

Opioid-Related News and the Courts

Weekly Review

February 24, 2023



Michigan

[Warren receives opioid settlement](#)

Warren Weekly

The mayor said he would like to see some of the money go to the following organizations: the 37th District Court drug court program, Families Against Narcotics, Live Rite Structured Recovery Corp., Eastside Alano Club (Alcoholics Anonymous) and Ask the Messengers.

This echoes the sentiments of some of the members of the Warren City Council, as well as some members of the community. The mayor and City Council have had a contentious relationship; however, on this matter, they appear to be in agreement.

North Carolina

[Nearly \\$1 million going to help Cumberland County with opioid recovery](#)

ABC 11

Money will also go to the Cumberland County drug court as well as the North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition. The county's detention center has already been receiving funds for medication-assistance treatment.

"We have not used up all of our money," [Glenn Adams, a member of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners] said. "There [is] some money that came in the spring. There's some money that comes in the summer and then some other funds. So, as we held back some funds, it may be to do something even bigger with the next settlements that's coming in."

Ohio

[Mixed Methods Evaluation of State Targeted Response to the Opioid Crisis in Ohio](#)

Ohio Journal of Public Health

Background: In 2017, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration awarded State Targeted Response (STR) grants through the 21st Century Cures Act to help states address the opioid crisis. While there are publications that discuss how each state allocated their STR grant awards, there is a paucity of evaluations illustrating the impact of STR grant activities on clients of opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment, family members of persons living with OUD, community

professionals whose work involves addressing OUD, as well as impacts on local communities. This longitudinal qualitative study assessed the impact of STR grant-funded projects on communities in Ohio particularly hard hit by the opioid epidemic.

Methods: Data were collected through a mixed research methodology from November 2017 through April 2019. Epidemiologists conducted focus groups and administered surveys in 4 geographically different areas of the state. Study objectives included assessments of community messaging related to opioids, level of perceived stigma for OUD, knowledge of available services and processes for accessing them, and perception of community treatment service needs.

Results: A total of 940 respondents participated in 3 cycles (6 months each) of focus groups. Key findings included increased naloxone knowledge and experience, increased proportion of persons living with OUD receiving medication-assisted treatment (MAT), and a 2.5 time increase in the number of reported positive observations of community change. While the level of perceived stigma for OUD remained consistent (moderate) throughout the study, respondents throughout cycles observed an increasing number of community approaches, such as public awareness campaigns and recovery rallies, to impart knowledge, change attitudes, and reduce stigma.

Washington

[County looks to grow therapeutic courts](#)

Tacoma Weekly

In 1989, our nation’s first drug court was established in Miami-Dade County and since then have spread across the country. Known as “therapeutic” or “diversion” courts, other alternatives to incarceration were later developed to address mental health, veterans’ issues, and community courts dedicated to neighborhood problems like drug possession, shoplifting, and vandalism.

Tacoma Municipal Court has been in the process of transforming its previous mental health calendar to a formal Mental Health Court. It is also currently looking at venues and meeting with treatment agencies to start its first Community Court. Last October, a case manager and a collaborative court manager were hired to finalize the Mental Health Court and [start] the Community Court.

Wisconsin

[‘It affects every single person on this reservation:’ Menominee Indian Tribe works to curb record number of overdose deaths](#)

Wisconsin Public Radio

[Lydi] Dodge’s addiction led to her losing custody of her five children. She was stuck in an abusive relationship. She had been in jail several times. She had lost relationships with her family and friends.

Opioid-Related News and the Courts Weekly Review: February 24, 2023

But after a stint in jail and drug court in 2021, Dodge decided to finally change her life for the better.

Before she went to jail, she remembers praying: “I’m sick of living like this. I want to get sober, I want to get clean.”

She believes that saved her life.

