

SEMIANNUAL REPORT

January 1, 2025 - July 31, 2025



**WEST VIRGINIA OFFICE OF
DRUG CONTROL POLICY**
West Virginia Department of Human Services

Office of Drug Control Policy

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July 31, 2025

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SEMIANNUAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The West Virginia Department of Human Services' Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) presents its Semiannual Report for the second half of calendar year 2020 required by West Virginia Code §16-5T-2(20).

This report covers January 1, 2025 through July 31, 2025, and provides important information on the ODCP's coordinated network of prevention, intervention, treatment, and recovery programs that is producing measurable results. Building on lessons learned in previous years, this reporting period reflects not only sustained effort but tangible progress that is reshaping lives and strengthening communities. This period reflects a decisive shift from building capacity to demonstrating impact, with expanded reach, stronger community partnerships, and improved access to care across the state.

ODCP has deepened its partnerships with schools, healthcare providers, law enforcement, recovery networks, and community organizations to expand access, close service gaps, and accelerate outcomes. Programs launched in prior years are now showing clear, data-backed results demonstrating the value of persistent, community-based strategies paired with statewide coordination. Using a comprehensive continuum of care ([Appendix A](#)), ODCP links immediate intervention with long-term recovery resources. This coordinated system adapts to each person's circumstances, providing seamless transitions between levels of care as needs change.

Education

From January to July 2025, the West Virginia Department of Human Services' Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP) advanced its education and training priorities to strengthen statewide readiness, reduce stigma, and equip front-line professionals and communities with the skills necessary to respond effectively to substance use challenges. These initiatives reflect a

coordinated policy approach that aligns public awareness, workforce development, and targeted training to improve engagement, safety, and access to care. The Challenging Stigma curriculum, developed through an Appalachian lens, expanded with a virtual train-the-trainer session adding 17 trainers and delivery of six community trainings through *Stigma Free WV*. ODCP also continued targeted workforce training, providing over 50 sessions since 2020 for 1,500+ Child Protective Services (CPS) staff, with frequency increased to bi-monthly; 67 CPS workers were trained this period. Through the Law Enforcement Strategic Liaison initiative, ODCP trained 455 officers and first responders statewide between February and June, including 156 participants in a June Charleston Police Department session, covering overdose reversal, emerging drug trends, stigma reduction, and emotional intelligence. [Appendix B](#) provides a more detailed overview of these educational initiatives.

Overdose Prevention

Prevention efforts have grown substantially, with the Challenging Stigma training redesigned through an Appalachian lens and delivered both virtually and in person to strengthen community understanding and readiness. More than 120,000 fentanyl and xylazine test strips have been distributed in all 55 counties, offering individuals a practical tool to reduce risk. Over 30,000 people have been trained in naloxone use, and more than 15,000 doses of intranasal naloxone have been placed across the state. In addition, more than 800 ONEbox® emergency opioid overdose kits have been deployed in schools, libraries, and public venues, pairing immediate access to naloxone with on-demand video training in English and Spanish. [Appendix C](#) highlights the key collaborative prevention efforts in the state.

Intervention

Intervention strategies are increasingly connecting people to services at the moment they are most needed. The Police and Peers program expanded across Fayette County, placing trained recovery support specialists alongside law enforcement to link individuals directly to community-based resources. The Community Naloxone Reporting Dashboard provides real-time insight into naloxone distribution and overdose reversals, guiding better placement of resources. On 29 college campuses, the Be the One initiative is equipping students with education, naloxone training, and tools to respond to opioid-related emergencies. ONEbox® distribution has now contributed to more than 350 documented overdose reversals nationwide, with 1,800 units provided at no cost to West Virginia schools, libraries, and health centers. Data-driven alerts from the Overdose Data Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) prompted 26 rapid-response actions in early 2025, allowing teams to address emerging overdose clusters swiftly. For the latest intervention strategies, refer to [Appendix D](#).

Treatment

The Project Engage program has expanded to five hospitals—St. Mary’s Medical Center, Cabell Huntington Hospital, Berkeley Medical Center, Hampshire Memorial Hospital, and War Memorial Hospital—embedding peer recovery specialists, harm-reduction practices, and evidence-based protocols directly into patient care.

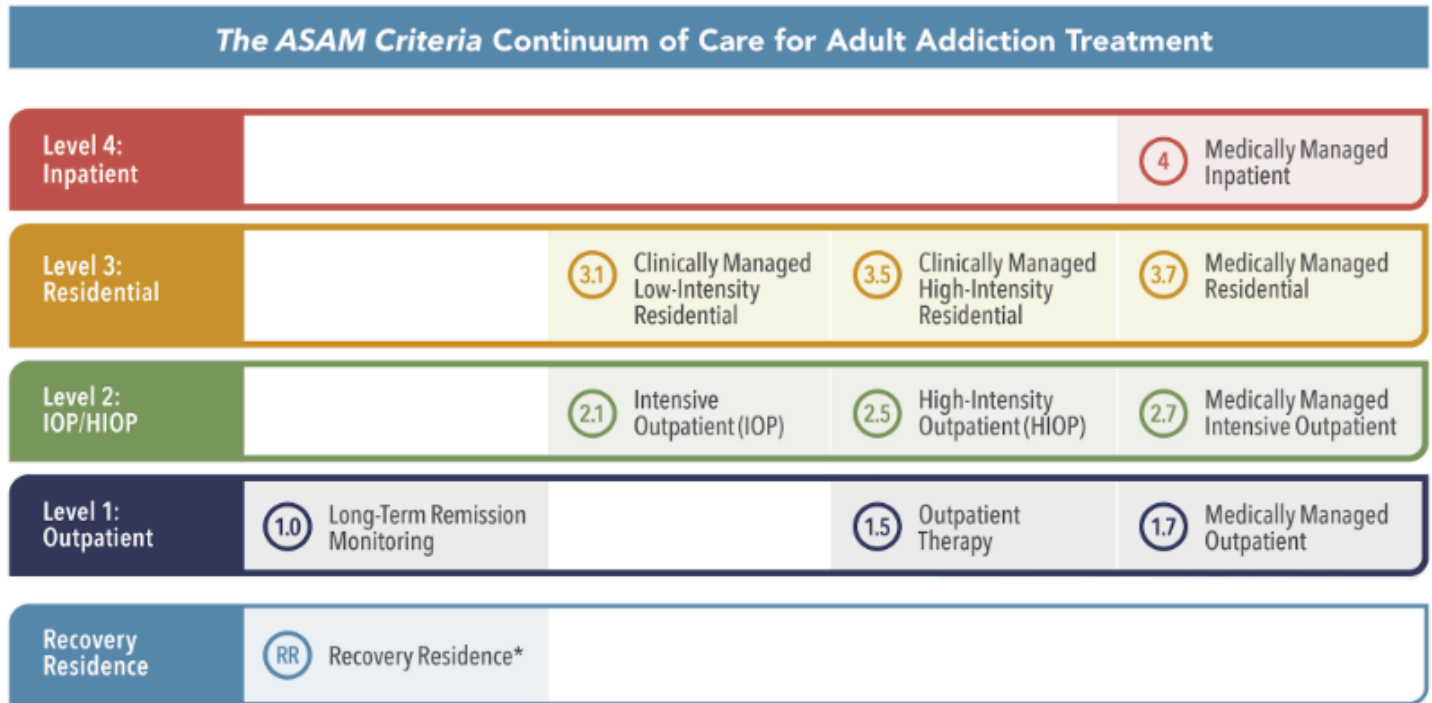
West Virginia maintains its commitment to advancing recovery efforts by strengthening treatment infrastructure, broadening access to supportive services, and reinforcing strategic community partnerships. Detailed information on current treatment programming is available in [Appendix E](#) for treatment programming.

Recovery

Recovery programs continue to create long-term stability and opportunity. Jobs & Hope West Virginia supported 1,627 participants, helping 10,510 people secure employment, reinstating 3,076 driver’s licenses, completing 47 expungements, and contributing \$93.2 million in combined annual salaries. The Collegiate Recovery Network expanded engagement, with a 19% increase in one-on-one support sessions, 30% growth in group participation, 13% more naloxone kits distributed, and 36% more fentanyl test strips provided to students. Certified recovery residences increased capacity, offering more safe housing options for individuals and families. [Appendix F](#) displays important recent updates provided by ODCP regarding recovery.

APPENDIX A

CONTINUUM OF CARE



Level 4: Involuntary & Voluntary Hospitals.

Level 3: 3.1, 3.5, and 3.7 Residential Treatment Facilities (1,939 Licensed beds)

Level 2: Intensive Outpatient Programs (5 days a week)

Level 1: Medication Assisted Treatment Programs (OBMAT, OTP), Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics (CCBHCs), Comprehensive Behavioral Health Centers (CBHCs), & Licensed Behavioral Health Centers (LBHCs).

Recovery Residences (1,446 Certified beds)

APPENDIX B

EDUCATION

Public Education Stigma Trainings

The Public Education Subcommittee of the Governor's Council in conjunction with BBH's SPF-RX project and SOR updated its statewide SUD stigma training curriculum. The training objectives focus the stigma and discrimination conversation through an Appalachian lens. The evidence-based training now titled "Challenging Stigma" has expanded to include three presentation modules that can be delivered independently or together in a single training:

- Module 1: Understanding Mental Health, Substance Use, and Key Concepts
- Module 2: Defining Stigma
- Module 3: Reducing Stigma

In addition to the three modules, a resource section and a case study section are included to provide more in depth discussion on the drivers of stigma, stigma practices, stigma experiences, outcomes related to stigma, and topics for further discussion. These are optional and allow participants to further explore the concepts through lived experience.

Since January, a virtual train-the-trainer session was conducted with 17 additional train the trainers being added. Seven training sessions were requested through the Stigma Free WV with six trainings having been conducted.

ODCP Stigma Trainings

ODCP recognizes that certain professionals come into contact with SUD more frequently than others and require additional education in order to create situational awareness. ODCP has continued its relationship with Child Protective Services (CPS) and provides quarterly addiction 101 and stigma training to CPS workers. Since 2020, over 50 trainings have been given with over 1,500 CPS workers having been trained. Due to demand, these trainings have increased from semiannually to bimonthly. Since January, 67 CPS workers have been trained.

Emotional Intelligence Training

ODCP supports evidence-based practices that promote social and emotional wellbeing, prevention approaches, person centered interventions, and self-directed or diversion driven support services. For this project, ODCP provides funding for a Law Enforcement Liaison who has a background in, not only, the law enforcement aspect of handling substance use disorder (SUD), but also the associated legal challenges, how best to overcome barriers with stigma among constituents, and developing meaningful engagement with diverse communities.

The Law Enforcement Strategic Liaison helps educate law enforcement, first responders, and correctional staff on overdose reversal, emerging drug trends and testing equipment, stigma awareness and reduction, and emotional intelligence.

Law Enforcement Trainings		
Training Dates	Location	Participants
February 3, 2025	Putnam County Sheriff Office	28
February 13, 2025	Bluefield Police Department	10
February 14, 2025	Bluefield Police Department	12
February 27, 2025	University of Charleston	21
April 21–22, 2025	Mountain State ESC	15
April 24, 2025	Summersville Armory	27
April 28, 2025	Princeton Police Department	12
April 29, 2025	Princeton Police Department	18
June 2, 2025	Point Pleasant PD / Mason County Sheriff	10
June 3, 2025	Point Pleasant PD / Mason County Sheriff	10
June 9, 2025	Charleston Police Department follow-up	156
June 18, 2025	Prevention Resource Officer online follow-up	136
Total		455

Social Services Partner Trainings			
Training Date	Location	Type	Participants
January 22, 2025	The WV Office of Inspector General	EQ training at the WV Capitol Complex	33
March 20, 2025	Cabin Creek Health Services	(EQ training at the Kanawha Co. Library	29
June 12, 2025	Charleston Police Department	ODMAP instructional training	156
June 18, 2025	Prevention Resource Officer	ODMAP instructional training	136
Total			354

APPENDIX C

OVERDOSE PREVENTION

Test Strip Distribution

The WVDII has distributed over 120,000 fentanyl and xylazine testing strips to persons and organizations in all of West Virginia's 55 counties.

Naloxone and Training

WVDII has trained over 30,000 individuals in person or via an online naloxone course. WVDII has distributed over 15,000 doses of intranasal naloxone to all 55 West Virginia counties. Additionally, over 50,000 doses of naloxone have been placed in locations nationwide through ONEbox® deployment and outreach projects.

Overdose Response Strategy (ORS)

The Overdose Response Strategy in West Virginia, supported by the CDC Foundation in partnership with the Office of National Drug Control Policy and the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area, is part of a national initiative in all 50 states to reduce fatal and nonfatal overdoses by strengthening public health and public safety collaboration. The CDC Foundation provides technical assistance, staffing, and analytical capacity, including a dedicated Public Health Analyst, to connect agencies, share data, and implement evidence-based interventions that address emerging drug threats and improve community response.

The 2025 Environmental Scan has been completed and will be used to guide joint planning between public health and law enforcement, identify service and data gaps, and support targeted allocation of resources. The 2024 Felony Arrest Notification Report is in final development and will provide key intelligence on trafficking routes, drug seizure trends, and the prevalence of fentanyl and methamphetamine in the illicit supply. This report will be critical for aligning interdiction priorities with public health prevention strategies and officer safety planning.

The predictive modeling initiative, already implemented statewide, is now shifting its focus toward expanded interstate collaboration and training other states in its application. West Virginia will lead efforts to adapt the model in other jurisdictions, particularly along shared trafficking corridors, and will utilize "situation tables" to bring together multi-sector partners for rapid, coordinated response in high-risk areas. The model will continue to integrate EMS, emergency department, and law enforcement data to anticipate overdose spikes, but with a

greater emphasis on sharing intelligence across state lines and applying lessons learned to strengthen regional preparedness.

Data tracking will also be increasingly focused on overdose outcomes following release from incarceration. By linking correctional health data with overdose surveillance, the ORS team will identify patterns and high-risk windows for individuals reentering the community. This information will be used to inform post-release outreach, improve continuity of care, and expand access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) during and after incarceration. Together, these forward-looking initiatives position West Virginia as a leader in using data-driven, multi-jurisdictional strategies to reduce overdoses and save lives.

APPENDIX D

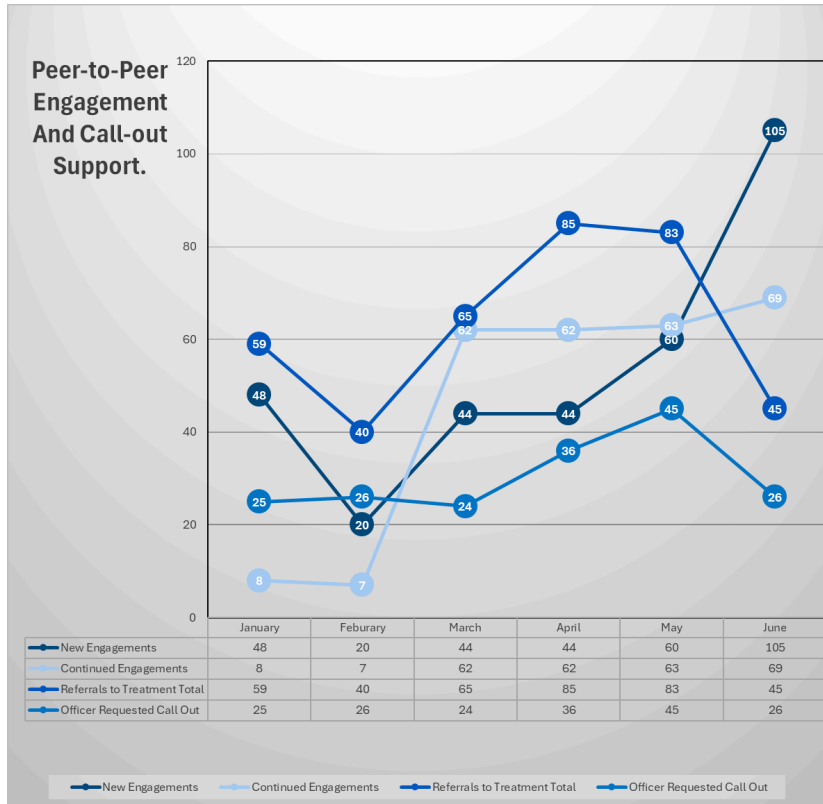
INTERVENTION

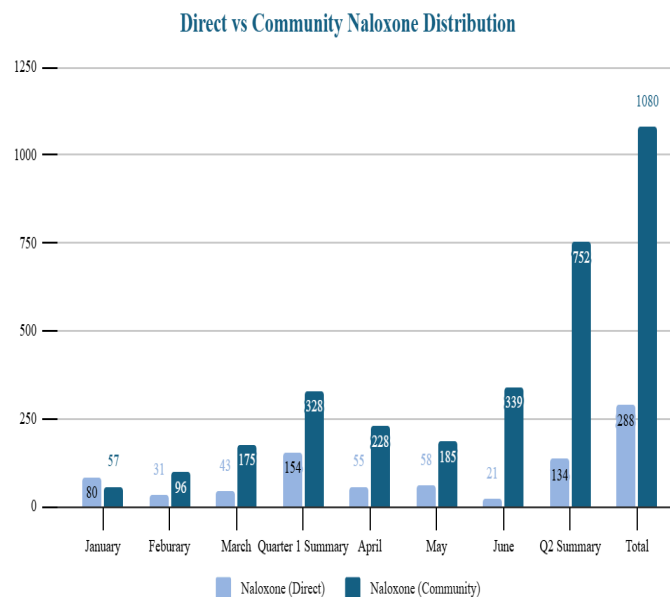
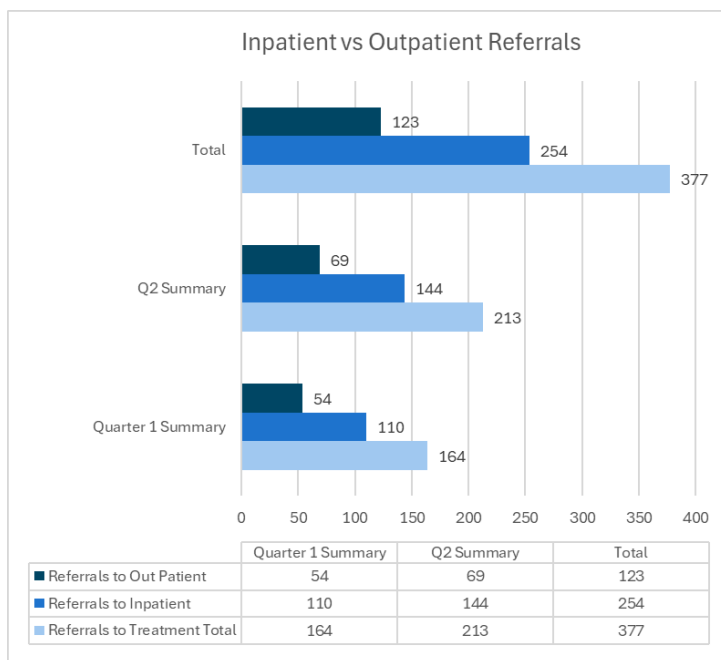
Police and Peers (PNP)

In early 2023, the ODCP partnered with West Virginia Sober Living Solutions and local law enforcement to launch the Police and Peers program, placing a state-certified Peer Recovery Support Specialist (PRSS) alongside Fayetteville City Police. Due to positive outcomes, the program expanded to five jurisdictions across Fayette County, where officers now rely on PRSS expertise during substance use-related calls.

Data from early 2025 reflects this impact. Community naloxone distribution (1,080

doses) significantly outpaced direct distribution (288), emphasizing the effectiveness of community-led harm reduction. Outpatient referrals (377) also exceeded inpatient referrals (274), with a noticeable drop in inpatient referrals during Q2. Peer engagement remained steady across Q1, with high rates of continued engagement and officer-requested callouts. These trends highlight the program's success in facilitating treatment connections, expanding harm reduction access, and strengthening recovery-focused law enforcement partnerships.





Community Naloxone Reporting Dashboard

The West Virginia Naloxone Distribution Reporting Dashboard developed by the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy using the ODCP naloxone distribution reporting data serves as a centralized platform to monitor and evaluate the distribution, access, and impact of naloxone throughout the state. This reporting and analysis platform displays useful information surrounding naloxone distribution including: number of naloxone kits distributed by type of facility, number of naloxone kits distributed by month and year, number of kits left at scene of suspected non-fatal overdose and the number of naloxone kits distributed in each West Virginia county. Naloxone, a life-saving medication that reverses opioid overdoses, is a critical tool in combating the opioid epidemic. This dashboard is designed to enhance transparency, track program efficacy, and inform stakeholders about the availability and utilization of naloxone. There are future plans to merge this dashboard into an all inclusive dashboard. Until then, the dashboard can be accessed at <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/c2054ef1769b45e5ad692050e934e71c>.

Be the One

In collaboration with the West Virginia Collegiate Recovery Network, this program can be found in 29 campuses across West Virginia and provides crucial education to college students about medication safety, fentanyl, naloxone, and how to be an ally to those in recovery. Over 150 students throughout West Virginia completed the Smart Rx U train the trainer course.

ONEbox

The ONEbox® is an emergency opioid overdose reversal kit designed to promote safety by assuring that individuals have lifesaving, on-demand training when and where they need it. This kit provides on-demand video training in both English and Spanish and places naloxone in the proximity of where overdoses might occur- businesses, schools, universities, music/sports venues, libraries, bars/restaurants, etc. Communities across Appalachia and the Country have adopted this AED-type device to help deploy naloxone, train communities, and reduce stigma- with over 21,000 boxes deployed and 350 overdose reversals reported throughout the country. Most of these reversals have occurred in the Appalachian States of West Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, and Tennessee.

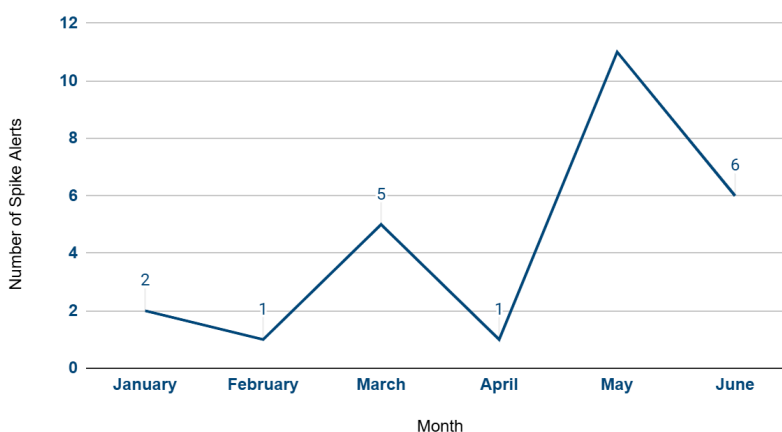
1800 boxes were provided at no cost to libraries, schools, and FQHCs in West Virginia. Thirty-four county school systems now have ONEboxes in their elementary, middle and high schools. Thirty-five counties now have them in libraries.

To help with this work, the DII employs a recovery workforce of those with lived experience and involvement in the justice system. The West Virginia Drug Intervention Institute offers additional support to these employees through a mentorship program and engages with West Virginia Jobs and Hope to assist staff with challenges such as childcare, transportation, and criminal record expungement issues. Sixty percent of the Institute's employees are persons in long-term recovery.

Washington-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Overdose Data Mapping Application Program (ODMAP)

The Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) remains a vital tool in West Virginia's overdose surveillance and rapid response infrastructure. ODMAP provides real-time data and geographic alerts to over 488 users across 136 agencies, including local, state, and federal law enforcement, public health

2025 Spike Alerts



officials, emergency medical personnel, and community-based organizations.

- 26 overdose spike alerts were disseminated in the first half of 2025.
- May accounted for 11 alerts, nearly double the total of the other five months combined, indicating a significant and sudden increase in overdose activity.
- Over 3,000 individual overdose alerts were sent to Regional Coordinators (RCs) and Quick Response Teams (QRTs), triggering targeted outreach efforts.
- Alerts enable RCs and QRTs to coordinate with first responders, initiate timely post-overdose interventions, distribute naloxone, and deploy harm reduction strategies.

APPENDIX E

TREATMENT

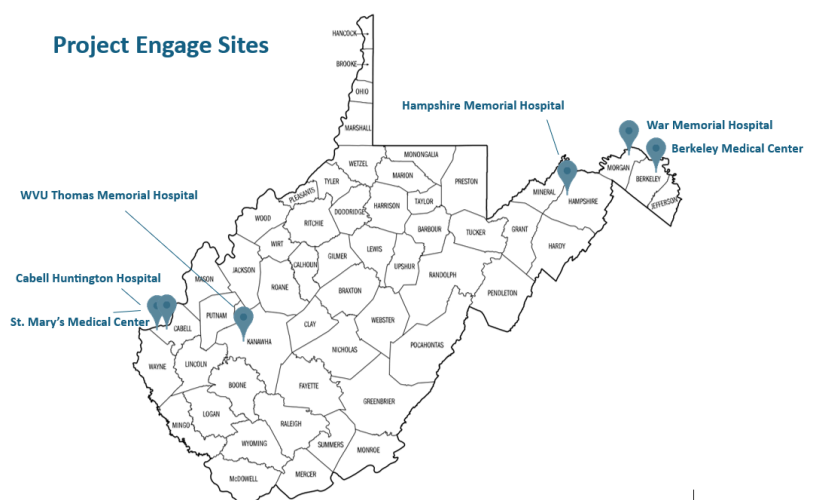
Project Engage Expansion

In January 2023, West Virginia University Medicine Berkeley Medical Center launched Project Engage—an innovative initiative to expand and strengthen existing Emergency Department based addiction services, ensuring accessibility for patients across all hospital units. This comprehensive endeavor equipped unit staff with specialized training, integrated peer recovery support, implemented clinical protocols, and fostered a culture of harm reduction. Through these measures, the project sought to strengthen addiction care by leveraging lived experiences, enhancing clinical practices, and addressing societal stigmas.

Due to the success of the program, three additional hospital systems have been funded to implement Project Engage: Thomas Memorial Hospital, War Memorial Hospital, and Hampshire Memorial Hospital. Since January, process planning has been the primary focus to ensure proper protocols have been integrated in the systems' electronic medical health system and to deploy hospital wide surveys measuring staff knowledge of SUD and known hospital resources. To date, Thomas Memorial and War Memorial have hired their first peer recovery support specialists and will begin interacting with patients by the end of summer.

Project Engage is now in the following Hospitals:

1. St. Mary's Medical Center
Huntington, WV
2. Cabell Huntington Hospital
Huntington, WV
3. Berkeley Medical Center
Martinsburg, WV
4. Hampshire Memorial Hospital
Romney, WV
5. War Memorial Hospital
Berkeley Springs, WV



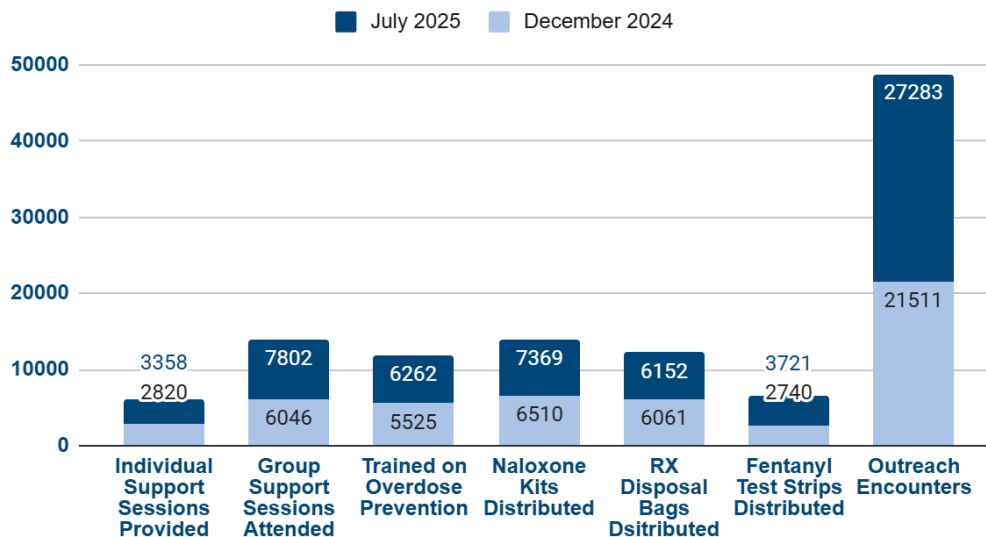
APPENDIX F

RECOVERY

Collegiate Recovery Programs and Collegiate Recovery Network of Peers

The Collegiate Recovery Programs (CRPs) provide on-campus safe spaces and supportive environments for students in recovery from substance use disorder. Services include group support such as mindfulness, SMART Recovery, and depression and bipolar support, as well as individual peer support, recovery ally services, and naloxone training. The West Virginia Collegiate Recovery Network (WVCRN), active on nine campuses, expands these efforts through a federally funded partnership supported by SAMHSA's State Opioid Response grant. This year, WVCRN launched a free online course to raise awareness about xylazine and how to manage related risks in West Virginia: wvcollegiaterecovery.com/xylazine-awareness-safety.

Collegiate Recovery Outcomes



This chart highlights the continued growth of collegiate recovery efforts across West Virginia. Between December 2024 and July 2025, all key service areas showed measurable increases:

- Individual Support Sessions increased by 19%, reflecting stronger one-on-one engagement with students in recovery.
- Group Support Participation rose by nearly 30%, showing growing interest in peer-led support such as SMART Recovery and mindfulness groups.

- Overdose Prevention Training reached 6262 students, a 13% increase, emphasizing expanded harm reduction education.
- Naloxone Kit Distribution rose by 13%, and Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution increased by 36%, enhancing student access to life-saving tools.
- RX Disposal Bags and Outreach Encounters also climbed, with outreach growing by 27% to over 27,000 encounters, indicating expanded awareness, education, and connection efforts across campuses.

These results demonstrate the impact and reach of the West Virginia Collegiate Recovery Network in promoting safety, support, and recovery resources in higher education settings.

Jobs & Hope West Virginia

Jobs & Hope West Virginia is the state’s flagship initiative to address the substance use disorder (SUD) crisis through a workforce reintegration lens. The program connects individuals in recovery with comprehensive support services to overcome barriers to employment and education. In partnership with the West Virginia Office of Drug Control Policy (ODCP), Jobs & Hope offers participants access to training, transportation, legal aid, peer recovery support, and more—helping create pathways to long-term stability and independence.

This graph highlights the growth and progress of the Jobs & Hope West Virginia program by comparing key metrics from the December 2024 and July 2025 reporting periods. Program Participation increased by 125 individuals, signaling steady outreach and continued demand for services. Completed Expungements rose by 13 cases, demonstrating an increase in access to legal assistance and efforts to remove employment barriers.

- Employed Participants jumped by 1,788, a strong indicator of successful workforce placement and job readiness support.
- Driver’s License Reinstatements increased by 547, reflecting enhanced mobility for participants and greater access to employment and education

Program Outcomes	December 2024	July 2025
Total Participants Engaged	1502	1627
Expungements Completed	34	47
Participants Employed	8722	10510
Driver's Licenses Reinstated	2529	3076
Program Graduates	545	608
Average Annual Salary	25890	22069
Individuals No Longer Receiving SNAP Benefits	1645	2033
Total Combined Annual Salaries	78.9 million	93.2 million

opportunities. Program Graduates grew by 63, showing improvement in participant retention and completion rates.

- Individuals No Longer Receiving SNAP Benefits increased by 388, indicating a positive shift toward financial independence and self-sufficiency.
- Total Combined Annual Salaries rose by \$14.3 million, further emphasizing the economic impact of the program on communities and families across West Virginia.

These gains reflect the program's growing reach and continued commitment to removing systemic and personal barriers for individuals seeking recovery and economic opportunity. As the program expands, Jobs & Hope West Virginia continues to build a recovery-to-workforce pipeline that strengthens communities, families, and the state's economy.

APPENDIX I

WEST VIRGINIA 2025 PRIORITIES AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN UPDATE

The West Virginia 2025 Priorities and Implementation Plan is a continuation of the West Virginia 2020-2022 Substance Use Response Plan. This document indicates the 2025 goals and strategies for implementation of priority response initiatives to address SUD within West Virginia communities. The report is organized by the following eight strategic areas of the West Virginia Substance Use Response Plan.

- Prevention
- Community Engagement & Supports
- Treatment, Health Systems, and Research
- Courts & Justice-Involved Populations
- Law Enforcement
- Public Education
- Recovery Subcommittee
- Pregnant and Parenting Women
- Youth

Implementation of the 2024 Action Plan resulted in the following progress for the 105 KPIs being reported. Of note is that total KPIs may vary from quarter to quarter as Subcommittees add or remove KPIs during implementation.

	Q1 Progress*	Q2 Progress*	Q3 Progress	Q4 Progress
KPIs Completed	7	8	15	44
KPIs In Progress	39	53	51	24
Not Started	43	16	15	9
Not Reported	16	28	24	28
KPIs Completed or In Progress at End of Quarter	46/105 (43.8%)	61/105 (58.1%)	66/105 (62.9%)	68/105 (64.76%)

The 2025 Action Plan in its entirety, will be available shortly on the Office of Drug Control Policy website at <https://odcp.wv.gov/>.