

Effective Law Enforcement Strategies to Support Successful Pre-Arrest Deflection Programs

March 24, 2022



TASC's Center for Health & Justice COSSAP Team



Jac Charlier,
Executive Director-
Project Executive
Lead



Ben Ekelund,
Director-
Project Lead



Hope Fiori,
Administrator-
Project Specialist



Benjamin Campbell,
Administrator-
Project Specialist



Jacob Walls-
Project Coordinator

TTA provider for COSSAP first responder deflection/diversion grantees since 2017



Panelists

- Mitch Cunningham
 - Chief Law Enforcement Advisor for the National Sheriffs' Association

Cook County, Illinois, Sheriff's Office

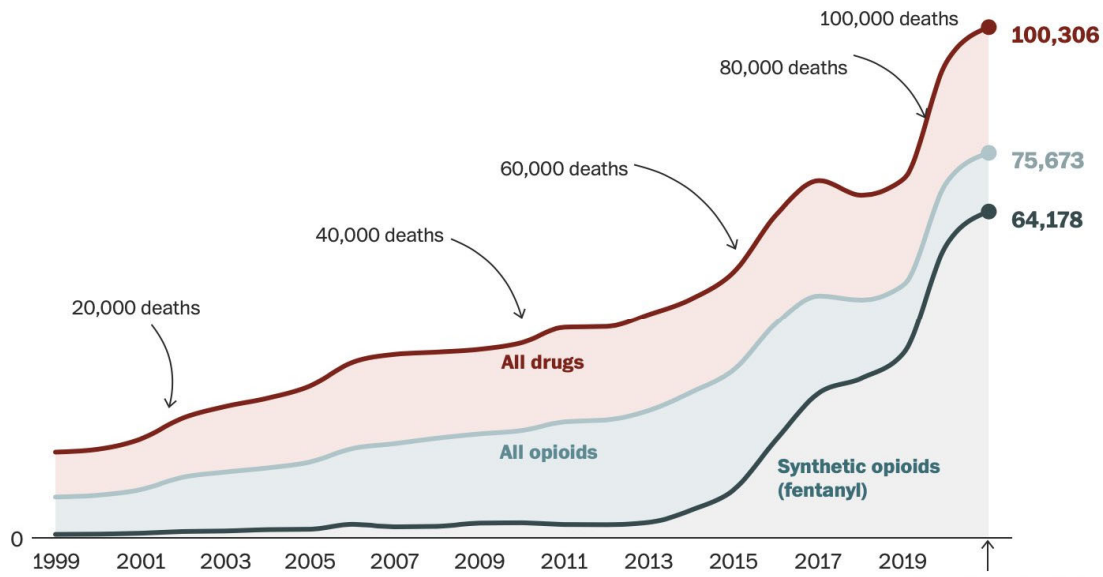
- Elli Montgomery
 - Program Director, Treatment Response Team
- Sergeant Efrain Mata

Effective Law Enforcement Strategies for Pre-arrest Deflection Programs



The Severity of the Problem

U.S. drug overdose deaths per year



Provisional data for 2020 and 12 months ending in April 2021.

Source: [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), [National Center for Health Statistics](#)

DAN KEATING / THE WASHINGTON POST



Wilmington, North Carolina, Police Department: A Case Study

- Naloxone—2nd jurisdiction in the state to acquire
 - Currently over 200 lives saved since March, 2016
- LEAD program—pre-arrest diversion program
- Quick Response Team—post overdose response strategy
- Partnership with the NC Harm Reduction Coalition



Example of FR-Led Diversion: LEAD Program

- Pre-arrest diversion program based on the national model
- Arrests vs. Social Referrals
- Uses ODMAP to identify areas to engage in outreach
- Expanding LEAD training, during CIT annual refresher courses
- A partnership with the District Attorney's Office, nonprofits, mental health community, state and local public health and others



Another example: Quick Response Team

- Started June 2018
- Partnership with local substance abuse service provider, EMS and Police/Fire
- Provides addiction services outreach within 3 days
- 83% success rate of clients going into treatment
- Uses ODMAP to identify areas to engage in outreach



NORTH CAROLINA LEGISLATIVE CHANGES SINCE 2013

- ▶ Good Samaritan law
- ▶ Needle exchange
- ▶ STOP Act
 - ▶ Restricts the number of dosage units that can be prescribed
 - ▶ Requires mandatory entry of prescriptions onto state database
- ▶ Increased drop boxes
- ▶ HOPE Act-access of prescription database access to “certified” law enforcement officials



Model Law Enforcement and Other First Responder Deflection Program Act

- ▶ LEOs encouraged to “deflect” offenders to alternatives
- ▶ Develop and implement programs
- ▶ 25 states have statutes encouraging the creation of these programs
- ▶ LEOs expected to work with community partners such as treatment providers
- ▶ Requires an MOU with partners
- ▶ Certain provisions require thresholds to be met



CONTACT INFORMATION

Mitch Cunningham, Deputy Chief (ret.)
Wilmington, North Carolina, Police Department and
Chief Law Enforcement Advisor for the
National Sheriffs' Association

Mcunningham@sheriffs.org



Cook County, Illinois, Sheriff's Office

- Elli Montgomery
 - Program Director, Treatment Response Team
- Sergeant Efrain Mata

Questions and Answers

For more information and to request TTA

Hope Fiori
COSSAP Project Specialist
(312) 573-8201
hfiori@tasc.org

Request TTA on the COSSAP
Resources Website

<https://www.cossapresources.org/Program/TTA>

Ben Ekelund
Executive Director
(312) 573-8337
bekelund@tasc.org

TASC's Center for Health and Justice
www.centerforhealthandjustice.org

