

## Natick Opioid Task Force Strategic Plan 2017

PROBLEM	GOAL	STRATEGY	STRATEGIC AREA WORK GROUP
<p>Natick residents report that they lack information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The risk factors that contribute to opioid addiction and the protective factors that help prevent opioid addiction.</li> <li>• How to reduce the risk of an opioid overdose.</li> <li>• How to respond in the event of an overdose to save a life.</li> </ul>	<p>Increase community awareness in order to reduce opioid use disorders before they begin and to reduce the rates of fatal and non-fatal overdoses.</p>	<p>Develop <b>public awareness messages</b> to educate the community about the risk and protective factors of opioid addiction; how to reduce the risk of an opioid overdose; the risk factors that contribute to opioid addiction; and how to respond in the event of an overdose to save a life.</p> <p>Disseminate messages through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New website (to be developed)</li> <li>• Social media</li> <li>• Local media outlets (via interviews, press releases, etc.)</li> <li>• Electronic signs</li> <li>• Flyers</li> <li>• E-blasts from community distribution lists</li> <li>• Town mailings</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Community Awareness &amp; Education</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">1</p>
<p>Natick residents report that community members are unaware of services and resources available to them.</p>	<p>Increase community awareness of treatment options and resources that are available to individuals with substance use disorders and their families.</p>	<p>Develop <b>resource cards</b> and/or packets of information that can be distributed widely throughout the community.</p>	
<p>Natick residents report that they do not perceive municipal staff members as knowledgeable of treatment services or resources.</p>	<p>Increase municipal staff member awareness of how they can help community members who seek assistance for substance use related issues.</p>	<p>Develop <b>training for frontline municipal staff</b> that educates participants about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presence of Prevention &amp; Outreach Program Manager position as a resource for community members and municipal staff.</li> <li>• Formation of the Natick Opioid Task Force and an overview of its activities.</li> <li>• Scope of the opioid crisis in Natick.</li> <li>• How to recognize the signs of an opioid overdose and how to respond to save a life.</li> <li>• Resources (as listed on Task Force resource cards—disseminate at trainings to have on hand across departments)</li> </ul>	

<p>Funding for substance use disorder prevention and response efforts is limited.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Federal grant funding for Natick Together for Youth (NTY), the community Coalition that focuses on primary prevention and early intervention, will end by March 2017.</li> <li>Natick Opioid Task Force has nominal budget for small printing projects and supplies.</li> </ul>	<p>Increase sustainability of prevention efforts by obtaining reliable funding streams.</p>	<p>Identify and pursue appropriate <b>funding</b> opportunities to support primary (universal), secondary (selective) and tertiary (indicated) prevention efforts of NTY and the Natick Opioid Task Force, including (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drug Free Communities grant</li> <li>MetroWest Health Foundation grants</li> <li>Local foundations</li> <li>Town funding</li> </ul>	<p><b>Community Awareness &amp; Education (Cont.)</b></p>
<p>Natick residents report that overdose victims frequently leave emergency department against medical advice without referrals for longer-term treatment for substance use disorder.</p>	<p>Increase access to treatment services post overdose.</p>	<p>Develop <b>outreach team to visit overdose victims post overdose</b> to offer connection and referral to treatment and recovery supports.</p>	<p><b>Access to Treatment &amp; Support for Recovery</b></p> <p><b>Access to Treatment &amp; Support for Recovery (Cont.)</b></p>
<p>Natick residents report that treatment systems are challenging to navigate.</p>	<p>Increase access to treatment services for individuals with substance use disorders and their families.</p>	<p>Develop regularly occurring <b>resource center</b> for community members who are seeking treatment navigation, Narcan training, and other support services.</p>	
<p>Natick residents report negative experiences at MPMC Leonard Morse Hospital's emergency department, including frustrations that overdose victims are discharged too quickly without referral for substance use treatment.</p>	<p>Increase access to treatment services at time of overdose.</p>	<p><b>Collaborate with Leonard Morse Hospital</b> staff to identify ways to increase referrals from emergency department to longer term substance use treatment.</p>	

