



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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**Grand Forks Public Health**

## **Grand Forks Opioid Response Grant Progress Report October 2017 – April 30, 2018**

### **Prevention**

*Empowering the individual | Protecting the community | Enabling recovery*

- Developed a standing order and standing order template for naloxone distribution in the community.
- Purchased, provided training for, and distributed 195 Narcan Nasal Spray two dose kits to date.
  - Law Enforcement – Grand Forks Police Dept., UND Police Dept., Sheriff's Dept.
  - Corrections – Grand Forks County Correctional Center, Juvenile Detention Center
  - Public Places – Grand Forks Library, Grand Forks Public Schools, Ralph Engelstad Arena
  - Social Service facilities – Grand Forks Withdrawal Management Center
  - 460 individuals trained since January 1, 2018
- Developed solutions for Narcan storage and carry:
  - Co-location of Narcan with AEDs with appropriate signage or in alarmed Narcan cabinets
  - Temperature monitored solution for law enforcement officer carry
- Collaborated with student led efforts to increase access to naloxone on the UND campus.
- Developed a training curriculum for overdose recognition and naloxone administration for first responders and laypeople.
  - First responder training incorporates information on treatment and harm reduction to help connect the individual with resources to stay safe and seek help.
- Discussed local prevention efforts with a pharmacy workgroup
  - A majority of Grand Forks pharmacies now have pharmacists that can prescribe naloxone.
  - Eight Grand Forks pharmacies offer medication take back locations.
- Met with physician, nursing, and EMS leadership in the area to discuss our efforts.
- Disseminated information on harm reduction to community behavioral health partners.
- Contracted with a graduate research assistant from UND to conduct a needs assessment of individuals who inject drugs using funds from an additional grant.
- Developed a resource pocket guide for first responders to provide to individuals with substance use disorders and their families.
- Future plans
  - Develop solutions to get naloxone to individuals at risk for opioid overdose at community resource touchpoints.
  - Identify and contact additional organizations to train and distribute Narcan.

## Treatment

*Building infrastructure | Eliminating barriers | Promoting wellness*

- Subcontracted with Valley Community Health Centers to create an integrated Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program which is now seeing clients.
- Subcontracted with a local addiction treatment program to increase access to addiction counseling services.
- Subcontracted with Face It TOGETHER Fargo-Moorhead to provide outreach peer recovery coach services in the Grand Forks area.
  - Outreach services provided on Thursday afternoons
  - Training local volunteer peer recovery coaches
  - Located at Northern Prairie Community Clinic in the former UND Medical School Building
- Implemented a program to provide travel support to individuals driving from the Grand Forks area to Fargo for daily medication dosing as a part of their opioid use disorder treatment plan.
- Assisted other MAT prescribers in the area with developing relationships with community counseling and peer support providers.
- Collaborated with BCBS:ND Caring Foundation to sponsor a community documentary screening of *The Opioid Epidemic: Seeking Solutions for North Dakota* followed by a panel discussion.
  - 150 community members attended
- Collaborated with Face It TOGETHER to sponsor an event tailored to business leaders – *Addiction at Work: Tackling the Opioid Crisis and Building Long-Term Wellness*
  - 40 business leaders attended
- Met with other health care and counseling providers who are interested in providing medication assisted treatment and counseling services.
- Future Plans
  - Develop a warm hand-off program for individuals presenting to the emergency department with opioid withdrawal or overdose to be referred for treatment.
  - Increase knowledge and acceptance of MAT among counseling and health care providers in the Grand Forks area.
  - Develop sustainable treatment pathways for individuals with substance use disorders where services are currently unavailable.
  - Collaborate with existing organizations to address social determinants of health that enable and support recovery.



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