

Press Release September 16, 2019

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SAFE Glen Cove Coalition: Trump Administration Announces \$1.8 Billion in Funding to States to Continue Combating Opioid Crisis

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced more than \$1.8 billion in funding to states to continue the Trump administration's efforts to combat the opioid crisis by expanding access to treatment and supporting data on the drug overdose crisis.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced more than \$900 million in new funding for a three-year cooperative agreement with states, territories, and localities to advance the understanding of the opioid overdose epidemic and to shore-up prevention and response activities, releasing \$301 million for the first year. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) awarded approximately \$932 million to all 50 states as part of its State Opioid Response grants. By the end of 2019, HHS will have awarded more than \$9 billion in grants to states and local communities to help increase access to treatment and prevention services since the start of the Trump administration.

According to HHS the country is seeing the first drop in overdose deaths in more than two decades, more Americans are getting treatment for addiction, and lives are being saved. At the same time, the opioid crisis ensues. HHS will continue to implement a five point strategy that includes better addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services; better data; better pain management; better targeting of overdose reversing drugs; and better research.

As part of HHS's strategy to combat the opioid crisis, the CDC is disseminating resources, messages, and funding. This funding from CDC will help state and local governments track overdose data as closely to real-time as possible and support them in work to prevent overdoses and save lives. Funding for the first year is being awarded to 47 states, Washington, D.C., 16 localities, and two territories. Over the past decade, reporting of mortality data has improved substantially, mainly due to improvements in reporting by state vital records offices. States may report nonfatal data as quickly as every two weeks and report fatal data every six months.

The State Opioid Response grants from SAMHSA provide flexible funding to state governments to support prevention, treatment, and recovery services in the ways that meet the needs of their state. HHS has worked to ensure that this grant program is focused on providing evidence-based treatment, including the gold standard for treating opioid addiction: medication-assisted treatment. These grants have been awarded to all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and U.S. territories. In addition to the approximately \$500M released earlier this year, SAMHSA released \$932M in continuation funding to support the second year of the State Opioid Response program.

Efforts to expand treatment are succeeding: Data suggests approximately 1.27 million Americans are now receiving medication-assisted treatment, out of approximately 2 million Americans with opioid use disorder. The number of patients receiving buprenorphine has increased 28 percent, and the number of naltrexone prescriptions per month has increased 55 percent.

From 2017 to 2018, provisional counts of drug overdose deaths dropped by five percent, and overdose deaths from opioids went down 2.8 percent from 2017 to 2018. The number of individuals reporting pain reliever misuse decreased from 2017 to 2018 by 11 percent, with fewer than 10 million Americans now reporting misuse. Heroin-related opioid use disorder also decreased significantly among young adults.

The mission of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) to enhance and protect the health and well-being of all Americans by providing for effective health and human services and fostering advances in medicine, public health, and social services. To learn more about HHS please visit www.hhs.gov. To read this article please visit <https://www.hhs.gov/about/news/2019/09/04/trump-administration-announces-1-8-billion-funding-states-combating-opioid.html>

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is a federal agency that conducts and supports health promotion, prevention and preparedness activities in the United States, with the goal of improving overall public health. To learn more about the CDC please visit www.cdc.gov.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is a branch of the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](http://www.hhs.gov). It is charged with improving the quality and availability of treatment and rehabilitative services in order to reduce illness, death, disability, and the cost to society resulting from [substance abuse](#) and [mental illnesses](#). For more information about SAMHSA please visit www.samhsa.gov.

SAFE, Inc. is the only alcohol and substance abuse prevention, intervention and education agency in the City of Glen Cove. It's Coalition is conducting an opioid prevention awareness campaign entitled, "Keeping Glen Cove SAFE," in order to educate and update the community regarding opioid use and its consequences. To learn more about the SAFE Glen Cove Coalition please follow us on www.facebook.com/safeglencovecoalition or visit SAFE's website to learn more about the Opioid Epidemic at www.safeglencove.org