The purpose of the Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Mentor Program is to elevate, communicate, and leverage OFR best promising practices while building bridges between nascent teams and those with demonstrated success. The OFR Mentor Program provides a unique opportunity to learn the application and practice of OFR from experienced peers.

**Expectations of OFR Mentor Site**

- Work with Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) to coordinate travel plans as needed.
- Attend onboarding training.
- Host IIR for a site visit (virtual or in-person).
- Fill out a site profile.
- Present on the Bureau of Justice Assistance’s (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP) webinar to introduce the mentor sites.
- Host three to five sites a year:
  - Schedule 1-hour introductory call at least 1 week before the OFR mentee site visit
  - Host 2-hour OFR observation
  - Host 1-hour post-review discussion call at least 1 week after the OFR mentee site visit
  - Provide resources and follow-up information as required
- Complete an evaluation of the mentor experience.

Request a virtual site visit by completing this online form at [http://s.iir.com/OFRSite_Visit](http://s.iir.com/OFRSite_Visit)
Expectations of OFR Mentor Plus Site

- Work with IIR to coordinate travel plans as needed.
- Attend onboarding training.
- Host IIR for a site visit (virtual or in-person).
- Fill out a site profile.
- Present on BJA’s COSSAP webinar to introduce the mentor sites.
- Host three to five sites a year:
  - Schedule 1-hour introductory call at least 1 week before the OFR mentee site visit
  - Host 2-hour OFR observation
  - Host 1-hour post-review discussion call at least 1 week after the OFR mentee site visit
  - Provide resources and follow-up information as required
- Complete an evaluation of the mentor experience.
- Provide ongoing coaching, check-in calls, and other needs as requested.
- Visit the mentee site OFR team meeting to provide feedback.
- Attend quarterly calls with IIR to provide feedback on the coaching program.

OFR Mentee Expectations

OFR mentee participants are matched to an experienced OFR mentor site that provides consultation and support through direct communication and a virtual OFR site visit to see firsthand how OFRs work in practice.

A Typical OFR Mentee Experience Will Include:

- A 1-hour introductory call at least 1 week before the OFR site visit.
- A 2-hour OFR observation.
- A 1-hour post-review discussion call at least 1 week after the OFR site visit.
- Facilitated discussions with one or two OFR members as requested by the mentee.
- Feedback to IIR, the BJA designated training and technical assistance provider about their experience.
Ocean County, New Jersey

The Ocean County Overdose Fatality Review Program is managed through the Ocean County Health Department and is a county-level program established in 2017. Starting in fall 2020, it became a funded program through the New Jersey Department of Health to continue the fatality review and to serve as a technical advisor to other fatality reviews in New Jersey.

Experience
- County-level overdose fatality review (OFR)
- State OFR legislation
- Publishes an annual report
- Health department-led with strong partnerships with the prosecutor's office, the behavioral health department, and the county medical examiner
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Surveys team members regularly
- Urban/suburban community
- Uses the OFR Data System
- Bimonthly executive committee meeting
- Hosting local sites
- Virtual case review

Winnebago County, Wisconsin

Winnebago County’s OFR is managed by the Winnebago County Health Department and is a county-level OFR established in 2018. It is currently funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Overdose Data to Action grant.

Experience
- County-level OFR
- No state OFR legislation
- Publishes an annual report
- Facilitated by an outside contractor
- Experience with suicide and overdose deaths
- Health department-led with a connection to a local prevention coalition
- Separate recommendation and monitoring team and implementation task force
- Providing technical assistance to local OFR sites
- In-person case review
- Uses the OFR Data System
- Rural community
**Utah**

Utah’s OFR is managed by the Utah Department of Health and Human Services and is a state-level OFR established in 2017. It is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant with Opioid Response Strategy involvement.

**Experience**
- State-level OFR initiative
- State OFR legislation
- State attorney general’s opioid task force serves as the governing committee
- Centralized medical examiner’s office
- Themed case selection
- Publishes reports after completion of each themed review
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Convening different types of death reviews (including Opioid Overdose, Domestic Violence, Child Fatality, Advanced Clinical Child Fatality, Child Suicide, Suicide, and Maternal Mortality)
- Virtual case review
- CDC Foundation Public Health Analyst (PHA) and/or Drug Intelligence Officer (DIO) is represented in meetings

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**Sauk County, Wisconsin**

The Sauk County Overdose Death Review Team is managed by Public Health Sauk County and is a rural county-led OFR team established in 2018. It is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant.

**Experience**
- County-level OFR
- No state OFR legislation
- Reviews overdose deaths that occur
- Uses the OFR Data System
- Rural community
- Home to Ho-Chunk Nation Tribe
- Virtual case review
- Providing technical assistance to local sites
- County coroner system
- Persons in recovery are represented in meetings

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**Hamilton County, Ohio**

The Hamilton County Overdose Fatality Review Team is managed by Hamilton County Public Health and is a county-led OFR team established in 2017. It is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant.

**Experience**
- County-level OFR
- State OFR legislation
- Executive governing committee that is led by the health commissioner
- County coroner system
- Hybrid (both virtual and in-person) case review
- Themed case selection
- Persons in recovery are represented in meetings
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Urban community
- Hosting sites
Yavapai County, Arizona

The Yavapai County Overdose Fatality Review Board is managed by MATFORCE, a substance abuse coalition, and is a county-led OFR board established in 2016.

Experience
- County-level OFR
- State OFR legislation
- Medical examiner system
- Virtual case review
- Publishes an annual report
- Hosting sites
- Reviews all overdose deaths that occur
- Rural community
- Executive governing committee is chaired by the MATFORCE Coalition Board
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Home to two tribal nations, the Yavapai Apache Nation and the Yavapai Prescott Indian Tribe

Marion County, Indiana

The Marion County Overdose Fatality Review Team is managed by the Marion County Public Health Department and is a county-level OFR team established in 2020. It is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant.

Experience:
- State OFR legislation
- County coroner system
- Uses the OFR Data System
- In-person case review
- Mix of suburban and rural communities
- Shares county border with other states
- Persons in recovery are represented in meetings
- Publishes an annual report
- Reviews both suicide and overdose fatalities
- Reviews all cases within the county

Dearborn County, Indiana

The Dearborn County Suicide and Overdose Fatality Review Team is managed by One Community One Family, a 501(c)3 nonprofit agency focused on facilitating an evidence-supported system-of-care approach that promotes the wellness of children and families. It is a county-level OFR team established in 2020 and is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant.

Experience:
- State OFR legislation
- County coroner system
- Uses the OFR Data System
- In-person case review
- Mix of suburban and rural communities
- Shares county border with other states
- Persons in recovery are represented in meetings
- Publishes an annual report
- Reviews both suicide and overdose fatalities
- Reviews all cases within the county
Lackawanna County, Pennsylvania

The Lackawanna County Overdose Fatality Review Team is managed by the Lackawanna District Attorney’s Office and is a county-level OFR team established in 2020. It is currently funded by a U.S. Department of Justice grant.

Experience:

- No state OFR legislation
- Case selection through signed next-of-kin consent
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Publishes an annual report
- Virtual OFR meeting
- Uses the OFR Data System
- Rural community
- Hosting other sites
- Semiannual data and recommendations meeting
- County coroner system

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

The Cuyahoga County Overdose Fatality Review Team is co-managed by the Cuyahoga County Board of Health and the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner’s Office. It is a county-level OFR team established in 2019 and is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant.

Experience

- State OFR legislation
- Themed case review
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Publishes an annual report
- In-person OFR meeting
- Hosting other sites
- Persons in recovery are represented in meetings
- Includes guest ad hoc members
- Urban community
- Medical examiner system
- Uses the OFR Data System

Lexington County, South Carolina

The Lexington County Overdose Fatality Review Team is co-managed by the Lexington County Coroner’s Office and a community psychologist. It is a county-level OFR team established in 2020 and is currently funded by a National Association of County Health Officials (NACCHO) grant.

Experience

- County-level OFR
- No state OFR legislation
- Themed review
- Next-of-kin interview
- Virtual OFR meeting
- Hosting other sites
- Mix of urban and rural communities
- Persons in recovery are represented in meetings
- CDC Foundation PHA
Anne Arundel County, Maryland

The Anne Arundel County’s OFR is managed by the Anne Arundel County Health Department and is a county-level OFR established in 2016. It is currently funded by the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant.

Experience:
- County-level OFR
- State OFR legislation
- Publishes annual report
- Facilitated by health department
- Next-of-kin interviews
- Suburban community
- Virtual case review

Visit the COSSAP Resource Center at www.cossapresources.org.

Request a virtual site visit by completing this online form at http://s.iir.com/OFRSite_Visit.

To learn more about the mentor program, go to www.cossapresources.org/Learning/PeerToPeer.

About the Institute for Intergovernmental Research

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) serves as the connecting point for COSSAP TTA efforts and collaborates with BJA leadership and fellow TTA providers to work directly with COSSAP site-based grantees. IIR’s role includes guidance and contributions by subject-matter experts in priority COSSAP areas of focus; coordination of the COSSAP TTA network’s cadre of experts and providers; publication production and design of COSSAP resources; planning, coordination, and delivery of national-level trainings and working group meetings; COSSAP Resource Center development and maintenance; coordination of distance-learning opportunities and resource dissemination; and other complementary activities.

About BJA

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) provides leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement in achieving safer communities. To learn more about BJA, visit www.bja.gov and follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DOJBJA) and Twitter (@DOJBJA). BJA is part of the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs.

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