

TASC's Center for Health and Justice

First-Responder Trauma

May 28, 2020



CENTER FOR
HEALTH & JUSTICE
AT TASC



Advocates for
Human Potential, Inc.

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Alyse Altenburg

Policy Advisor

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Office of Justice Programs



CHJ COSSAP Team

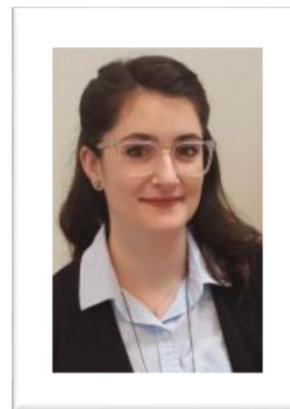
- TTA provider for COSSAP FRD grantees since 2017
- BJA/COSSAP lead on first responder trauma



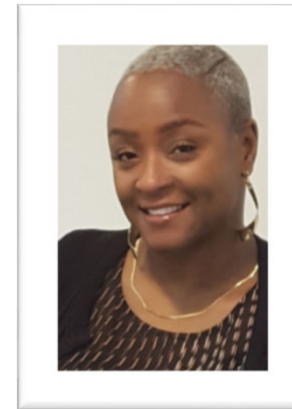
Jac Charlier
Executive Director
Project Executive Lead



Ben Ekelund
Director
Project Lead



Hope Fiori
Administrator
Project Specialist



Nikki Muñoz
Administrator
Project Specialist

Center for Health and Justice (CHJ)

- Grounded in TASC's 45+ years of *operational experience* providing specialized case management to individuals with a SUD and MH across the justice system
- International/national TTA leadership and expertise in areas of deflection, pre-arrest diversion, first-responder diversion (FRD), diversion along the justice continuum – with a focus on courts and jails, alternatives to incarceration, and best reentry practices for individuals with a SUD
- Perform Treatment Capacity, Sustainability, and Specialized Case Management TTA with sites



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Investigating Opioid Crisis First Responder Impact

AHP Collaboration Supervised by COSSAP TA Director, Pam Rainer

Senior Research Associate Niki Miller

- Initial scan of research, information and tools available to the field
- Interview transcript review and summary documents
- Analysis and initial report of qualitative data

Senior Program Manager Laurie Curtis, MA, CPRP

- Served as second interviewer
- Assisted with research tasks and project management

Senior Program Associate Becky Berkebile

- Assisted with interviews



Learning Objectives

- Describe two ways the opioid crisis can affect the community and first responder agencies and staff.
- Identify at least one sign that can indicate how first responders dealing with the opioid crisis are experiencing stress/secondary trauma/compassion fatigue.
- Discuss what resources exist, and identify at least one tool the field requires to specifically address first responder trauma and stress that result from new challenges posed by the opioid crisis.
- List a priority step COSSAP grantee programs can take to promote first-responder resilience.

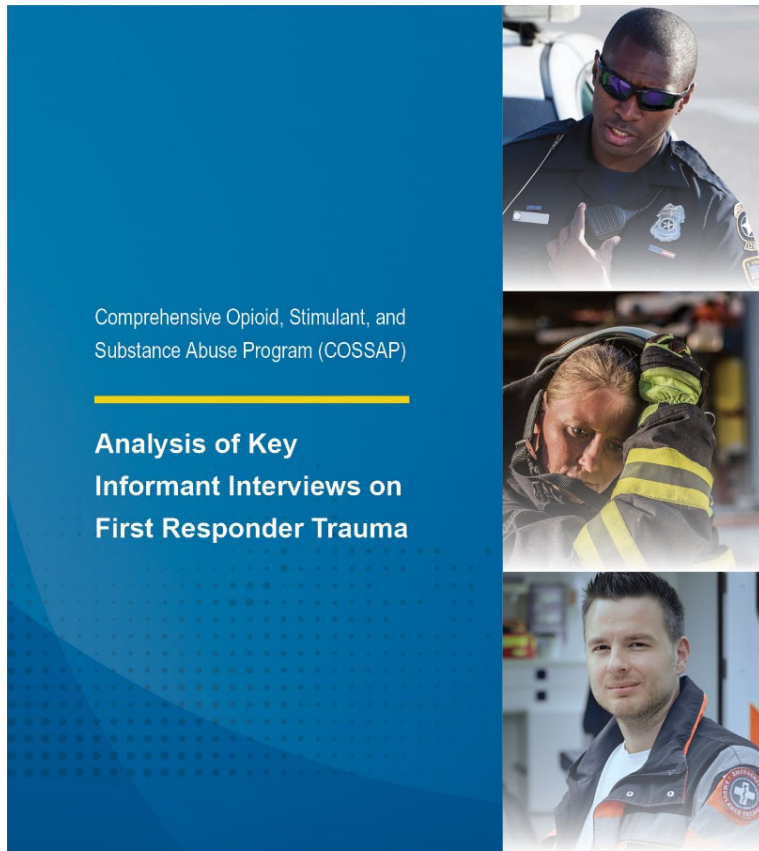
Agenda

1. Introduction to the FR Trauma project and today's webinar
2. Brief overview of project's purpose and methodology
3. Niki Miller, AHP, Discussion of Key Findings
4. Live Interview with Chief Debora Black, Prescott, AZ
5. Discussion: How can COSSAP help the field?
6. Question and Answer

Let us know your thoughts!

- Enter comments in the chat box at any time
- We want to *hear from you* about what your agency has in place to support FR trauma
- If we can't get to all questions in Q&A –we will follow up!
- Please email questions, comments, suggestions: hfiori@tasc.org

First-Responder (FR) Trauma Project



Task: impact of trauma exposure and available supports

- Law enforcement officers
- Firefighters
- Paramedics/EMS

Report Intro: on the frontlines of the opioid crises

Methodology: capturing the unique perspectives of key informants

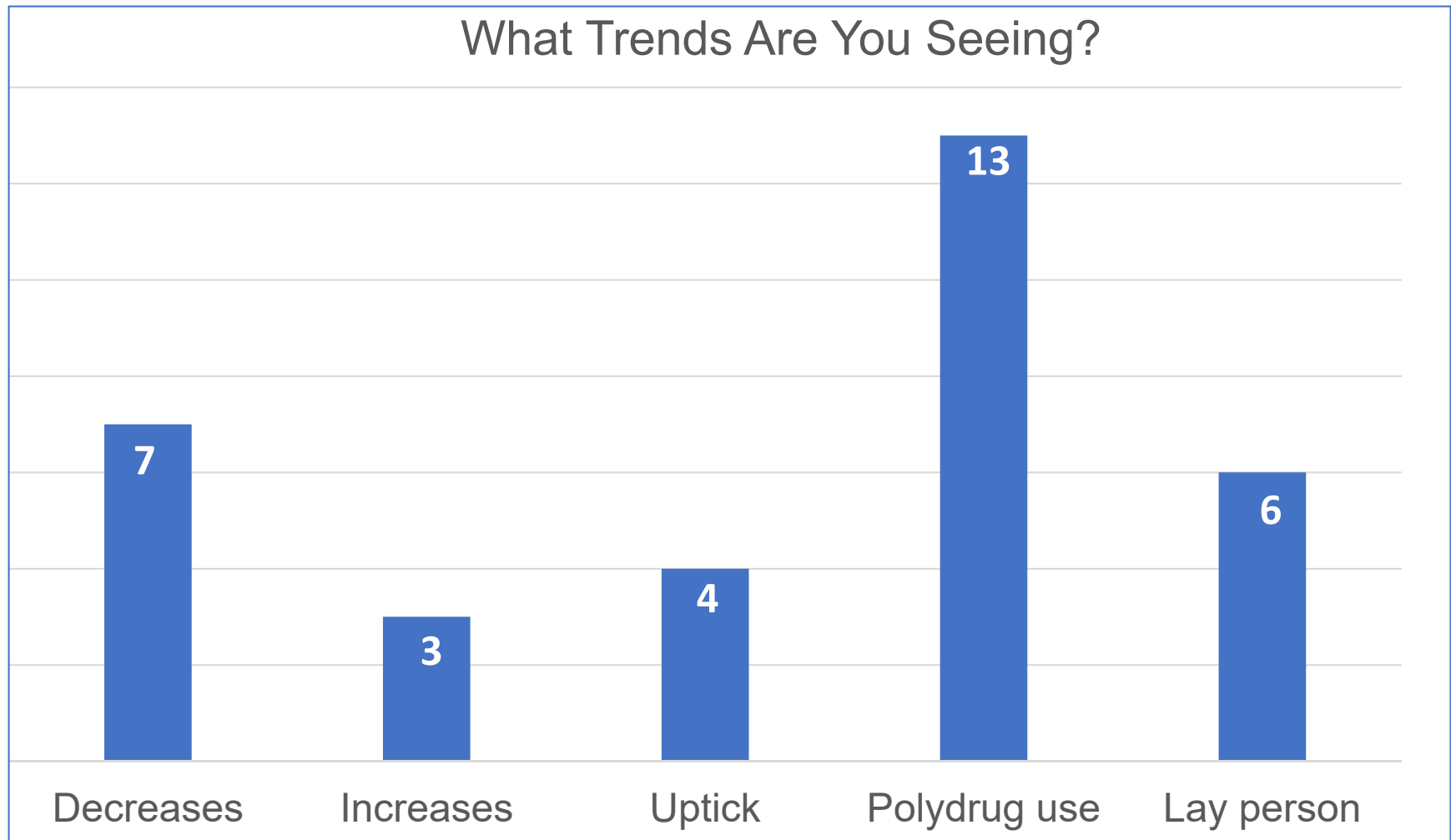
Audience Poll #1

Key Findings

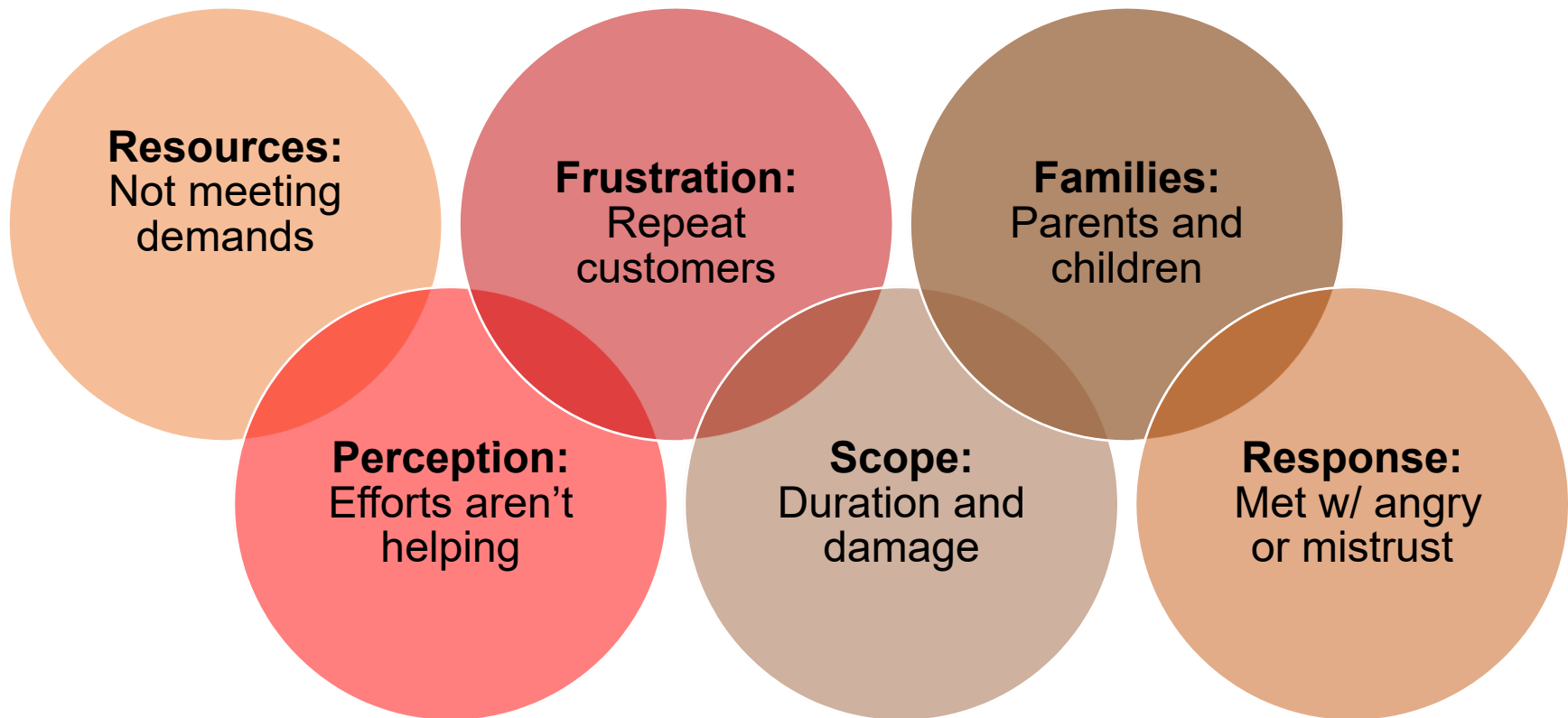
Niki A. Miller, MS, CPS
Senior Research Associate
Advocates for Human Potential, Inc.



Key findings: Trends



Key findings: Major Stressors



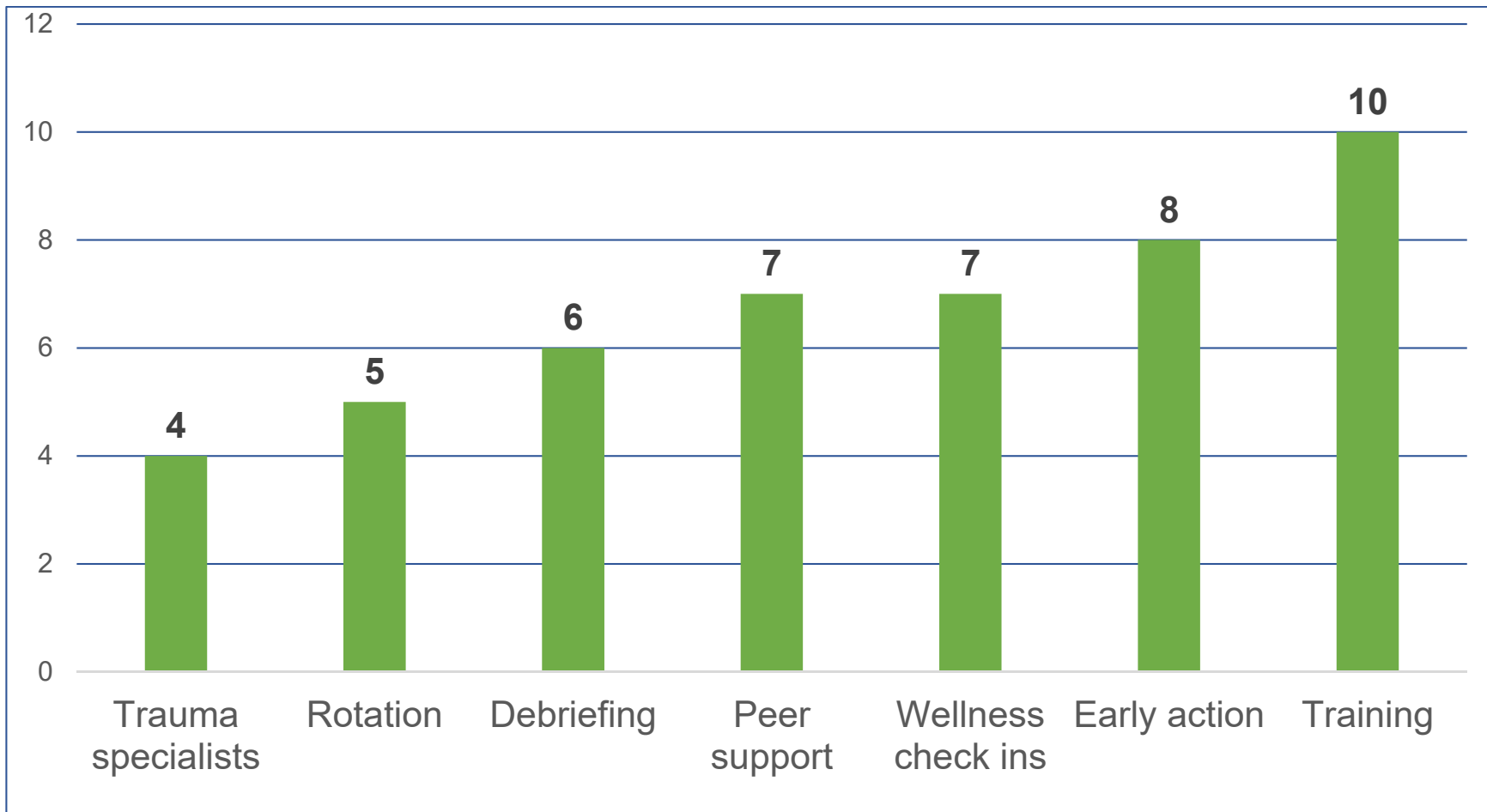
Key findings: Remedies

- Correcting **perceptions** through data on program impact
- Countering negative **responses** with appreciation
- Acknowledge **frustration** but include the voice of recovery
- More training and support: **family members or children** at scene
- **Resources**: better information and coordination, build capacity
- **Scope** duration and intensity calls for support for resilience

Key findings: **Yellow flags**

- Misdirected anger – starts small but builds quickly
- Monitor changes in absenteeism, tardiness, staff exposures
- Supervisors watch for increased substance use, sleep problems
- Callous attitude towards people with opioid problems
- Citizen complaints, angry encounters at scenes

Key findings: What's working



Introduction to Chief Black



Chief Debora Black
Prescott Police Department
Prescott, Arizona



In what ways is the situation affecting your 1) personnel, 2) department, and 3) broader community?



Chief Debora Black
Prescott Police Department
Prescott, Arizona



Hope Fiori, MPPA
TASC's Center for Health
and Justice

What are some challenges you've encountered while implementing or engaging staff in efforts to address and respond to trauma?



Chief Debora Black
Prescott Police Department
Prescott, Arizona



Hope Fiori, MPPA
TASC's Center for Health
and Justice

Audience Poll #2

Q&A

Have More Questions?

To **request training and technical assistance** for law enforcement and first responder diversion, or for other requests, contact CHJ:

Hope Fiori
Center for Health and Justice at TASC
(312) 573-8204
hfiori@tasc.org

Or visit the TTA request page on the COSSAP website:
<https://www.cossapresources.org/Program/TTA/Request>

