

## Executive Directive – Opioid Epidemic

### Goals and Near-Term Strategies

**Goal: Reduce current and future abuse and misuse of opioids including fentanyl, and similar drugs.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By March 31, 2024, complete early implementation steps and identify next steps toward primary prevention education in schools.**

- Begin engagement with superintendents and school leadership to identify champions for prevention education.
- Assess locations on readiness, interest, and capacity for a pilot program.
- Increase staff capacity for primary education efforts through contracts or additional full-time employees (FTE) to coordinate school intervention programs.

**Goal: Reduce negative health outcomes, including death, by expanding available resources for individuals who misuse or abuse drugs.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By October 1, 2023, increase the availability of overdose antidotes in the community.**

- Determine reasons for declines in naloxone acceptance in specific settings.
- Supply and support naloxone leave-behind program for first responders.

**Near-Term Strategy: By June 2024, make training opportunities available for County staff wanting to voluntarily learn how to safely administer naloxone.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By June 30, 2024, as allowed by the fund source, identify the intended recipients, and design a distribution process for fentanyl and xylazine test strips.**

**Goal: Pursue expansion of resources and continuity of care for individuals and families affected by drug misuse.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By June 30, 2024, complete an investigation into the feasibility of a Mobile Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) using opioid settlement funds.**

- Secure an agency to develop and implement a Mobile OTP.
- Develop program specifics, staffing, locations, and times.
- Determine participation of interested jurisdictions.

**Near-Term Strategy: By December 31 2023, begin the distribution of \$150,000 to community organizations that provide opioid support services in Snohomish County.**

- Develop the sponsorship application and documentation, in alignment with the One WA MOU List of Opioid Remediation Uses.
- Publish a funding announcement to organizations in Snohomish County.
- Develop a webinar to answer questions and explain application process to interested entities.

**Goal: Reduce and address damage and impacts of drug misuse on communities, residents, businesses, and visitors of Snohomish County.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By December 31, 2023, improve real-time situational awareness of “hot spots” requiring potential intervention.**

- Utilize GIS to graphically display locations that they identify as having highest priority for additional resources to address residential and business concerns.
- Streamline/automate interagency notification processes to allow all disciplines to track progress of requests for interagency support.

**Near-Term Strategy: On an ongoing basis, the Snohomish County Sheriff’s Office and Human Services Department will continue to offer services to those suffering from addiction via collaboration between the Office of Neighborhoods and Snohomish County Outreach Team (SCOUT).**

**Goal: Provide information about the drug use crisis to the public and our partners in a timely and coordinated manner.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By March 31, 2024, develop coordinated community education programs to reduce stigma, illness, overdose, and death related to the substance use disorder in the community.**

- Evaluate existing education trainings and materials between agencies; assess for any gaps in educational content, dated messaging, whether they are trauma-informed, and accessibility.
- Update community education trainings to align messaging that emphasizes stigma reduction and improves the health of people who use drugs.
- Standardize accessibility practices by increasing the regular use of translation and interpretation services and using 8th-grade-or-lower reading level standards.
- Establish coordination mechanisms for outreach and educational information.

**Near-Term Strategy: By September 30, 2023, develop and implement a shared outreach strategy to be available to the MAC Group.**

- Establish regular Joint Information System (JIS) updates regarding the drug use crisis to the MAC Group as well as the JIS contact list.
- Collaborate with Data Committee on rollout of upcoming fact sheets focused on improving internal and public understanding of the drug crisis in various communities (elders, youth, communities of color, etc.).
- Implement updates to the Snohomish Overdose Prevention website to make it more user-friendly and better suited for continued addition of MAC Group materials and resources.
- Develop social media schedule for upcoming months on Snohomish Overdose Prevention social channels.

**Goal: Use data to detect, evaluate, monitor, and act.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By March 31, 2024, expand existing data surveillance sources and practices to improve understanding of substance use disorder impacts in the community.**

- Identify meaningful data gaps among current data systems and potential opportunities for rectifying those gaps.
- Pursue new opportunities for qualitative data collection.
- Develop agreements with the courts that allow for use of their data.

**Near-Term Strategy: By March 31, 2024, develop and begin implementing a plan to systematically evaluate the effectiveness of MAC group efforts.**

- Build a performance measurement and program evaluation plan covering each MAC group initiative.

**Goal: Create a comprehensive strategy to identify a sustainable model for ongoing collaboration.**

**Near-Term Strategy: By December 31, 2023, complete a thorough landscape assessment that identifies all opioid response activities being conducted by MAC Group partners.**