

The logo for PERXU, with 'PER' in blue, 'X' in yellow, and 'U' in blue. The 'X' is stylized with a small 'r' inside it.

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Program Evaluation and Research Unit

Overdose Reduction Technical Assistance Center: Community Coalitions for Overdose Reduction

Kiandra Foster, MPIA, Program Manager



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Welcome!

While we wait to start, please review ways to navigate this webinar.

If you move your **cursor** to the **bottom** of **your screen** you will see a **menu**.



This menu allows you to **control**:

- **Raise Hand**
- Access to the **Chat** box
- Access to the **Q & A** box

Video options are not available for participants. Participants can be unmuted by raising their hand and being recognized by the presenter.

Housekeeping

- This session is being **recorded** and will be available on Tomorrow's Healthcare. Ask your PERU point of contact for an account if needed.
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- **Your feedback matters!** Please complete the evaluation and post-test at the end of the webinar to receive continuing education credit and to help us improve future trainings.



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Mutual Agreement

- Everyone on every PERU webinar is **valued**. Everyone has an expectation of **mutual, positive regard** for everyone else that respects the **diversity** of everyone on the webinar.
- We operate from a **strength-based, empathetic, and supportive** framework – with the people we serve, and with each other on PERU webinars.
- We encourage the use of **affirming language** that is not discriminatory or stigmatizing.
- We treat others as **they** would like to be treated and, therefore, avoid argumentative, disruptive, and/or aggressive language.



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Mutual Agreement (continued)

- We strive to: **listen** to each person, avoid interrupting others, and seek to **understand** each other through the Learning Network as we work toward the highest quality services for COE clients.
- Information presented in Learning Network sessions has been vetted. We recognize that people have different opinions, and those **diverse perspectives** are welcomed and valued. Questions and comments should be framed as **constructive feedback**.
- The Learning Network format is **not conducive to debate**. If something happens that concerns you, please send a chat during the session to the panelists and we will attempt to make room to address it either during the session or by scheduling time outside of the session to process and understand it. Alternatively, you can reach out offline to your PERU point of contact.



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Community Coalitions for Overdose Reduction

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Learning Objectives

By the end of this module, you will be able to do the following:

- Describe community coalitions for overdose reduction
- Discuss the work done by these coalitions
- Discuss how participating in coalitions can impact COEs
- Discuss ways COEs are already connecting with coalitions
- Discuss how COE participation in coalitions can impact client populations



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Overview: Overdose Reduction Technical Assistance Center (ORTAC)

- Established in **2016**
- Funded through **Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD)**
- Supports Pennsylvania (PA) counties in eliminating overdose and ensuring the health, safety, and well-being of individuals with substance use disorder and those surrounding them
 - **Technical assistance to improve collaboration and build capacity**
 - Support overdose reduction community coalitions
 - Bridge the gap between public health and public safety



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Overdose Reduction Community Coalitions

- ORTAC is engaging 36 statewide, regional, county, and neighborhood coalitions
 - 38 PA counties are engaged
 - 2 statewide coalitions
 - 2 neighborhood coalitions
- A group of people representing diverse organizations and experiences that regularly connect to **discuss, inform, implement, evaluate, and sustain** overdose reduction efforts in their community
- Coalitions and members share a vision: **Eliminate overdoses.**



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Overdose Reduction Community Coalitions (continued)

- Enable people to expand resources and bring about change that wouldn't be feasible for individuals alone
- Bring together public support, maximize joint power, minimize duplication of services, and organize talents and skills to work toward long term social and environmental change
- Foster relationships between public health and public safety organizations
 - Enable a shared understanding of community need and urgency
 - Encourage collaborative action



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Community Coalitions May Include...

- People in recovery/ people with lived experience
- Loved ones of people with lived experience
- Medical centers
- Private recovery and treatment providers
- Providers of social services
- Behavioral Health providers
- Health department representatives
- Single County Authorities
- Community centers
- Alcoholics Anonymous/Narcotics Anonymous and Al-anon providers
- Rotary chapters
- Chambers of Commerce
- Halfway Houses
- Women's Shelters
- District Attorneys
- County Commissioners
- Mayors or other local leadership
- Senators
- Representatives
- Local Police and law enforcement agencies
- Judges and other judicial entities
- Faith-based institutions
- *Centers of Excellence*



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Primary Objectives of ORTAC's Technical Assistance



Apply an evidence-based framework to assess coalitions that have expressed interest in education, intervention, and treatment efforts and trainings



Assist coalitions with data collection and analysis



Guide and support each coalition in developing tailored implementation and evaluation plans



Provide ongoing concierge TA to improve stakeholder engagement and organizational health



Help coalitions develop data-driven strategic plans



Assist coalitions and PCCD with funding opportunity requests for proposals and ongoing evaluation assistance



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ORTAC's Implementation Framework



ASSESSMENT

- Data Collection and Analysis
- Improving data tracking
- Focus on impact



CAPACITY

- Stakeholder onboarding
- Content education
- Leadership training



PLANNING

- Strategic planning
- Identifying priorities and appropriate evidence-based interventions



IMPLEMENTATION

- Policy coordination
- Developing guides
- Providing expert knowledge



EVALUATION

- Developing evaluation plans
- Measuring / visualizing impact



SUSTAINABILITY

- Identifying funding
- Composing grants
- Developing sustainability plans



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Impact of ORTAC's Efforts- Reduced Overdose Deaths

- In 2019, an independent quantitative analysis found that **counties that worked with ORTAC** longer than six months between July 2016 and December 2017 **experienced a significant reduction of 0.59 (p=.004) overdose deaths** per 100,000 persons per month (or a total of roughly 200 fewer overdose deaths), compared to counties that had not worked with ORTAC.



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Impact of ORTAC's Efforts- Economic Impact

- In 2019, the economic loss resulting from one opioid-related death was estimated at \$12,794,000, compared to the total cost for ORTAC's work per overdose death prevented, estimated at \$6,289 per person.
- The overdose deaths prevented by ORTAC's work in PA are estimated to have saved Pennsylvania \$2.56 billion from 2016 to 2019.



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COE Technical Assistance

- Assist COEs in identifying action based on trends identified through data reports
- Support COEs in achieving identified goals and objectives
- Support COEs in understanding value-based purchasing
- Assist COEs to collect and review performance data
- Offer biweekly staff trainings through a learning network



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COE Technical Assistance (continued)

- Assist in process changes to improve engagement, retention, and assessment
- Provide resources to support organizational health
- Serve as liaison between MCOs, DHS, and COEs and support stronger relationships among these groups



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ORTAC Community Coalitions' Work

- Organized by a strategic plan that ORTAC helps each coalition to build
 - Strategic plans are informed by available data, community needs, opportunities, local resources, and feasibility.
- Strategic efforts extend from the coalition's **Vision**
 - **Coalition leaders** continually guide forward movement toward the Vision.
 - This **Vision-driven** engagement is a key domain of the *Systems Transformation Framework*, which ORTAC leverages to generate systems-level change within complex adaptive systems.



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ORTAC Community Coalitions' Strategic Areas of Focus

- Prevention
- Education/Community Outreach
- Treatment
- Recovery
- Naloxone/Harm Reduction
- Coordination
- Reentry

Every coalition's activities are unique because their community's needs, resources, and stakeholders are unique.



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COE Participation in Coalitions

Contribute

- Provide treatment related perspective, experience, and resources
- Have conversations to expand the provision of medications for opioid use disorder / medication-assisted treatment
- Partner to reduce community-wide stigma through stigma campaigns

Benefit

- Learn about current overdose risk levels and drug trends
- Communicate with on-the-ground individual and macro level stakeholders simultaneously
- Promote and market COE services to coalition partners
- Open referral channels
- Build and strengthen relationships



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COEs Connecting with Coalitions

- COEs as coalition members (Typically one meeting per month)
 - Provide insight and suggestions during coalition meetings; volunteer for action items; possibly participate in subcommittees (additional ad hoc meetings)
- COEs as coalition leaders (Typically two meetings per month)
 - Lead coalition toward its vision; maintain oversight of activities carried out by coalition members; possibly facilitate coalition meetings



COEs Connecting with Coalitions (continued)

- COEs as presenters/subject matter experts (Frequency based on coalition needs)
 - Leverage expertise to serve as coalition presenters for specific topics
- COEs as project consultants and/or grant partners (Frequency based on coalition needs)
 - Leverage expertise to provide guidance on the development, implementation, or evaluation of specific projects and/or to partner with coalition stakeholders in implementing a grant project



COEs Participation in Coalitions- Impact for Clients

- Grant collaboration can expand and strengthen the scope of offered services/programs
- COVID-19 response and service availability information can be shared in real-time
- Initiatives undertaken by the coalition can include COE input
- Events can be promoted within the coalition
- COEs can discuss and learn about treatment capacity (and/or existing gaps) in their area



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Impact for Clients (continued)

More on Treatment:

- Treatment discussions and data can be utilized to improve and inform community projects
 - Coalitions review overdose and first responder data
 - All data gathered by the coalition is reviewed/analyzed to:
 - Understand the current condition
 - Assess needs and opportunities at the regional, county, and/or neighborhood level
- COE data reports (aggregate/deidentified) may help drive decision making



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Community Coalitions for Overdose Reduction & COEs

- Community coalitions and COEs have a shared common interest in supporting the health and well-being of the communities they serve
- It is mutually beneficial for coalitions and COEs to work together
 - In addition to sharing expertise and information about activities/events, community coalitions and COEs can collaborate to inform and improve services for clients.
- Please consider joining an ORTAC community coalition



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Questions?

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The University of Pittsburgh School of Pharmacy, Program Evaluation and Research Unit (PERU) is dedicated to meaningful work that facilitates each patient or community member's ability to achieve optimal health, well-being, recovery and choice.