State Opioid Response Grant

The WVDHHR Bureau for Behavioral Health received $42,657,872 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to support the state’s response to the opioid epidemic. The grant timeframe is October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

The funding, through SAMHSA’s State Opioid Response Grant, will be used to address the state’s opioid crisis by increasing access to evidence-based medication-assisted treatment (MAT) and expanding prevention, treatment and recovery activities for opioid use disorder (OUD).

Programs will be implemented to build and strengthen the infrastructure that supports the long-term recovery of individuals with opioid use disorder and reduce opioid overdose deaths in the state.

SOR funding will also allow a focus on these high-risk, priority populations:

- Pregnant and postpartum women
- Men between the ages 35-54 with low-socioeconomic status factors and/or were incarcerated
- People who are incarcerated or on parole or probation with unmet treatment needs; and
- SAMHSA’s other priority or underserved populations, including persons of racial minority, veterans, LGBTQ, persons with disabilities, individuals experiencing homelessness, and intravenous opioid users.

WVDHHR BBH has so far provided funding awards to partners across the state to:

- Enhance capacity to support MAT Hub & Spoke models across the state.
- The three WV medical schools to expand capacity of the helping professions to implement MAT statewide across settings.
- Provide MAT in regional jails and facilitate continuity of treatment and recovery supports community re-entry.
- Initiate and sustain prevention strategies for priority populations.
- Provide community treatment and peer recovery support services.