Opioid and Substance Use Disorder in Arizona: Addressing a Public Health Crisis from a Funder’s Perspective

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More than 5 Arizonans a day died from opioids in 2021
Overdose Trends in Arizona
In 2021 …

Two-thirds of **opioid deaths** were among people aged 25-54, with the highest rate in 25-34-year-olds.

Two-thirds of **non-fatal opioid overdoses** were among people aged 18-44, with the highest rate in 25-34-year-olds.

Source: ADHS Vital Statistics
Overdose Trends in Arizona

In 2022 …

81% of opioid deaths involved multiple drugs
Increasing trend

96% of opioid deaths involved Rx or synthetic drugs
Increasing trend

4% of opioid deaths involved heroin
Decreasing trend

Source: ADHS Vital Statistics, 2017-February 2022 (2021 & 2022 data is provisional)
Mobilize AZ

BCBSAZ Public health initiative: 2018-2021
Mobilize AZ Grant Program

$7M+ in grant funding

82 grants funded

85% of grants also address social determinants of health

66,000+ individuals served by our first two cohorts of grantees and community support programs
Impact Highlight: Mobile MAT Clinic

**Year One (2019-2020)**
69 clinics across all 15 Arizona counties

- 1,876 information contacts
- 291 connections to local resources and services
- 91 engagements
- 904 overdose reversal kits
- 38 MAT inductions
- 144 intakes and social determinants of health screenings

**Year Two (2020-2021)**

- 4 communities targeted: Guadalupe, Kingman, Douglas, Human Services Campus (Phoenix)
- 55 clinics hosted; repeat clinic visits to amplify impact
- Array of services address substance use, food insecurity, primary prevention, harm reduction, HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C testing
- 1,474 people served
Impact Highlight: Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)

Built capacity for and worked to support MAT prescribing

- 618 newly certified providers
- 18,540 more treatment spots created

MAT ECHO

Opioid Assistance & Referral (OAR) line

Chat About MAT podcast

MAT Technical Assistance
Impact Highlight: Overdose Prevention and Awareness

**BCBSAZ-facing**
- 50+ Blue Gives Back sessions through 2022 focused on opioids, overdose prevention, and naloxone training
- 1,600+ BCBSAZ employees trained to administer naloxone

**Community-facing**
Overdose fatality prevention campaign, engaging 36 organizations
- 435 participants completed on-demand video training by Arizona Poison & Drug Information Center
- 1,728 doses of Narcan distributed
Driving Collective Impact

INVESTING IN COMMUNITY
Investing in community through grants, service, and sponsorship

INCREASING ACCESS
Increasing access to services and connections to care

BUILDING CAPACITY
Building capacity to strengthen statewide resources for prevention, treatment, resiliency, and recovery

CULTIVATING CROSS-SECTOR PARTNERSHIPS
Cultivating cross-sector partnerships to drive collective impact

IMPACT
Inspiring Health in New Ways
Foundation for Community & Health Advancement
Foundation Health Focus Areas

**Health Equity**
Social determinants of health affect health equity

**Substance Use Disorder**
Misuse and overdose affect every community

**Chronic Health Conditions**
Diabetes alone affects 1 in 9 Arizonans

**Mental Health**
Anxiety, depression, and suicide are on the rise
Leveraging Collective Impact

Joining forces with community partners, stakeholders, thought leaders, tribal communities and others to address the diverse needs of people throughout Arizona.

Expanding and accelerating programs and services that improve well-being and reduce health disparities in our state.

Supporting programs and applied research that informs real solutions to making healthcare accessible and affordable for every Arizonan.

AZ BLUE FOUNDATION

Programmatic + Applied Research Outcomes

Cross-sector Partnerships

Grants and Social Investing
Behavioral Health Grants YTD

As of September 2022:

• $1.7 million awarded for mental health-focused grants
  o 15 of 15 counties + 2 tribal communities served
  o 36 community partners

• $162,983 awarded for SUD-focused grants
  o 15 of 15 counties served
  o 8 community partners

Learn more about the Foundation’s grantees at: azbluefoundation.org/grants/grantees
Amplifying Impact: Top 5 Funder Takeaways

1. Find the “right” funder to optimize partnership opportunities
2. Drive overall health impacts by also addressing the social determinants of health
3. Emphasize the importance of data and evaluation while also being realistic
4. Cultivate partnerships across sectors to meet evolving community needs, expand reach, and achieve bold goals
5. Actively engage stakeholders and community partners
Thank you!

Visit us at www.azbluefoundation.org