Data to Action through Public Health and Public Safety Partnerships: OFR and PHAST

March 3, 2023

PHAST and OFR

Two Interrelated Strategies that Can Support Communities

OFR
Overdose Fatality Review

PHAST
Public Health and Safety Team

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Value of Multidisciplinary Teams

- Facilitate a deeper understanding of the missed opportunities for prevention and intervention that may have prevented an overdose death

- See patterns of needs and opportunities, not only within specific agencies, but across systems

- Develop program and policy recommendations to improve coordination and collaboration between agencies and improve community conditions to prevent future overdose deaths

- Share responsibility and accountability to implement recommendations

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Multidisciplinary Team Members

Multi-sector Partners

- Public health
- Behavioral health
- Treatment and recovery services
- Harm reduction
- Child and Family Services
- Healthcare
- Law enforcement
- Criminal justice
- Fire & EMS
- Housing and homeless services
- Medical examiner/coroner

Consider including representation from these disciplines

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Multidisciplinary Teams Use of Data for Action

Analyze and review aggregate data to understand overdose trends, select cases to review, and provide context for case findings and recommendations

Facilitate a series of **confidential individual death reviews** by a multidisciplinary team to effectively **identify system gaps and innovative community-specific** overdose prevention and intervention strategies

Present recommendations to governing committee that supports and provides resources to ensure implementation and creates a framework for accountability

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

A common goal of reducing overdose deaths

Recognition of substance use disorder as a chronic, treatable disease

Drug overdose deaths are preventable

Responsible use of multi-sector data to inform response strategies

Continuous improvement

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Aggregate Data → Case Review → Recommendations→ Action

Case review 1

Case review 2

Case review 3

Recommendation(s)

Possible display of structure

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                    │  Lead Agency │
                    └──────┬───────┘
              ┌────────────┴────────────┐
     ┌────────┴────────┐   ┌────────────┴──────────────────────────────┐
     │    OFR Team     │   │ Governing Committee | PHAST | Taskforce    │
     └────────┬────────┘   └────────────┬──────────────────────────────┘
              │    ┌───────────────────┐│
              └────┤  Subcommittee A   ├┘
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Lead Agency: Oversees the OFR team coordination and provides administrative support, ideally a nonpolitical, neutral agency

Governing Committee: Supports and provides resources to implement recommendations generated by case reviews
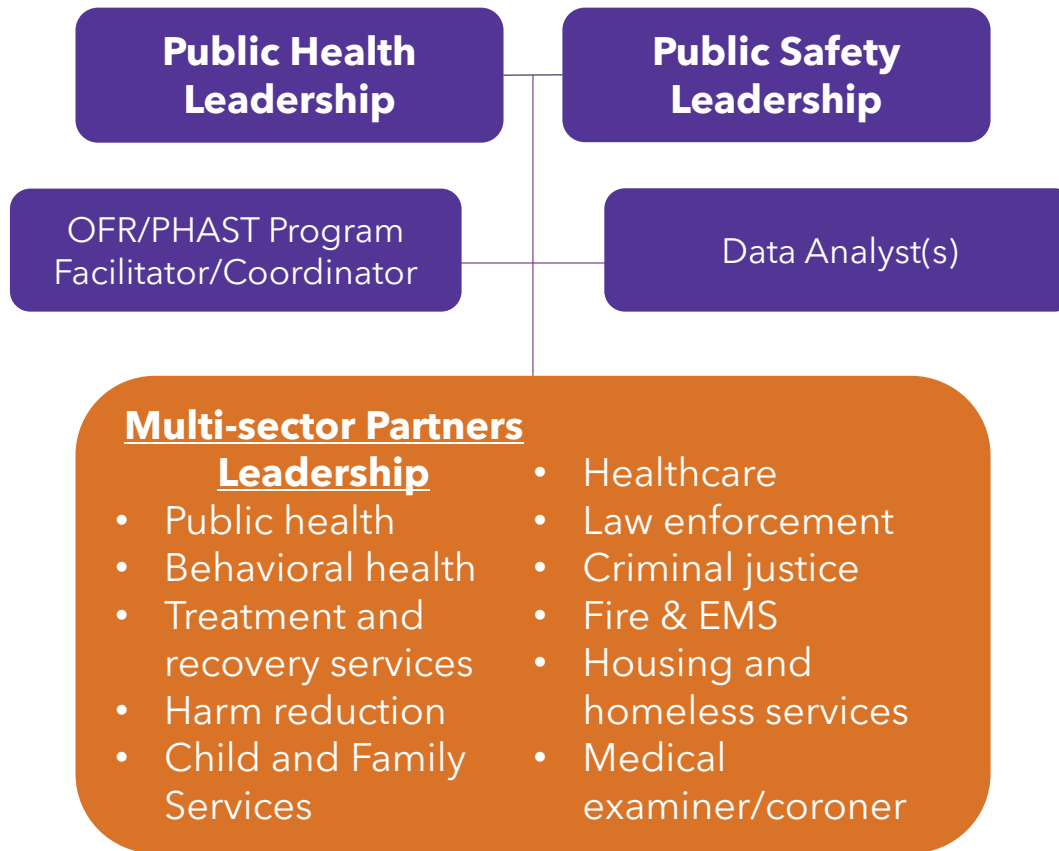
OFR Team: Multidisciplinary team that reviews a series of individual deaths to identify system-level missed opportunities for prevention and intervention

Subcommittees: Focus attention on a recommendation or need, such as case selection

EXAMPLE CASE

County Overdose Taskforce

Public Health Leadership

Public Safety Leadership

OFR/PHAST Program Facilitator/Coordinator

Data Analyst(s)

Multi-sector Partners Leadership

- Public health
- Behavioral health
- Treatment and recovery services
- Harm reduction
- Child and Family Services
- Healthcare
- Law enforcement
- Criminal justice
- Fire & EMS
- Housing and homeless services
- Medical examiner/coroner

Overdose Taskforce may also be known as:

- PHAST (Public Health and Safety Team)

- OFR Governing Committee

- Executive Committee

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SHARED UNDERSTANDING:
Review aggregate-level data

The Overdose Taskforce reviews **aggregate - level data** as part of their monthly meeting.

The taskforce's data analyst gives a data presentation to the team. They find that:

- There has been an increased rate of overdoses among people who have recently been released from the local jail.

The team wants to understand **what might be driving this increase?**

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SHARED UNDERSTANDING:
Review case-level data

Based on the themes identified through aggregate-level data review, the Overdose Fatality Review team reviews **individual cases** of recent overdose fatalities among individuals who have spent time in a county jail to understand **what led up to each fatal overdose.**

After discussing 3 cases, the team finds that:

- 3 fatal overdoses occurred within 90 days of release from jail

- 3 individuals were prescribed MOUD while in the jail, but did not continue after release

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SHARED UNDERSTANDING:
Review aggregate-level data

The OFR team decides to **validate these findings** by conducting an additional **analysis of aggregate-level data.**

They want to understand how widespread this issue is in their community.

The data analyst is asked to cross-reference overdose fatality cases over the past 3 years with individuals who spent time in jail during the same time period.

OPTIMIZED CAPACITY:
Identify recommendations
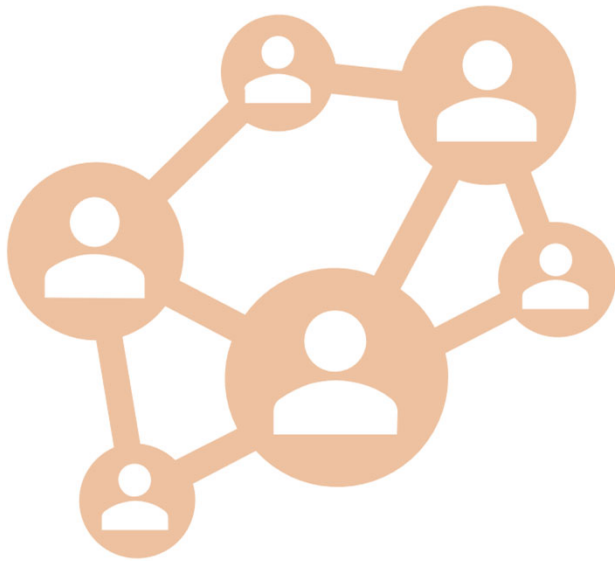
Based on the case reviews and the aggregate data, the OFR team **identifies the following recommendations** to prevent similar future fatalities:

- Provide overdose education and naloxone distribution in the local jail

- Provide bridge prescriptions for MOUD

- Establish a peer recovery program where peers meet individuals leaving jail to provide support and help navigate community resources

OPTIMIZED CAPACITY:
Identify barriers and assets
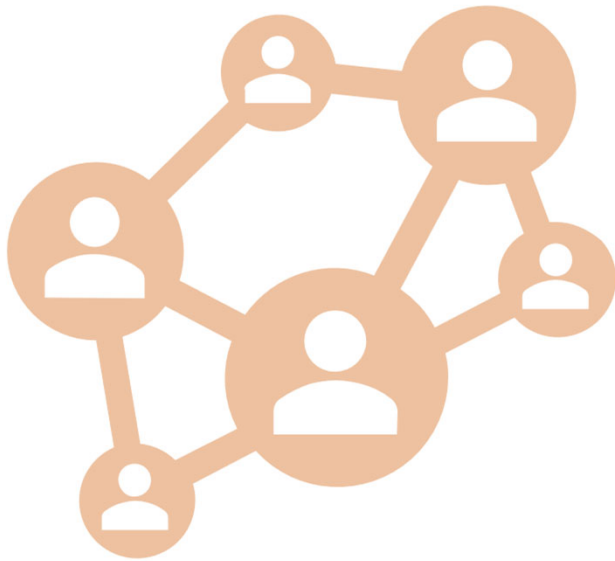
After identifying these recommendations, the OFR team **convenes a subcommittee**.

They meet to discuss:

- Are these recommendations feasible? What are barriers and assets to implementing these recommendations?

- What resources would be needed to implement each recommendation?

- What would the action plan look like?

SHARED UNDERSTANDING: Facilitate data-driven discussion

In the next Overdose Taskforce meeting, the coordinator presents their high-level findings and the subcommittee's recommendations (feasibility, resource allocation, and action plan).

Taskforce members **discuss the findings and recommendations**.

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OPTIMIZED CAPACITY:
Select interventions, Identify barriers and assets

Based on their discussion, the Overdose Taskforce decides that they **prioritize two** interventions. They **identify the following assets:**

- Local peer recovery organization is interested in partnering with local jail to meet individuals upon release.

- Local jail is open to collaboration

- County's public health agency is exploring ways to expand MOUD access

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OPTIMIZED CAPACITY: Develop an implementation plan

The Overdose Taskforce supports the implementation of the presented action plan:

- Coordinate between jail and peer recovery so that a specialist meets individuals prescribed MOUD upon release from the jail

- Work with county public health agency to establish protocols in jails for MOUD bridge prescriptions

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SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY:
Monitor intervention

After a few months, the representative of a jail and a peer recovery organization begin to **give monthly updates and data presentations** on each of the interventions.

The data analyst continues to monitor overdose fatalities from jails and share with the OFR and Overdose Taskforce.

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SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY: Make improvements and share success

Following each data presentation, the members discuss program challenges, barriers, and successes.

They identify ways to **expand what's working well** and potential **program changes** to address current challenges

Through **monitoring**, they learn many individuals were in jail for possession charges. Recommend deflection program to move the intervention **upstream.**

There is ongoing monitoring of the program at each monthly meeting.

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Considerations

Trends identified through a series of case reviews inform aggregate-level data analysis as well as data gaps.

Trends identified through analysis of aggregate data informs case selection for OFR and provide community context to case findings.

Multi-sector collaboration looks different across jurisdictions.

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Where to go from here

Next Steps

- Familiarize yourself with the available materials on PHAST and OFR.

- Build on what you already have in place.

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RESOURCES

PHAST WEBSITE & TOOLKIT

WWW.PHAST.ORG

OFR: PRACTITIONER'S GUIDE TO IMPLEMENTATION

www.cossapresources.org/Tools/OFR
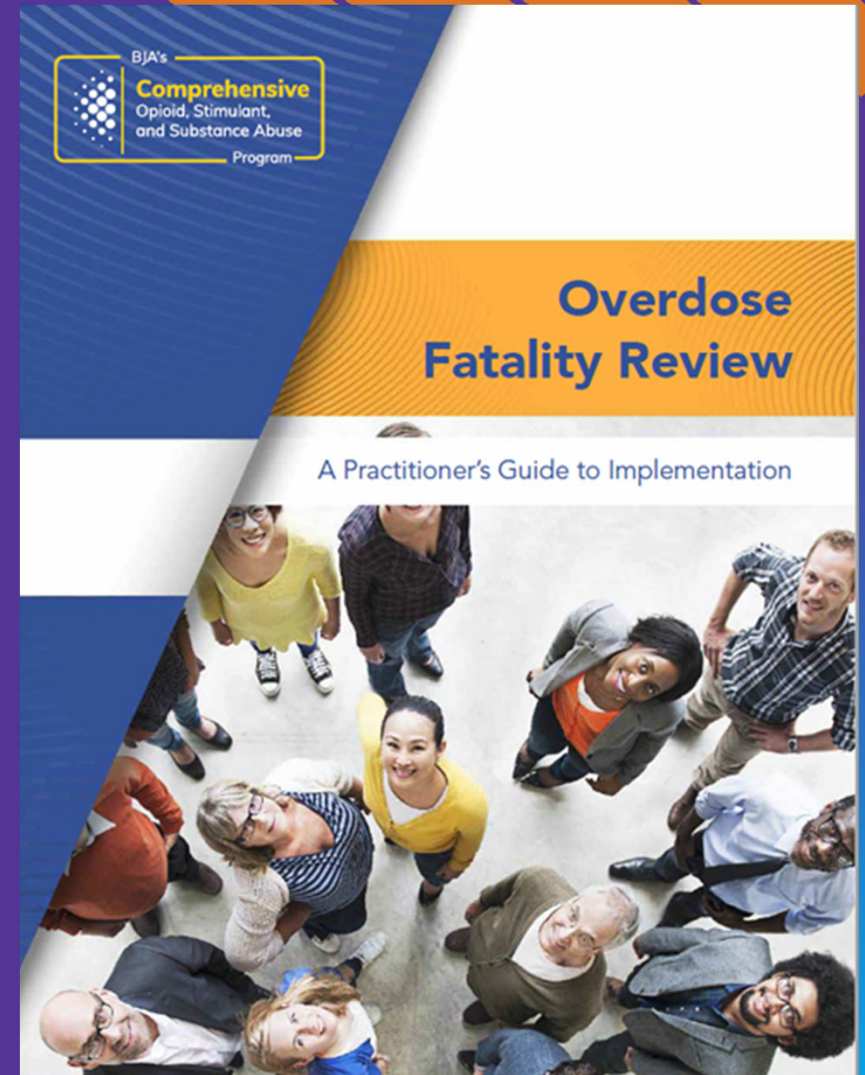
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