




2024 National Forum on
**Overdose Fatality
Review**

Collaboration
for Community
Change



Welcome
March 6, 2024

Welcome

- Ryan K. Buchanan, U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Georgia

Plenary Session: Partnering Across State and Local Overdose Fatality Reviews

Moderator: Melissa Heinen, Institute for Intergovernmental Research

Panelists

- Brooke Holmes, Maryland Department of Health
- Nicole Ramey, Cecil County Department of Health, Maryland
- Lisa Fields, Anne Arundel County Department of Health, Maryland
- Morgan Kramer, Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI)
- Angela Van Slembrouck, MPHI



Partnering Across State and Local OFRs

Melissa Heinen, RN, MPH

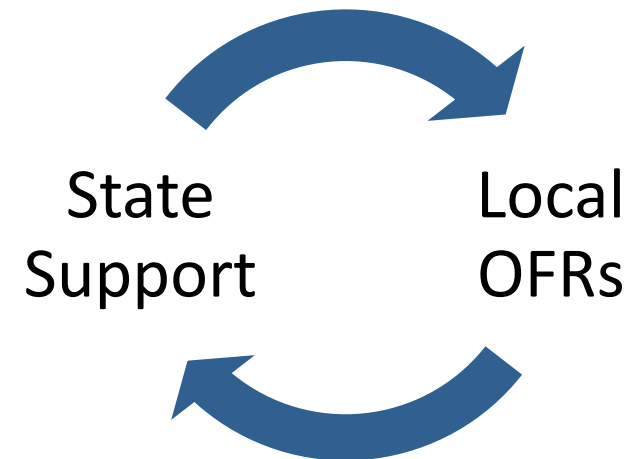
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www.OFRTools.org

State's Role in OFRs

- Building state infrastructure to support local OFRs
 - Equip the field by coordinating training and technical assistance
 - Provide oversight and support via state-level governing committee
 - Fund and evaluate local OFRs



State and Local Partnership Results



- Shared understanding
 - OFRs increase members' understanding of area agencies' roles and services as well as the community's assets and needs, substance use and overdose trends, current prevention activities, and system gaps
- Optimized capacity
 - OFRs increase the community's overall capacity to prevent future overdose deaths by leveraging resources from multiple agencies and sectors to increase system-level response
- Shared accountability
 - OFRs continually monitor local substance use and overdose death data as well as recommendation implementation activities. Status updates on recommendations are shared at each OFR team meeting and with a governing committee, reinforcing accountability for action

OFR Sites Across the Country*



- States: At least 40 doing at least one OFR and/or building a state infrastructure
- OFR sites: Nearly 300 local OFRs at various stages of implementation
- Sites' funding: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), settlement funds, state, etc.

*Represents what we are aware of (more likely in existence and new grantees)

IIR's Role in Supporting Partnership Across State and Local OFRs



- Provide training and technical assistance to state agency staff by:
 - **Expanding and supporting the field**
 - State 1:1 self assessments
 - Identify additional resources available to support state's efforts, such as:
 - Overdose Response Strategy
 - COSSUP Training and Technical Assistance
 - 2024: begin developing "state highlights" pages on OFRTools.org
 - **Convening the field**
 - State agency staff community of practice (CoP)
 - State meet-and-greet calls
 - **Equipping the field**
 - Develop tools and trainings to advance and enhance state efforts and state and local partnerships
 - 2023 National Forum: State Infrastructure Workshop Pre-Conference
 - In development: State Infrastructure Practitioner's Guide & future PDMP
 - Upcoming 2024: OFR Workgroup: Partnering to Inform and Advance Prevention



Toolkits ▾

Profiles

Resource Library

Learn ▾

Take Action ▾

A DATA-DRIVEN RESPONSE FOR COMMUNITY CHANGE

WHY OFR?



OFRTools.org: State Profiles



Toolkits ▾

Profiles

Resource Library

Learn ▾

Take Action ▾



State Profiles

State agencies play a role in building a state infrastructure to support local OFRs. Find each state's point of contact information below.

FILTERS ▾

State of Alabama	+
State of Alaska	+
State of Arizona	+
State of Arkansas	+
State of California	+
State of Colorado	+
State of Connecticut	+



State of Montana	+
State of Nebraska	+
State of Nevada	+
State of New Hampshire	+
State of New Jersey	-
Agency: New Jersey Department of Health State Contact: Jessica Atkinson, Grant Coordinator, Overdose Fatality Review Teams, New Jersey Department Of Health, jessica.atkinson@doh.nj.gov Funding: CDC State Established: 2017 Legislation: Yes, 2022 (https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/bill-search/2020/A798/bill-text?f=PL21&n=430_) Local OFRs: Yes (22) State OFR: No	
State of New Mexico	+
State of New York	+



State Self-assessment Tool

Self-assessment: Equip the Field



1. Equip the Field

Building state capacity and infrastructure to improve and support local OFRs.

Strategies	Done/ Doing	Want/ Plan to	Unsure/No
A. Pilot an OFR in at least one community			
B. Promote and share national guidance, tools, trainings and templates			
C. Build a state modified version of national guide implementation			
D. Promote and support the use of the OFR evaluation profile			
E. Have you evaluated the pilot or any OFR			

Self-assessment: Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)



2. Training and Technical Assistance (TTA)

Providing information, increasing knowledge and supporting local jurisdictions on OFRs.

Strategies	Done/ Doing	Want/ Plan to	Unsure/ No
A. Host statewide community of practice (CoP)			
B. Convene state-level annual meeting			
C. Designate representation for national overdose fatality review convenings (such as national forum and community of practice)			
D. Promote national OFR training and convening opportunities (such as national forum and community of practices)			
E. Provide trainings to address state-specific needs (brain injury, deflection, etc.)			
F. Identify existing OFRs (regardless of funding source)			
G. Survey OFRs to identify training and technical assistance needs			
H. Develop training and technical assistance plan in partnership with COSSAP/CDC/IIR based on identified needs			
I. Promote national OFR Data System User Group			
J. Promote OFR Mentor Program to local sites			

Self-assessment: Oversight and Support



3. Oversight and Support

Actively reviewing, monitoring, assisting and advising state and local OFRs.

Strategies	Done/ Doing	Want/ Plan to	Unsure/ No
A. Host state governing committee			
A.1. State governing committee: Review, prioritize and implement recommendations from local OFRs			
A.2. State governing committee: Require local OFR representation			
A.3. State governing committee: Convene subcommittees as needed			
B. Network and collaborate within and across state agencies (e.g., PDMP administrator)			
C. Promote use of COSSAP/CDC developed OFR Data System			
D. Set up OFR Data System Data Access Groups			
E. Provide standard data sharing agreements and templates			
F. Provide data analysis and translation support			
G. Host data dashboard including OFR data			
H. Publish annual report of statewide OFR data and efforts			
I. Provide state-level data to local OFRs (e.g., PDMP, SUDORS)			
J. Establish state-level positions, protocols, and policies for sustainability			

Self-assessment: Grant Management and Legislation



4. Grant Management & Legislation

Strategies	Done/ Doing	Want/ Plan to	Unsure/ No
A. State provides funding for local OFR initiatives			
B. Apply for and distribute funding for local OFR initiatives			
C. Fund travel local OFRs to attend trainings			
D. Provide oversight of local OFRs grant activities and budgets			
E. State requires local OFRs to report at least annually			
F. Promote and coordinate available funds to support recommended intervention and prevention strategies			
G. Establish and/or modify OFR legislation			

Self-assessment: Evaluation



5.

Evaluation

systematic collection of information about OFR activities and outcomes.

Strategies	Done/ Doing	Want/ Plan to	Unsure/ No
A. Establish state-level framework and methods for OFR evaluation			
B. Modify OFR framework based on evaluation findings			

Maryland OFR CoP: Bimonthly Calls

- Maryland: Requested TA from IIR to assist with recommendation development
- IIR: Surveyed local OFRs on current practice
- Maryland & IIR: Developed training plan to review OFR national standards and practices to enhance current local OFR implementation





Local, State, and Federal Partnerships



State Panel Discussion

Panelists

- Brooke Holmes, Maryland Department of Health
- Nicole Ramey, Cecil County Department of Health, Maryland
- Lisa Fields, Anne Arundel County Department of Health, Maryland
- Morgan Kramer, Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI)
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Today's Sessions



- Overview of Overdose Fatality Review Model Law and Implementation: Panel Discussion and Open Forum
 - Session 4: 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m.
 - Release: Overdose Fatality Review: Summary of State Laws



Request Support

Additional Support Available!



OFR Email Exchange

- Great way to network with your peers!



OFR Message Exchange Sign-Up

The OFR message exchange is a platform for those involved in Overdose Fatality Reviews to engage with one another. Enrollment in this message exchange is by permission only, and the [terms of use](#) apply.

The fields marked with the * are required.

First Name*

Last Name*



Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Request

- Expertise is available to support your OFR efforts
- We are here to help you troubleshoot day-to-day challenges as they arise



Training and Technical Assistance Request

Regardless of funding source, anyone can request OFR training and technical assistance. Expertise is available to support the expansion and development of overdose fatality review (teams) through a variety of formats, including but not limited to:

- Host one-on-one calls to troubleshoot day-to-day challenges
- Identify available resources and materials
- Connect TTA requestor to peers in the field
- Present to team or meeting attendees
- Convene professionals to address a need
- Facilitate virtual meetings and workshops



OFR Mentor Site Opportunities



- The purpose of the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Mentor Program is to elevate, communicate, and leverage OFR promising practices while building bridges between nascent teams and those with demonstrated success. The OFR Mentor Program provides a unique opportunity to learn the application and practice of OFR from experienced peers
- Interested sites can apply here



Overdose Fatality Review

Peer Mentor Site Opportunities

The purpose of the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Peer Mentor Program is to elevate, communicate, and leverage OFR best promising practices, while building bridges between nascent teams and those with demonstrated success. The OFR Peer Mentor Program provides a unique opportunity to learn the application and practice of OFR from experienced peers.

OFR Peer Mentee Application

OFR peer mentor participants are matched to an experienced mentor site program that provides consultation and support through direct communication and a virtual* OFR site visit, to see first-hand how OFRs work in practice.

A typical OFR mentee experience will include:

- One-hour introductory call at least one week before the OFR virtual site visit
- Two-hour OFR observation
- One-hour post review discussion call at least one week after the OFR virtual site visit
- Facilitated discussions with one or two OFR members as requested by peer mentee
- Feedback to IIR by both mentor and mentee about their experience

(*Note: In-person virtual site visits are on hold during the COVID-19 response.)

Request a virtual site visit by completing this online form. (http://s.ilr.com/OFRSite_Visit)

OFR
Overdose Fatality Review

BJA's
Comprehensive
Opioid, Stimulant,
and Substance Abuse
Program

The flyer features a central image of a diverse group of people standing in a circle with their hands raised, symbolizing community and support. The text is presented in a clean, professional layout with clear headings and bullet points.