

Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund

2023-2024 Request for Proposals

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The Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund is partnership of:



Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund

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OVERVIEW

The City of Philadelphia and the Scattergood Foundation are partnering to launch the second cycle of the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund. **The Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund uses national opioid settlement dollars to repair the harms inflicted on communities across Philadelphia as a result of the opioid epidemic and overdose crisis.**

The Fund draws on lived experience and community participation to direct resources to organizations doing work in the following three areas: **overdose prevention, community and family healing, and/or substance use prevention.**

Decades of deceptive and harmful practices by pharmaceutical companies have contributed to epidemic opioid use and more than a million overdose deaths in the US since 1999.¹

Philadelphia is not immune – more than 1,000 people have lost their lives to unintentional overdose each year since 2017. In the last several years, overdose rates have increased dramatically among communities of color with an 87% increase in overdose deaths among non-Hispanic Black individuals and a 43% increase among Hispanic individuals. By contrast, the rate of overdose deaths among non-Hispanic White individuals declined by 12% over the same period from 2018 to 2022. The overdose crisis has touched just about every zip code in Philadelphia, with the highest numbers of overdose deaths occurring in 19124, 19132, 19133, 19134, and 19140.²

While most unintentional overdose deaths continue to be driven by opioids such as heroin and fentanyl, deaths involving stimulants such as cocaine and methamphetamine (with and without opioids present) have also increased. Xylazine, a veterinary anesthetic and analgesic, was also detected in roughly a third of overdose deaths last year, and has further complicated treatment and recovery services as xylazine can cause necrotic wounds.³

Communities and families have a right to access resources that can support prevention, treatment, recovery, and healing. The Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund mobilizes impacted residents to award grants to community-based organizations doing critical and under resourced work to repair and revitalize communities.

All grant applications are due by Thursday, January 11th, 2024, at 5:00 PM EST.

¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: [Drug Overdose Deaths](#)

² City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health: [Unintentional Drug Overdose Fatalities in Philadelphia, 2022](#)

³ City of Philadelphia Department of Public Health: [Unintentional Drug Overdose Fatalities in Philadelphia, 2022](#)

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Core Values

The Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund is guided by the following community-identified core values:

- We prioritize **community voice and participation** in decision making.
- We highlight **community strengths and opportunities** for growth.
- We consider the **whole person and their context**.
- We support a **range of services to meet people where they are**.
- We seek **justice, challenge oppression, and distribute resources equitably**.
- We are **open to change and responsive** to new learning.
- We draw on **lived experience, data, and evidence** to inform strategy.

Grant Focus Areas

The Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund supports organizations and programs that are doing work in **at least one** of the following focus areas:

1. **Overdose Prevention:** The focus of the funded work is to prevent overdose among people who use drugs. Work in this focus area includes but is not limited to outreach, education, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services.
2. **Community and Family Healing:** The focus of the funded work is to promote healing for individuals, families, and communities that have been impacted by the overdose crisis. Work in this focus area includes but is not limited to grief counseling and healing services, building social connection and resilience in impacted communities, and supporting the wellbeing of community workers in the substance use field.
3. **Substance Use Prevention:** The focus of the funded work is to provide education and supportive opportunities for people who may be at risk of using drugs. Work in this focus area includes but is not limited to awareness building and outreach, education, training, and other prevention-focused programming.

Please see page 11 for a list of **examples of work in each grant focus area**.

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2023-2024 GRANT INFORMATION

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for funding, organizations must meet the following requirements:

- **Non-Profit:** Applicants must be a non-profit and provide their 501(c)(3) designation letter or have a fiscal sponsor.
 - *If the applicant has a fiscal sponsor, they must provide the fiscal sponsor's 501(c)(3) letter and the fiscal sponsor agreement. The agreement should detail the role and responsibility of each party and should describe the administrative fee that the sponsored organization will provide to its fiscal sponsor, as well as any recordkeeping responsibilities that the sponsored organization owes the fiscal sponsor.*
- **Geographic Location:** Applicants must be headquartered in and serve communities in Philadelphia.
 - Organizations can apply to one of three different applicant pools:
 - **Kensington:** Funded work must take place within the **19124, 19133,** and/or **19134** zip codes
 - **North Philadelphia:** Funded work must take place within the **19132** and/or **19140** zip codes
 - **Citywide:** Funded work may take place in **any other City of Philadelphia zip code**
(NOTE: If the funding request is for work that includes Kensington and/or North Philadelphia but is not exclusive to those neighborhoods, please reach out to the Scattergood Foundation team so we can work with you to find the appropriate applicant pool.)
- **Organization Budget Size:** Applicants must have an annual budget of \$5 million or less.
- [For current grantees] **Reporting up-to-date:** Applicants that are current grantees of the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund must be up-to-date with reporting requirements.
- **Virtual Informational Session:** Applicants must attend or view a recording of an informational session. The sessions will be offered twice virtually on **Tuesday, December 5 from 10-11:30AM** and **Wednesday, December 6 from 5:30-7PM**. Sessions will include the same information and are being offered twice for accessibility.
 - To register for the **December 5, 10-11:30AM** session, [click here](#).
 - To register for the **December 6, 5:30-7PM** session, [click here](#).

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Additional Considerations and Requirements

- Applicants must be able to demonstrate how their work supports at least one of the three Grant Focus Areas (see list on page 11 for examples).
- Applicants must be able to demonstrate that funds from this grant will directly benefit community members located within the boundaries as defined by their selected grant application.
- Applicants must be able to document and report on use of grant funds, program activities, and outcomes.
- Applicants must meet and maintain minimum insurance requirements, as needed.
- All staff and volunteers who have contact with children under 18 years of age must have completed background checks on file prior to start of program.
- Applicants must demonstrate a commitment to equity and inclusion with respect to race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical and cognitive ability, immigration status, and religion, among participants, board members, leadership team and staff.
- Applicants must have decision makers (board members, leadership team, staff) that reflect the communities being served by the organization/project.

Grant Types

The Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund is offering two different types of grants. Applicants may apply for one of the following grant types:

- **Organizational Support Grants** for **\$20,000** can support organizations that are working to advance overdose prevention, community and family healing, and/or substance use prevention. Funding can be used to support a wide range of operating and program costs.
- **Program Grants** for **\$100,000** can support specific programs and projects that directly advance overdose prevention, community and family healing, and/or substance use prevention. Funding can be used to support staff time and specific program-related costs.

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Key Dates

DATE	EVENT
Thursday, November 16, 2023	Application period opens
Tuesday, December 5 from 10-11:30AM	Informational Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register for December 5 session • Register for December 6 session
Wednesday, December 6 from 5:30-7PM	
Thursday, January 11, 2024 at 5PM	Application period closes
Winter – Spring 2024	Due Diligence and Application Review Period
Spring 2024	Applicants will be notified of their grant award status
May 2024 – May 2025	Grant Period

All dates are subject to change. Changes will be posted on the Scattergood Foundation’s website.

Application Requirements

Applicants will be asked to provide the following information in the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund application, which can be accessed through Scattergood’s [online grant portal](#).

To create an account in the Scattergood Foundation’s online grant portal, you will need:

- **Organization Information:**
 - Organization Name
 - Employer Identification Number/Tax ID
(If your organization is fiscally sponsored, please contact the Scattergood Foundation)
 - Website
 - Phone
 - Address
 - Email Address
- **User Information:** Name, Phone, Email Address
- **Executive Officer Information:** Name, Phone, Email Address

**NOTE: If the organization is fiscally sponsored, the organization should submit using the fiscal sponsor’s account. Please reach out to info@scattergoodfoundation.org if you have questions.*

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All Applicants

Eligibility Requirements

- Non-Profit Status OR Fiscal Sponsorship
- Confirmation of Place-Based Application Pool
- Organization's Annual Budget
- *[If current grantee]:* Reporting Up-To-Date
- Confirmation of Informational Session Attendance OR Recording Viewing

Organizational Information

- Organization Overview and Background
- Organization Representation
- Financial Information

Community Information

- Primary Service Area Location and Track Record
- Community Description
- Underserved Populations
- Community Engagement

Additional Information

- Application Summary
- Letters of Support (Optional)
- Additional Support (Optional)

Organizational Support Grant Applicants

Funding Request and Mission Alignment

- Grant Focus Area(s)
- Funding Request
- Budget and Budget Narrative
*All budgets **must** be uploaded in the [budget template](#) provided.*
- Alignment with Community-Identified Core Values
- Outcomes of Interest
- Feedback, Learning and Growth
- Sharing Passion for the Work (Recommended)

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Program Grant Applicants

Program Description and Mission Alignment

- Program Name
- Grant Focus Area(s)
- Program Description
- Evidence-Based or Evidence-Informed Approach
- Program Implementation Plan
- Budget and Budget Narrative
*All budgets **must** be uploaded in the [budget template](#) provided.*
- Alignment with Community-Identified Core Values
- Outcomes of Interest
- Tracking Outcomes
- Feedback, Learning and Growth
- Sharing Passion for the Work (Recommended)

Application Support and Contact Information

Budget Guidance and Examples

All applicants **must** use the [budget template](#) provided. For guidance related to the budget template and allowable expenses, please [click here](#). For budget examples that use the budget template:

- [Click here](#) for an Organizational Support Grant budget example.
- [Click here](#) for a Program Grant budget example.

Information Sessions

Applicants are required to either attend or view a recording of one of two virtual information sessions to learn about the application, process, compliance and reporting requirements, and other details about the Fund. Sessions will be offered virtually on **Tuesday, December 5 from 10-11:30AM** and **Wednesday, December 6 from 5:30-7PM**. Sessions will include the same information and are being offered twice for accessibility.

- To register for the **December 5, 10-11:30AM** session, [click here](#).
- To register for the **December 6, 5:30-7PM** session, [click here](#).
- Spanish language interpretation will be available.
- We *strongly recommend* joining one of the two sessions. If your organization is unable to attend either, the Scattergood Foundation will make the recording available for download.

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Questions

Please submit questions to info@scattergoodfoundation.org.

Language Access

The full Request for Proposals and Application will be made available in both Spanish and English. If you need interpretation support in another language, please email info@scattergoodfoundation.org.

Selection Process and Criteria

All applications will be reviewed by Scattergood Foundation staff through a due diligence process to ensure that organizations meet the eligibility requirements. For organizations that do meet the requirements, their applications will be reviewed and evaluated through a community grantmaking process.

Community Granting Groups

Grantees of the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund will be selected through a community grantmaking process. Three community granting groups will be identified to review and evaluate applications in the three applicant pools (Kensington, North Philadelphia, and Citywide). Selection of community granting group (CGG) members is done through an open call process, wherein Philadelphia residents may apply to participate. The City of Philadelphia and Scattergood Foundation will work together to select CGG members.

Community granting group members must meet the following criteria:

- ALL CGG members **must** be residents of Philadelphia
- For neighborhood-based CGGs, members must live OR work in the following zip codes:
 - **Kensington (19124, 19133, and/or 19134)**
 - **North Philadelphia (19132 and/or 19140)**

Additionally, members should meet **at least one** of the following criteria:

- Offer content or subject matter expertise;
- Have lived experience relative to substance use, treatment and/or recovery; AND/OR
- Have experience in the harm reduction, behavioral health or substance use prevention space.

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Community granting groups will participate in onboarding and training sessions. They will also individually review and score applications. The groups will then come together to discuss applicants and allocate grant dollars in virtual decision sessions. All sessions will be facilitated by our facilitation partner, Dragonfly Partners.

Community granting group members will be required to disclose conflicts of interest and maintain confidentiality of the grantmaking process.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be scored according to the following criteria:

- Organization Track Record
- Quality and Clarity of Grant Application
- Alignment with Grant Focus Area(s)
- Commitment to Community-Identified Values
- Reach and Impact
- Overall impressions, concerns, and recommendation

Community granting group members will be directed to evaluate applications based on the content and ideas presented, and to refrain from evaluating applications based on style of writing, spelling, grammar, etc.

Payment Structure, Reporting and Compliance Requirements

All grant payments will be made electronically using Bill.com. Grant recipients must have a bank account and be able to receive electronic payments.

Given the nature of the funding source, grantees will be required to report on their expenditures and program activities. Financial reporting will include reporting on grant expenditures along with backup documentation to support reporting (i.e., receipts, invoices, payroll, contracts, etc.). Narrative reports will include reporting on their grant activities to date, progress toward identified outcomes, challenges, and key program learnings. The payment and reporting schedule will differ based on the grant type.

Organizational Support Grants (\$20,000)

Organizational Support Grant recipients will receive one lump sum payment of \$20,000 at the start of the grant year. Upon signing and returning the grant agreement to the Scattergood Foundation, the payment will be released.

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Organizational Support Grantees will be required to provide two reports during the grant period. The payment and reporting schedule is as follows:

Timeline	Action	Payment
Grant Start	Foundation receives and approves signed grant contract	\$20,000
Mid-Year (~6 months from grant start)	Foundation receives and approves of Financial & Narrative Report and any other documentation requested	\$0
Grant End (~12 months from grant start date)	Foundation receives and approves Final Financial & Narrative Report and any other documentation requested	\$0

Program Grants (\$100,000)

Program Grant recipients will receive 25% of the grant award upfront once the grant agreement is signed and returned to the Scattergood Foundation. Throughout the grant period, the Scattergood Foundation will issue installments to the organizations on a quarterly basis. The payment and reporting schedule will be as follows:

Timeline	Event	Action	Payment
Grant Start	Signing of Grant Contract	Grant contract approved and signed	\$25,000
2 nd Payment (~3 months from grant start)	80% of the first installment is spent. (total minimum spent = \$20,000)	Foundation receives and approves of Financial Report & Check-In Report and any other documentation requested	\$25,000
3 rd Payment (~6 months from grant start)	100% of the first installment and 80% of the second installment is spent. (total minimum spent = \$45,000)	Foundation receives and approves of Financial & Narrative Report and any other documentation requested	\$25,000
4 th Payment (~9 months from grant start)	100% of the first and second installment and 80% of the third installment is spent. (total minimum spent = \$70,000)	Foundation receives and approves of Financial Report & Check-In Report and any other documentation requested	\$25,000
Grant End (~12 months from grant start date)	100% of grant is spent. (total minimum spent = \$100,000)	Foundation receives and approves Final Financial & Narrative Report and any other documentation requested	\$0

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EXAMPLES OF WORK ACROSS GRANT FOCUS AREAS

The following list contains examples of the types of work that can be funded by the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund across the three grant focus areas. The list is not exhaustive, as a wide range of services can be supported by this grant program.

Overdose Prevention

The focus of the funded work is to prevent overdose among people who use drugs. Work in this focus area can include but is not limited to outreach, education, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services.

Examples of work in this grant focus area include, but are not limited to:

- **Offer targeted outreach and engagement in communities to address opioid use, prevent overdoses, and promote harm reduction**
- **Harm reduction for those at risk for overdose and/or substance misuse may include:**
 - Distribute opioid overdose reversal medication (e.g. naloxone); offer overdose reversal trainings; offer safe syringe exchange
 - Offer prevention programming and activities for individuals with, or at risk of developing substance use disorder (SUD)
 - Connect individuals at risk for or with a SUD to overdose education, counseling, and health education
 - Support capacity development to integrate and strengthen programs in harm reduction and education
- **Hire or train certified behavioral health workers** to provide in-house services and supports
- **Hire peer support specialists or recovery coaches**
- **Hire and train community navigators and/or case managers** to provide support and facilitate connections to resources for participants
- **Support people with substance use disorder to access treatment and/or begin the path to recovery**
 - Establish processes, protocols, and mechanisms for referral to appropriate treatment and recovery support services.
 - Connect individuals to treatment and support services such as residential and inpatient treatment, intensive outpatient treatment, outpatient therapy or counseling; recovery counseling
 - Facilitate connection to wraparound services for individuals with SUD, in recovery and their families to resources such as: access to housing, transportation (SEPTA passes), job placement/training, childcare; benefits; peer support groups
- **Support direct program services to participants indirectly or directly affected by the opioid overdose crisis, the War on Drugs, and the crack epidemic.**
- **Provide connections to care through evidence-informed programs or strategies** for people who have or are at risk of developing SUD

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- **Refer individuals to treatment for infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis C, and other infections transmissible by intravenous drug use**, and encourage individuals to take steps to reduce substance misuse and engage in harm reduction
- **Provide overdose prevention education and expand substance use awareness to communities**, including but not limited to opioids and its synthetic analogs
- **Address the needs of justice involved persons**
 - Support pre-arrest, pre-arraignment diversion and deflection strategies for persons with OUD that are justice-involved
- **Address the needs of pregnant or parenting people who use drugs and their families**
 - Offer home-based wraparound services to persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, including but not limited to: parent skills training; trauma-informed behavioral health support for ACEs; support for children's services
- **Ensure cultural competence and inclusion in programming, education materials and communications** by creating or supporting culturally appropriate programs and services for persons with OUD and any co-occurring substance use disorder/mental health conditions, especially for people of color, participants with immigration or undocumented status, or in faith-based communities.

Community and Family Healing

The focus of the funded work is to promote healing for individuals, families, and communities that have been impacted by the overdose crisis. Work in this focus area can include but is not limited to grief counseling and healing services, building social connection and resilience in impacted communities, and supporting the wellbeing of community workers in the substance use field.

Examples of work in this grant focus area include, but are not limited to:

- **Build community resilience through trauma-informed programming that addresses grief and loss of a loved one to a fatal overdose**, in addition to individual and collective, intergenerational trauma as a result of the overdose crisis.
- **Provide trauma-informed care through peer support groups, arts-based healing workshops and/or specialized training.**
- **Connect individuals with OUD and family members** to treatment for trauma; provide enhanced support for families suffering from trauma.
- **Fund staff training in trauma-informed community engagement and conflict de-escalation** to ensure staff are equipped to identify and address trauma and risk factors that stem from adverse childhood experiences.
- **Build sense of community and encourage prosocial behavior among residents in impacted communities**
 - Create safe spaces and support groups for participants

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- Increase community efforts in service projects that promote beautification, blight removal, litter clean-ups
- Provide life-skills, employment or financial education training
- Create opportunities for residents to engage in positive outdoor community activities that promote mental health and inclusion, are free and accessible
- **Provide ancillary services that promote safety for community workers** in the context of narcotics trade
- **Offer trauma-informed trainings for community-based outreach workers** in topics such as vicarious trauma, mindfulness & mental wellbeing, and public safety planning
- **Address the needs of formerly incarcerated persons in reentry** such as offering programming specific for persons in reentry in response to the War on Drugs

Substance Use Prevention

The focus of the funded work is to provide education and supportive opportunities for people who may be at risk of using drugs. Work in this focus area can include but is not limited to awareness building and outreach, education, training, and other prevention-focused programming.

Examples of work in this grant focus area include, but are not limited to:

- **Expand prevention and awareness for families, including but not limited to:**
 - Provide education through youth-focused programming that prevents substance misuse
 - Create prevention programs in schools
 - Create or support school-based contacts that parents can engage with to seek immediate treatment services for their child
 - Encourage positive youth development
 - Support prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery programs focused on young people
- **Reduce stigma associated with substance use and co-occurring disorders, harm reduction and medication assisted treatment**, including common misperceptions and harmful stereotypes that create barriers to community conversation and care.
- **Support programming that reduces community stigma** related to substance use and treatment for SUD
- **Expand substance use awareness to communities**
- **Address the needs of formerly incarcerated persons in reentry** such as organizations that hire persons in reentry to lead peer support groups
- **Ensure cultural competence and inclusion in programming, education materials and communications** by promoting language access in substance use prevention programming, education materials and communications, especially for participants with Limited English Proficiency.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Opioid Response Unit

Established in February 2020, the [City of Philadelphia's Opioid Response Unit](#) (ORU) ensures that City departments are operating under a unified strategy to share resources and expertise in response to the overdose crisis in Philadelphia. The ORU focuses on expanding the prevention and treatment of substance use disorder while helping impacted communities recover through coordinated efforts in community support and public safety. The ORU aims to mobilize community response, both among residents, providers, and community partners on the ground, but also among the funding community to target critically needed resources and investments into communities impacted by the overdose crisis.

The role of the ORU in the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing includes setting the strategic vision, providing funding, and oversight.

Scattergood Foundation

The [Scattergood Foundation](#) believes major disruption is needed to build a stronger, more effective, compassionate, and inclusive society where behavioral health is central. The Foundation works across three areas:

- **THINK:** This work includes curated thought leadership from experts in behavioral health, philanthropy, advocacy, and policy. The Foundation provides a platform for individuals and organizations to present ideas which challenge the status quo in behavioral health.
- **DO:** This work includes technical assistance and consulting services for grantees and partners. The Foundation shares its experience and expertise to build capacity within organizations so they can better meet goals and deliver on their mission.
- **SUPPORT:** This work includes the provision of funding to organizations through the Foundation's general grantmaking portfolio, participatory funds, special grant programs, and program related investments.

The role of the Scattergood Foundation in the Overdose Prevention and Community Healing Fund includes community engagement, strategic visioning, project management, grants administration, and grantee oversight.

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Glossary Of Terms

Adverse Childhood Experiences⁴ refer to potentially traumatic events that occur to people under the age of 18. ACEs may include but are not limited to exposure to abuse, neglect, parental substance use or mental illness, parental incarceration, violence in the home and community, and racism.

Community stigma⁵ describes negative attitudes, discrimination, or prejudice directed towards an individual or a group and can prevent a person from seeking out proper care, support, and treatment.

Community-based prevention refers to the role of community-based organizations in reducing the harms of substance misuse and preventing overdoses through holistic, evidence-informed prevention strategies in community engagement, outreach and programming, including community-based education and harm reduction.

Prevention activities⁶ are activities that work to inform, increase awareness, connect and support individuals and communities with resources to prevent the use and misuse of drugs and the development of substance use disorder.

Community-based education is a community-based approach to teaching and learning through community engagement, including but not limited to evidence-informed workshops, events or training related to substance misuse prevention.

Community healing refers to promoting community resilience and wellness through prosocial, holistic efforts that improve health outcomes and reduce health disparities for communities impacted by the overdose crisis. This may include community-based practices that are culturally competent and trauma-informed, addressing individual and collective trauma in impacted communities, or reducing stigma related to substance use in communities.

Co-occurring disorder⁷ describes the coexistence of both a mental health and a substance use disorder.

Cultural competence⁸ describes the ability to understand and respect specific values, attitudes, beliefs, and mores that differ across cultures, and to consider and respond appropriately to these differences throughout planning, implementing, and evaluating programs and interventions for focus communities and populations.

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [Fast Facts: Prevention Adverse Childhood Experiences](#).

⁵ Angermeyer, M.C., & Dietrich, S. (2006) [Public beliefs about and attitudes towards people with mental illness](#): A review of population studies. Acta Psychiatrica Scandinavica, 113(3), 163-79.

⁶ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. [Prevention of Substance Use and Mental Disorders](#).

⁷ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. [Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders](#).

⁸ National Center for Cultural Competence, Georgetown University. [Definition of Cultural Competence](#).

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Evidence-informed practice⁹ is an approach to prevention, treatment or recovery that may be shown to be effective by some form of documented research evidence, in addition to anecdote or professional experience. Not all evidence-based practices have been developed for all populations and/or service settings. Evidence-based practices can be found using SAMHSA's [Evidence-Based Practice Resource Center](#).

Harm Reduction¹⁰ is a set of practical strategies and ideas aimed at reducing negative consequences associated with drug use, including:

- Seeking to minimize the harmful effects of drugs rather than ignore or condemn people who use.
- Understanding that drug use ranges from frequent use to total abstinence.
- Calling for judgment-free and at-will resources for people who use drugs.
- Being honest about the risks of drug use.

Health equity¹¹ involves ensuring that everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible. Behavioral health equity is the right to access quality health care for all populations regardless of the individual's race, ethnicity, gender, socioeconomic status, sexual orientation, or geographical location. This includes access to prevention, treatment, and recovery services for mental and substance use disorders.

Health disparities¹² refer to preventable differences in health or healthcare that are experienced by populations that have been disadvantaged by their social or economic status, geographic location, and environment.

Social determinants of health¹³ are the conditions in the environments where people are born, live, learn, work, play, worship, and age that affect a wide range of health, functioning, and quality-of-life outcomes and risks. SDOH includes economic stability, access to quality education, access to quality healthcare, neighborhood and built environment, and social and community context.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD)¹⁴ is a treatable mental disorder that affects a person's brain and behavior, leading to their inability to control their use of substances like legal or illegal drugs, alcohol, or medications. Symptoms can be moderate to severe, with addiction being the most severe form of SUD.

Substance misuse is any misuse of drugs that may be harmful and put someone at risk of having an overdose.

⁹ Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration. [Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center](#).

¹⁰ City of Philadelphia. [Substance Use Prevention and Harm Reduction](#).

¹¹ Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration. [Behavioral Health Equity](#).

¹² Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. [What is Health Equity?](#)

¹³ US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. [Social Determinants of Health](#).

¹⁴ National Institute of Mental Health. [Substance Use and Co-Occurring Mental Disorders](#).

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Trauma^{15,16} results from an experience, series of events, or set of circumstances that is experienced by an individual as physically, emotionally harmful, or life threatening and has lasting adverse effects on the individual's functioning and mental, physical, social, emotional, or spiritual well-being. If untreated, trauma can have lasting and adverse effects on an individual's social, emotional, and physical well-being. Substance use, mental health conditions, and other risky behaviors have been linked with traumatic experiences, especially traumatic events that occur during childhood.

Trauma-informed¹⁷ describes an approach by program, organization or systems to realize the widespread impact of trauma and understands potential paths for healing; recognize the signs and symptoms of trauma in staff, clients, and others involved with the system; and respond by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures, practices, and settings.

Underserved or disproportionately impacted populations are communities who may be impacted by the opioid and overdose crisis, at risk of developing SUD or co-occurring mental health disorders, experiencing health disparities and/or trauma, or face gaps in access to quality services, resources and care. These include the following populations: Black, Indigenous, Hispanic/Latino and People of Color; LGBTQIA+; Youth (birth - age 24); Pregnant or parenting individuals who engage in substance use; Veterans; Juvenile-justice involved populations; Child-welfare involved populations; Formerly incarcerated persons; Persons who have lost a loved one to overdose; People with undocumented status; Persons with limited English Proficiency (LEP); People who use drugs (PWUD); People in recovery from substance use disorder; People experiencing homelessness; People who engage in sex work; Participants that are low-income, experiencing poverty and/or housing insecurity.

¹⁵ Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration. [Trauma and Violence](#).

¹⁶ Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services. [Community Resilience and Healing](#).

¹⁷ Substance Use and Mental Health Services Administration. [SAMHSA's Concept of Trauma and Guidance for a Trauma-Informed Approach](#).