

Opioid Response Cross-Systems Initiative Calendar Year 2024 Equity Impact Plan



Leadership Sponsor: Ellen Volo, Opioid and Substance Use Task Force Coordinator

Name: Ellen Volo

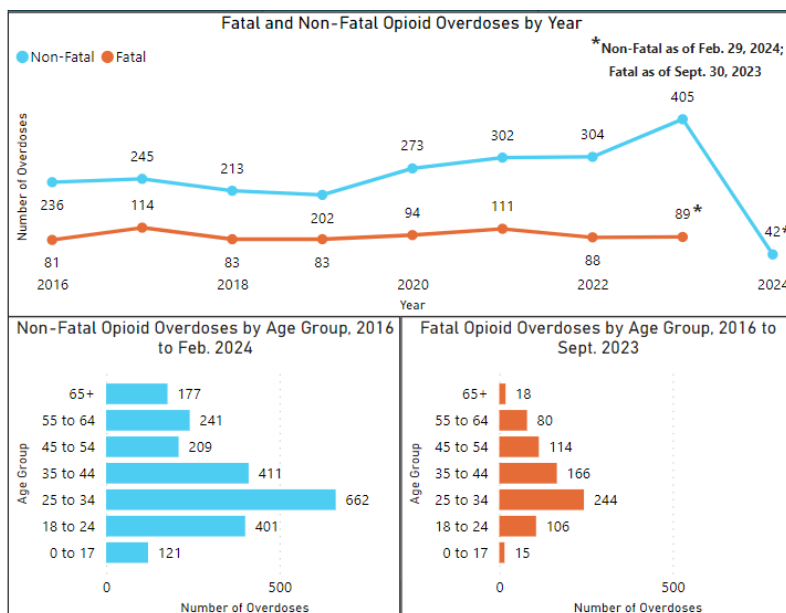
Brief Description of the Initiative:

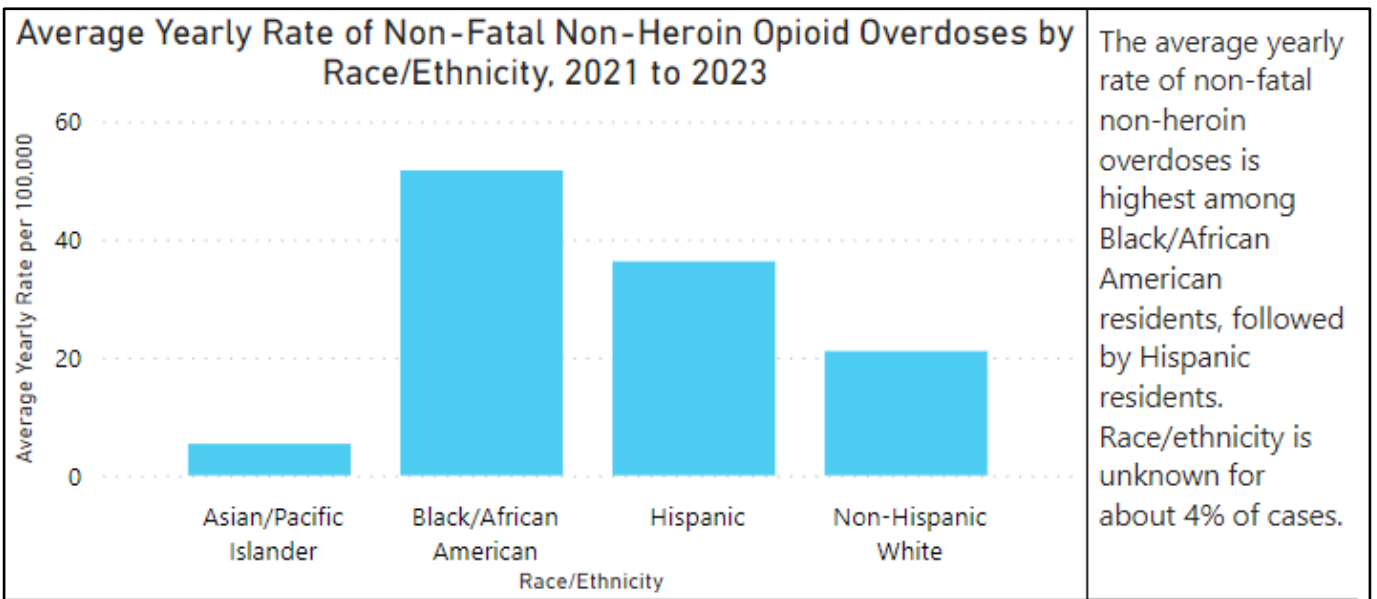
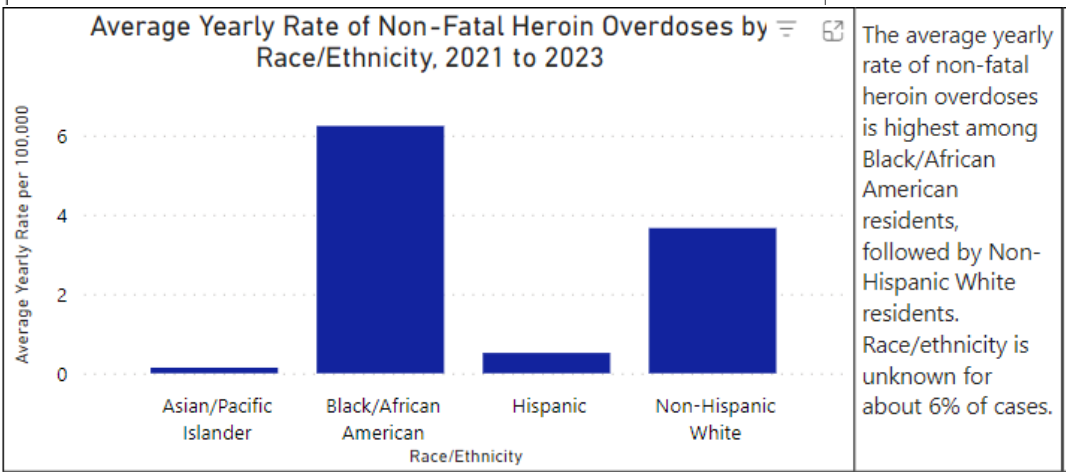
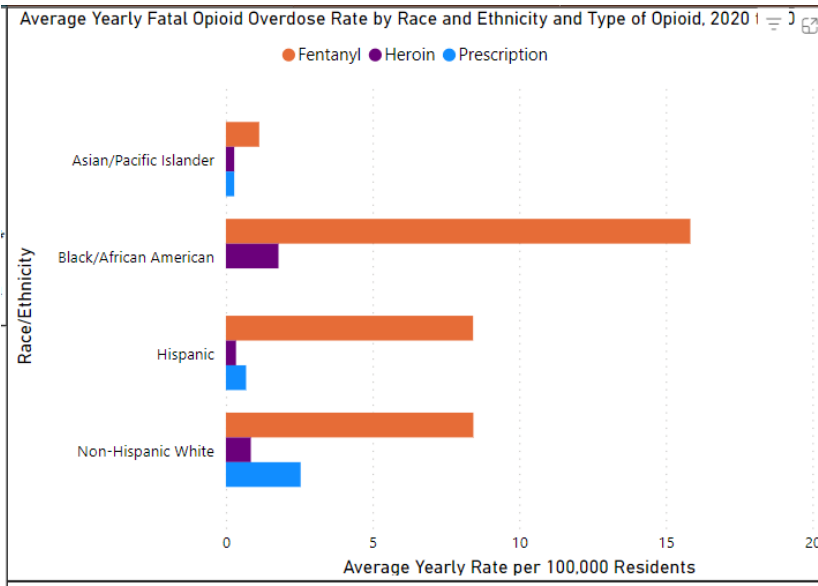
Fairfax County’s multi-pronged, collaborative opioid response strategy is guided by the County’s FY 23-FY 25 Opioid Response Plan (the third iteration of the County’s opioid work plan). It includes approximately 40 programs/activities across six priority areas: Education and Prevention; Early Intervention and Treatment; Data and Monitoring; Criminal Justice and Enforcement; Harm Reduction; and Recovery. Collectively, these opioid programs/activities aim to reduce deaths from opioids; improve the quality of life of individuals impacted by opioid use disorder (OUD) (including those with OUD and their family/friends); and use data to target and assess interventions. Over 15 County agencies (including Fairfax County Public Schools) are involved in the County’s opioid response effort, in collaboration with several community partners.

Context:

Across the nation and state, the number of fatal drug overdoses (of all types) has risen sharply in recent years. To respond to this increase, there are numerous national and state resources highlighting innovative approaches and best practices; many of these resources address equity and/or highlight strategies specific to populations disproportionately impacted.

In the Fairfax Health District, similar to communities across the country, fentanyl is the primary opioid responsible for fatal and nonfatal overdoses. The Fairfax Health Department’s public opioid overdose dashboard provides up to date data on both nonfatal and fatal overdoses: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/health/opioid-overdoses-data>. This dashboard is updated regularly and highlights demographic trends through several graphs. Select graphs are below (please note the below graphs were obtained from the dashboard on March 20, 2024; please visit the dashboard at the link above for the most current data).





Though numbers historically have been lower among youth (0-17), fatal and non-fatal opioid overdoses have increased in this age group in recent years. In 2023, many non-fatal overdoses among the 0-17 population have occurred among Hispanic youth. While

there has been a lot of focus in recent years on enhancing youth prevention, treatment, harm reduction and recovery programs/activities to address this increase, many opioid-related programs/activities for individuals 18 and older have continued to advance.

In CY 2024, Fairfax County will utilize opioid settlement funds to expand/enhance this work, including programs/activities for youth and individuals involved with the criminal justice system.

Key Stakeholders:

- Individuals impacted by opioid use disorder and their families
- Community Services Board (CSB)
- Department of Family Services (DFS)
- Department of Information Technology (DIT)
- Department of Management and Budget (DMB)
- Department of Planning and Development
- Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES)
- Fire and Rescue Department
- General District Court
- Health Department
- Healthy Minds Fairfax
- Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court (JDRDC)
- Office of the County Attorney
- One Fairfax
- Office of Public Affairs (OPA)
- Office to Prevent and End Homelessness
- Police Department
- Neighborhood and Community Services (NCS)
- Risk Management
- Sheriff's Office
- Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS)
- Fairfax Prevention Coalition, which includes several community partners

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Goal 1: Increase Task Force members' awareness of opioid response/behavioral health equity strategies and best practices

Key Equity Driver(s): Community Health and Wellbeing; Community Safety and Justice

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus:

6. Community and public safety that includes services such as fire, emergency medical services, police, health, emergency management and code enforcement that are responsive to all residents so that everyone feels safe to live, work, learn, and play in any neighborhood of Fairfax County.

10. A health and human services system where opportunities exist for all individuals and families to be safe, be healthy and realize their potential through the provision of accessible, high quality, affordable and culturally appropriate services.

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Healthy Communities; Safety and Security; Empowerment and Support for Residents Facing Vulnerability

Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s): N/A

Actions	Stakeholders	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
1a. Identify opioid response/behavioral health equity webinars/trainings and share with Task Force members	Agencies contributing to the County's Opioid Response	Opioid and Substance Use Task Force coordinator	Ongoing	# of opioid response/behavioral health equity webinars/training shared with Task Force members
1b. Share opioid response/behavioral health equity resources (best practices, toolkits, one-pagers, etc.) with Task Force members	Agencies contributing to the County's Opioid Response	Opioid and Substance Use Task Force coordinator	Ongoing	# of opioid response/behavioral health equity resources/best practices shared with Task Force members

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Goal 2: Utilize demographic analysis of local opioid overdose public health data to understand local trends and target and improve interventions

Key Equity Driver(s): Community Health and Wellbeing; Community Safety and Justice

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus:

6. Community and public safety that includes services such as fire, emergency medical services, police, health, emergency management and code enforcement that are responsive to all residents so that everyone feels safe to live, work, learn, and play in any neighborhood of Fairfax County.
10. A health and human services system where opportunities exist for all individuals and families to be safe, be healthy and realize their potential through the provision of accessible, high quality, affordable and culturally appropriate services.

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Healthy Communities; Safety and Security; Empowerment and Support for Residents Facing Vulnerability; Effective and Efficient Government (EEG)

Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s):

Strategy EEG 21. Strengthen the use of data-informed decision making through regular data collection, evaluation and distribution.

Actions	Stakeholders	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
<p>2a. Conduct analysis of public health data on emergency department (ED) visits for overdose and fatal overdoses by race/ethnicity, age, and sex</p>	<p>Agencies contributing to the County’s Opioid Response; Community members/organizations</p>	<p>Fairfax Health Department Division of Epidemiology and Population Health</p>	<p>Ongoing/as data is released (monthly for ED visits and quarterly for fatal overdose data)</p>	<p># of times/year ED visit data is analyzed by demographics # of times/year fatal overdose data is analyzed by demographics</p>
<p>2b. Make demographic analysis of ED visits for overdoses and fatal overdoses publicly available via the Opioid Overdose Dashboard</p>	<p>Agencies contributing to the County’s Opioid Response; Community members/organizations</p>	<p>Fairfax Health Department Division of Epidemiology and Population Health</p>	<p>Ongoing/as data is released (monthly for ED visits and quarterly for fatal overdose data)</p>	<p># of times/year dashboard is updated with demographic analysis</p>

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Goal 3: Utilize opioid settlement funds to expand/enhance services for highly impacted/at risk populations

Key Equity Driver(s): Community Health and Wellbeing; Community Safety and Justice

One Fairfax Area(s) of Focus:

6. Community and public safety that includes services such as fire, emergency medical services, police, health, emergency management and code enforcement that are responsive to all residents so that everyone feels safe to live, work, learn, and play in any neighborhood of Fairfax County.

10. A health and human services system where opportunities exist for all individuals and families to be safe, be healthy and realize their potential through the provision of accessible, high quality, affordable and culturally appropriate services.

Countywide Strategic Plan Community Outcome Area(s): Healthy Communities (HC); Safety and Security; Empowerment and Support for Residents Facing Vulnerability

Relationship to Countywide Strategic Plan Strategies/Metric(s):

Strategy HC 9: Address substance use through coordinated education efforts for prevention, expanded treatment options and harm reduction actions in collaboration with community partners.

Actions	Stakeholders	Responsible Parties	Timeline	Performance Measures
<p>3a. Address gaps in local youth substance use treatment options by expanding youth medication for opioid use disorder (MOUD) capacity</p>	<p>Community members/organizations; County agencies serving youth and their families (FCPS, DFS, JDRDC, FCPD, FCFRD)</p>	<p>CSB Youth and Families Division</p>	<p>Launch expanded youth MOUD program in 2024</p>	<p># CSB staff hired to provide youth MOUD # youth referred to CSB youth MOUD in 2024 # youth receiving CSB MOUD in 2024</p>
<p>3b. Create a Drug Court Track for individuals 18-25</p>	<p>Community members/organizations; CSB, Circuit Court, Sheriff's Office, Commonwealth's Attorney, State Probation Office, Public Defender</p>	<p>CSB Diversion and Jail-Based Services Circuit Court Commonwealth Attorney's Office State Probation Office Public Defender's Office Sheriff's Office</p>	<p>Launch in 2024</p>	<p># individuals referred to the 18-25 Drug Court Track in 2024 # individuals participating in the 18-25 Drug Court Track in 2024</p>
<p>3c. Expand medical care and behavioral health treatment for incarcerated individuals with opioid use disorder</p>	<p>Individuals in the Adult Detention Center and their family members; CSB, Circuit Court, General District Court, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court,</p>	<p>CSB Jail Diversion; Sheriff's Office</p>	<p>Launch in 2024</p>	<p>#screened/# positive OUD # received MOUD # provider visits</p>

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	Sheriff's Office, Commonwealth's Attorney, Office of the Public Defender			# receiving release meds/prescriptions # Narcan/Fentanyl Test strips at release # Referred to community treatment
3d. Launch a substance use prevention campaign to build protective factors and reduce stigma	Community members/organizations; Healthy Minds Fairfax, CSB and other county agencies serving youth and their families	FCPS	Launch in 2024	Increase in percentage of youth in Fairfax County reporting three or more protective factors in their lives. Reduction in the percentage of students who report using/misusing substances, including but not limited to opioids. Reduction in the percentage of students who report experiencing feelings of sadness or hopelessness
3e. Hold community dialogue sessions to identify and address the root causes of youth substance use	Community members/organizations; County agencies serving youth and their families	Healthy Minds Fairfax (CSB/Department of Family Services)	Launch 2024	# of dialogue sessions held # of participants