



Community Opioid Collaborative: Building Healthy Communities

PROBLEM

The opioid crisis is a complex generational challenge, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic, which can devastate families and communities. Effective prevention efforts depend on the involvement of individuals working across the community. Yet despite an influx of resources over past years to address opioid misuse and overdose, the absence of a federal cross-sector approach has left states to fend for themselves.

SOLUTION

States now have a rare opportunity to correct this fragmented system by:

- Investing in systemic and coordinated community-level approaches to opioid prevention.
- Developing cross-sector strategic plans in partnership with states to create community-led collaborative prevention initiatives.
- Building collaborative community-based public health infrastructures to address opioid overdose and use disorders.

APPROACH

Through our Community Opioid Collaborative, PS@EDC works with states to identify and create the constellation of supports that communities need to establish and sustain cross-sector approaches to reducing opioid misuse and overdose, identify communities ready to engage in these approaches, and support these communities in moving this work forward. Specifically, PS@EDC:

- Partners with states to facilitate statewide strategic planning processes to guide cross-sector prevention efforts at the local level, including developing community RFPs and selection criteria for identifying those communities ready to engage in cross-sector collaboration.
- Provides tailored consultation to support communities in creating effective approaches that are the right fit for their setting and needs.

WHY EDC?

For over 30 years, EDC has been working with health professionals, policymakers, and community practitioners to promote and support the implementation of effective prevention solutions to address substance misuse.

To learn more about creating a community collaborative to address opioid misuse and overdose in your state, contact preventionsolutions@edc.org.

Prevention Solutions@EDC provides training and expert consultation to support public health agencies and organizations working to prevent substance misuse and related behavioral health problems in their communities.