- Service in 21 rural counties
- Statewide outreach & legislative support
- Served >1500 patients in first 18 months
- Supported by 56 FTE MAT providers
- Anticipated outcomes:
  - Reduced substance use
  - Improved social determinants of health (disability, work, ER use)
  - Improved physical and mental health







# Progress Made: Colorado Naloxone Project

## Project Goal

All Colorado hospitals and emergency departments distribute naloxone to at-risk patients, placing naloxone — a lifesaving medication — in patients' hands prior to their departure from the hospital.

## Participating Hospitals

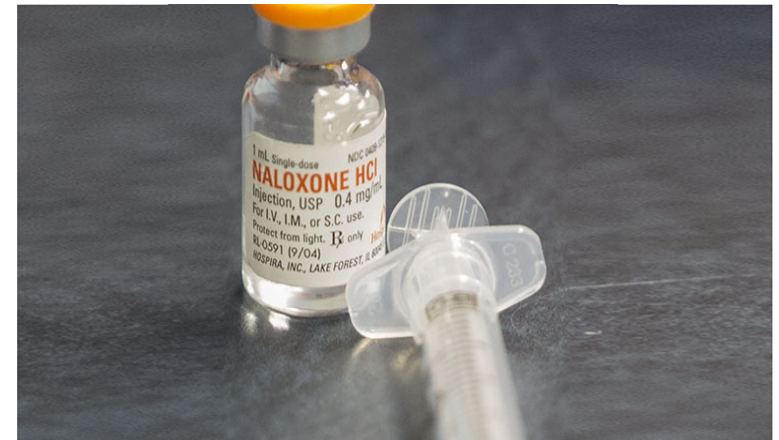
Over 100 hospitals and urgent care/emergency clinics from across the state have agreed to participate

**723**

naloxone kits distributed by reporting facilities so far in 2021

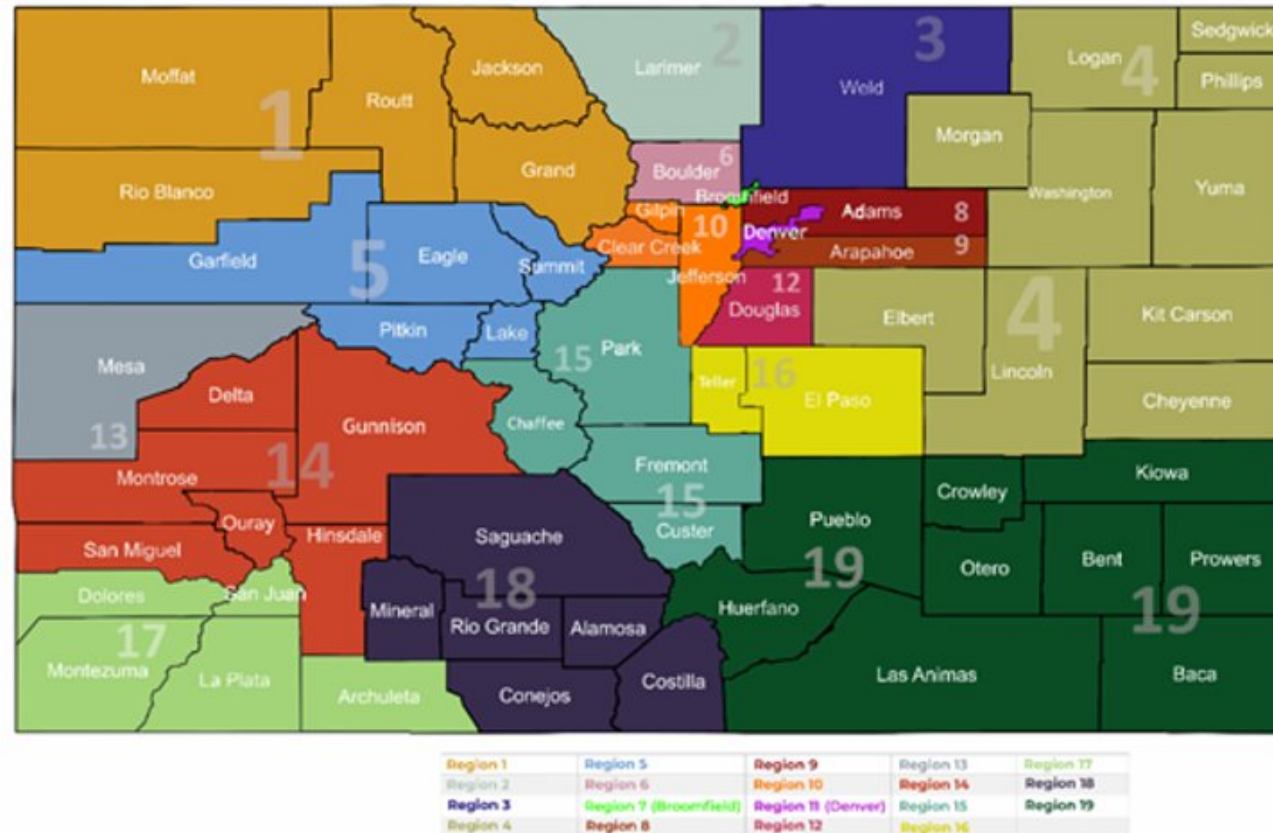
## Partners

Project being led by Stader Opioid Consultants with funding from Sangaard Foundation and Consortium; many partners



# Progress Made: Support for Opioid Settlement

Regions for the distribution of opioid settlement funds



Center for Prescription Drug  
Abuse Prevention

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# Progress Made: Behavioral Health Recovery Act of 2021

- Creates the Behavioral Health and Mental Health Cash Fund **\$550M** in total from the American Rescue Plan Act dollars
- Requires **establishment of 2021 Behavioral Health Task Force** to issue a report with recommendations on policies to create transformational change and for use of designated cash funds
- Funds designated for:
  - Prevention
  - Care Coordination
  - Workforce
  - Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders
  - Recovery Services
  - Services for Children and Youth



# Thank you to our work group co-chairs





# Special thank you to our past and new co-chairs

## Past co-chairs

**Lesley Brooks, MD**, Provider Education  
**Chris Stock, PharmD**, Harm Reduction  
**Suzi Stolte**, Affected Families and Friends  
**Karen Hill**, Affected Families and Friends  
**Lindsey Myers**, Heroin Response  
**Steve Wright, MD**, Benzodiazepine Action

## New co-chairs

**Jenny Wood**, Criminal Justice Response  
**Carly Larsen**, Recovery  
**Rica Rodriguez**, Recovery  
**Sarah Werner, DDS**, Affected Families and Friends  
**Traci Ritter**, Affected Families and Friends  
**Kaylin Klie, MD**, Provider Education

# Thanks to our Many Partners

- Legislators, Interim Study Committee
- AG's Office of Community Engagement, SATF
- State agency partners
  - CDPHE-Overdose Prevention Unit
  - CDHS-Office of Behavioral Health
  - DORA
  - HCPF
  - DOC
- Colorado Medical Society
- Colorado Hospital Association
- CU Schools/Depts: School of Pharmacy, School of Medicine/ARTS, College of Nursing, School of Public Health/CHWE, School of Dental Medicine, CeDAR
- 800+ members of Consortium Work Groups
  - Coalitions
  - Providers-medical, behavioral and mental health, hospital systems
  - Harm reduction
  - Law Enforcement
  - Local public health
  - Recovery Community Organizations
  - And many more



# Thank you to our funders

Colorado General Assembly

Colorado Department of Human Services,  
Office of Behavioral Health

Colorado Department of Public Health and  
Environment, Overdose Prevention Unit

The Colorado Health Foundation

CoBank

Colorado State University, Prevention  
Research Center

# Thank you to the Consortium team

## Program Managers

**Susanna Cooper**, Prov Ed, HR, Benzos

**Tyler Payne**, PDMP, SD, PA, CJ

**Jen Place**, Tx, Rec, AFF,

## Communications Professional

**Michael Davidson**

## External Relations Strategists

**Jessica Eaddy**, SW Colorado

**Jamie Feld**, Metro/NE Colorado, Policy

**Lindsey Simbeye**, NW Colorado

## Finance Manager

**Matt Bishop**

## Assistant Director

**Gina Olberding**

## Director

**Jose Esquibel**

## Center Coordinator

**Rosemarie Macdowell**



# **Jody Gingery, RN, M.Ed. Exceptional Service Award**

**Founder and Creator of the Colorado  
Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force, which  
began in 1986**

**Dedicated nurse educator**



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# Steve Wright, MD

- Family Medicine
- Addiction Medicine
- Medical Pain Management
- Special interest in neurophysiology and treatment of pain
- Past co-chair of Consortium's Benzo Action Work Group

# Charlotte Ledonne, RN, BSN, MA, LPC

- *Nurse Coordinator at SLV AHEC*
- *Clinician at SLV Behavioral Health Group*
- *Educator at Trinidad State Junior College*
- *Director at SHARRP*



# National Opioid Settlement Funding

## Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser





# County and Regional Preparations for Opioid Settlement Funds

**Commissioner Wendy Buxton-Andrade, Prowers County  
Chair, Health and Human Services Steering Committee, Colorado  
Counties, Inc.**

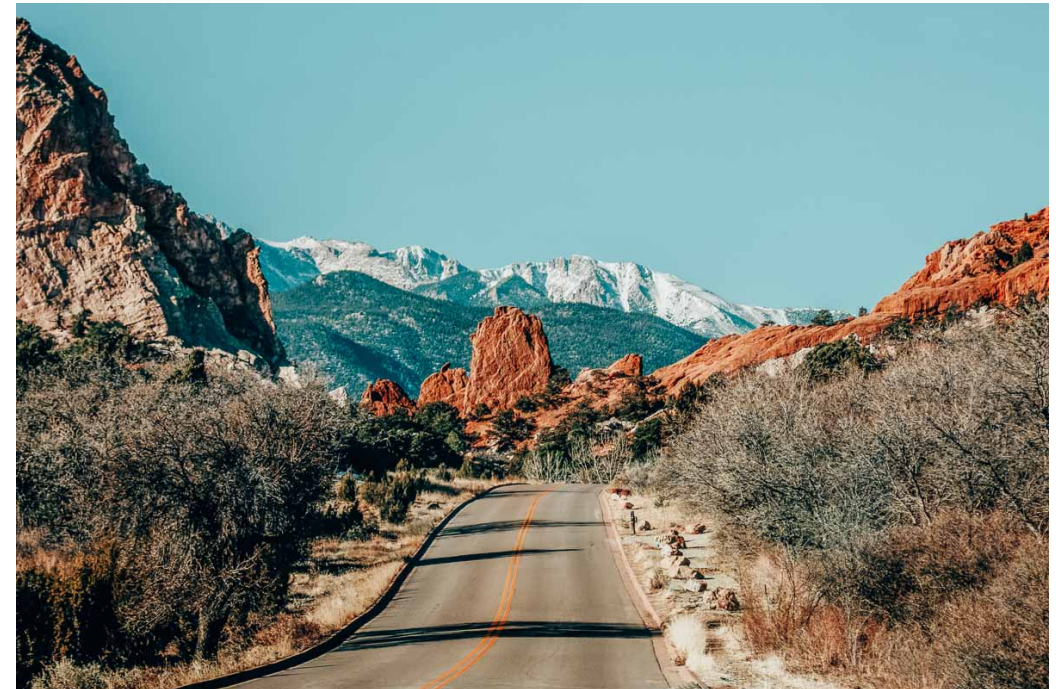
# Moving Forward

## Affected Families and Friends

- Promote personal stories of love, loss and hope
- Promote speakers bureau and training workshops
- Explore opportunities with new partners

## Benzodiazepine Action

- Develop peer support curriculum
- Develop provider education modules specific to benzo-related issues



# Moving Forward

## Criminal Justice Response

Develop trainings/presentations for

- Prevention/Intervention
- Treatment While in Custody
- Transition and Release

## Harm Reduction

- Anti-stigma efforts
- Develop trainings, presentations, and videos
- Advocacy





# Moving Forward

## PDMP

- Continue to boost registration, integration and optimization of the PDMP across the state
- Implement HB21-1276 that will offer RxCheck for PDMP integration with EHRs and health systems

## Provider Education

- Develop training modules for providers serving farming and ranching population
- Evaluate existing online trainings
- Develop curricula focused on prevention



# Moving Forward

## Public Awareness

- Use results of research and evaluation project to improve Bring Naloxone Home and Take Meds Seriously campaigns
- Support other work groups/coalitions/partners with their public awareness needs

## Safe Disposal

- Continue to promote household medication take back program
- Expand the sharps take-back program





# Moving Forward

## Recovery

- Professionalize the peer workforce
- Promote recovery-related services and events
- Promote Recovery Oriented Systems of Care
- Develop data collection and measurement tools

## Treatment

- Continue to provide the platform to discuss evidence-based practices, evolutions in treatment and specific Colorado needs with the experts doing the work







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**THANK YOU**