

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
General Meeting
Monday, May 17, 2021, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Zoom Participation

The following information referenced below and at the end of the agenda is provided to you in support of your attending the upcoming BHAB General Meeting via Zoom:

Join the Zoom meeting in the following way:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83332714732?pwd=bE43OUJqRHhHa0ExSIR5L1VLMWMyQT09>

Meeting ID: 833 3271 4732

Password: 149553

Dial-In: 669-900-9128

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Welcome and Introductions
- IV. Approval of the Agenda – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- V. Approval of the April 19, 2021 Minutes – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- VI. Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)
- VII. Presentation: “Emerging Local Risks: Fentanyl” – Dan Hicks, SUS Prevention Services Manager (20 min.)
- VIII. Recognition: Former BHAB Members: Dr. Margaret Cortese, Mary Haffner, Denise Nielsen, Sheri Valley
- IX. Chair Comments (5 min.)
- X. Director’s Report – Dr. Sevet Johnson (15 min.)
- XI. Board Member Comments and Announcements (10 min.)
- XII. Secretary’s Report (This item is deferred until after the upcoming election.)
- XIII. BHAB Committee Reports (5 min each)
 - A. Adult Services – Nancy Borchard and Gane Brooking, Co-Chairs
 - B. Prevention Services – Janis Gardner, Chair
 - C. Youth & Family Services – Kevin Clerici, Chair
- XIV. BHAB Workgroup Updates
 - A. Disparities Reduction Workgroup – Gane Brooking and Marlen Torres (10 min.)
- XV. Old Business
 - A. VCBH Response to the Identified Gaps in Service – Update/Discussion (10 min.)
 - B. Mobile Mental Health Innovation Proposal Update – Hilary Carson, MHSA Innovations Program Administrator (5 min.)
- XVI. New Business
 - A. Public Hearing to End 30-day Public Comment Period: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Fiscal Year 2020-21 Annual Update – Jerry Harris – **ACTION** (Roll Call) (15 min)

Members of the public making oral presentations to the Board in connection with one or more agenda or non-agenda items at a single meeting are limited to a cumulative total time not to exceed (5) minutes for all of their oral presentations at such meeting unless otherwise provided. Public comments on agenda items must be made prior to board member deliberations of agenda items. The entire public comment period is limited to no more than (20) minutes total for all speakers. NOTE: The Chair may limit the number or duration of speakers on a matter. In compliance with the Americans With Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact Behavioral Health Administration at (805) 981-6830. Reasonable advance notification of the need for accommodation prior to the meeting (48 hours advance notice is preferable) will enable us to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

- B. Nominating Committee Report and Recommendations
 - 1. Presentation of Slate of Officers for Fiscal Year 2021-22
 - 2. Accept Nominations from the Floor
 - C. Appoint Chair for the Data Elements Workgroup – (5 min.) **ACTION** (Roll Call)
 - D. Appoint Chair for the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Committee - (5 min.) - **ACTION** (Roll Call)
 - E. Appoint Chair for the Peer Specialist Workgroup - (5 min.) - **ACTION** (Roll Call)
 - F. BHAB Membership Identification Assessment – Discuss Approval to Conduct an Optional, Anonymous Zoom Poll at the July 2021 General Meeting (REF: BHAB Bylaws Article III.E.) – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
 - G. Adopt Language Interpretation Best Practices - (10 min.) - **ACTION** (Roll Call)
 - H. Contract Review Process Improvements - (10 min) - **ACTION** (Roll Call)
 - I. Presentation Requests
 - J. Recognition Award Recommendations
- XVII. Contracts
- A. Board of Supervisors Approved Agreements – April 13, 2021
 - 1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 First Amendment to the Agreement with Dennis M. Giroux & Associates (DMG).
 - 2. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Second Amendment to the Agreement with Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc. (Tarzana).
 - 3. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC).
 - B. Board of Supervisors Approved Agreements – April 27, 2021
 - 1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with All Languages Interpreting and Translating, Inc. (ALIT).
 - 2. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Third Amendment to the Agreement with the Health Care Foundation for Ventura County, Inc. (HCFVC).
 - 3. Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with HCFVC for MHSA Funded Educational Stipends and Basic Needs Program Supports and Administrative Services.
- XVIII. Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)
- XIX. Adjourn

Next Meeting: Monday, June 21, 2021

All agenda reports and supporting data, including those filed in accordance with Government Code Section 54957.5 (b) (1) and (2) are available from the Behavioral Health Advisory Board Assistant at bhadmin@ventura.org or in person at Ventura County Behavioral Health, 2nd Floor, 1911 Williams Drive, Oxnard, California. The same materials will be available and attached with each associated agenda item, when received, at the following website: www.vcbh.org/en/behavioral-health-advisory-board-meetings.

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Welcome to the meeting of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board of the County of Ventura. The following information is provided to help you understand, follow, and participate in the Board meeting:

Join the Zoom meeting by clicking the link provided on the agenda at the scheduled time and date. Zoom will initially start with a **waiting room** — you will be admitted into the meeting room when the meeting starts. All participants are muted upon entry to minimize any unintended disruption of background sounds. Please keep yourself on mute unless you are speaking.

Note: The meeting is recorded.

Public Comments

- The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) welcomes comments from the community, consumers and family members.
- The BHAB operates under the Brown Act. This requires that all meetings be open meetings, with the agenda and minutes posted. A public comment period will be provided on all meeting agendas.
- Due to confidentiality laws, the Board is unable to respond directly to a public comment or to discuss client-specific issues without proper releases from the individuals concerned.
- At all BHAB meetings, the BHAB Assistant provides a Grievance Form for individuals who have concerns. The form is reviewed promptly by VCBH Quality Management. Individuals can also contact the BHAB Assistant to request a VCBH Grievance Form outside a BHAB meeting or call 1-888-567-2122.
- Individuals who have further concerns are welcome to return to the BHAB for assistance.

Public comments may be provided using one of the following options:

Email or Mail Public Comment in Advance of the Meeting

If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item by email or mail, please submit your comment via email by 10:00 AM on the day of the BHAB meeting. Please submit your comment to the BHAB Assistant at bhabadmin@ventura.org or mail to:

BHAB Assistant
1911 Williams Drive, Suite 200
Oxnard, CA 93036

Please indicate in the subject line the agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9) on which you are commenting. Your email will be distributed to the BHAB Members and placed into the item's record of the meeting.

Video Public Comment using Zoom

You may use the raise hand feature when the Chair invites public comments in the following ways:

If you are running an older version of Zoom, you can raise your hand by clicking on the Participant button at the bottom of the Zoom screen and then click on the raise hand feature in that participant window.

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If you are running the most current version of Zoom (5.4.9 and above) you can raise your hand by clicking on the Reactions button and then clicking on raise hand feature. Your hand will appear in the upper left-hand corner of your individual Zoom window as well as the participant window.

Call-In Public Comment using Zoom

If you are joining the meeting by telephone only, you can join the comment queue by pressing *9. When it is your turn to make your comment, press *6 to unmute and then again to mute yourself after speaking.

Note: Your raised hand will appear TO THE HOST in the order it was received.

Comments are taken in the order they are received in the queue/participant window. When it is your turn to make a comment, you will be asked to unmute yourself. **Public comments may be up to 3 minutes during the public comment periods, or before an agenda item, with a cumulative total time not to exceed 5 minutes.** The assigned timekeeper will track each public comment time as well as the total time per speaker. When your time is up, the timekeeper will interrupt to let you know that you have reached the 3-minute maximum as well as when you have reached your total allotted time. At the end of the three minutes and/or allotted time, the next person in the comment queue will be invited to speak.

REMINDER: In order to minimize distractions during public meetings, all personal communication devices should be turned off or put in a non-audible mode.

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VENTURA COUNTY

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

A Department of Ventura County Health Care Agency

May 17, 2021

EMERGING LOCAL RISK: FENTANYL

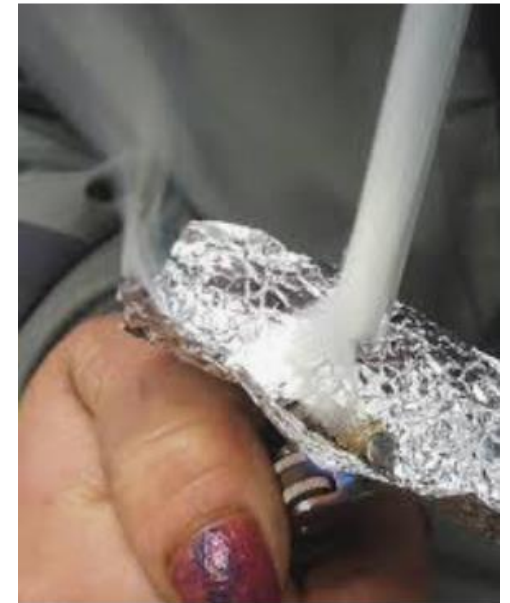
The deadliest wave of the opioid crisis so far
has arrived in Ventura County

Daniel Hicks, Manager
Substance Use Services - Prevention

Indicators of the Challenge - nationally

CDC on February 11, 2021, highlights the scope of the problem.

- In 2019, 70,630 drug overdose deaths occurred in the US (21.6 per 100 000) representing a 4.3% increase over the 2018 rate.
- Among these, approximately 71% involved opioids and 52% specifically synthetic opioids excluding methadone—Fentanyl now predominates
- No state had significant decrease in synthetic opioid death rate between 2018 and 2019, & West census region had largest relative (68%) and absolute (1.9 per 100 000) increase.



Indicators of the Challenge - nationally

The Moving Target began in the 1990s

Rx Drugs and Heroin → Synthetics and Analogs → Fentanyl & Meth

- Since 2013, deaths involving synthetic opioids surged largely due to illicitly made fentanyl & analogs (e.g., acetelfentanyl, carfentanil).
- As fentanyl became more ubiquitous, overdose deaths increased in all ages, both sexes, across races/ethnicities, urbanization levels, across majority of US states.



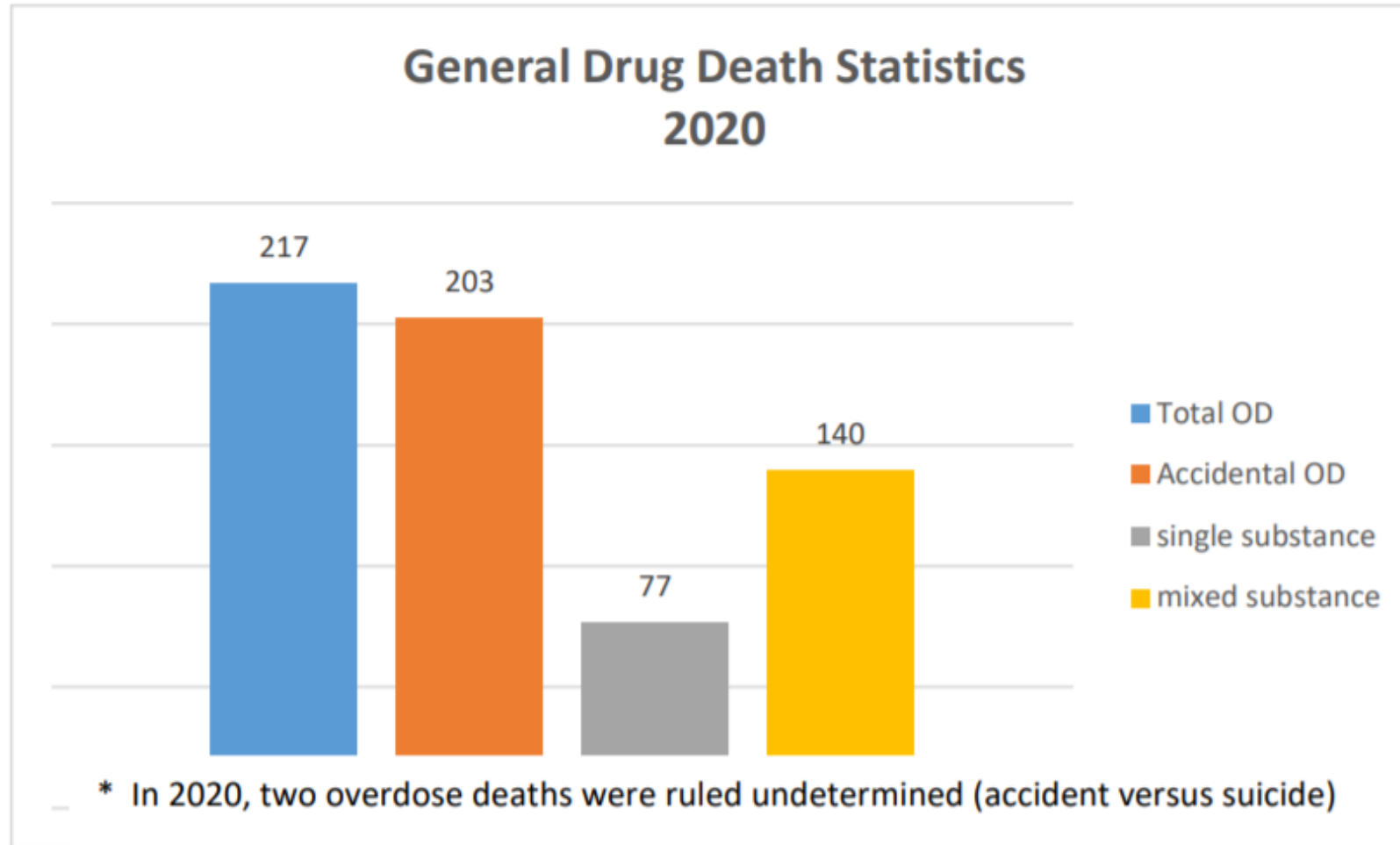
Indicators of the Challenge – Ventura County

Medical Examiner Special Report – 2020 Overdose Deaths

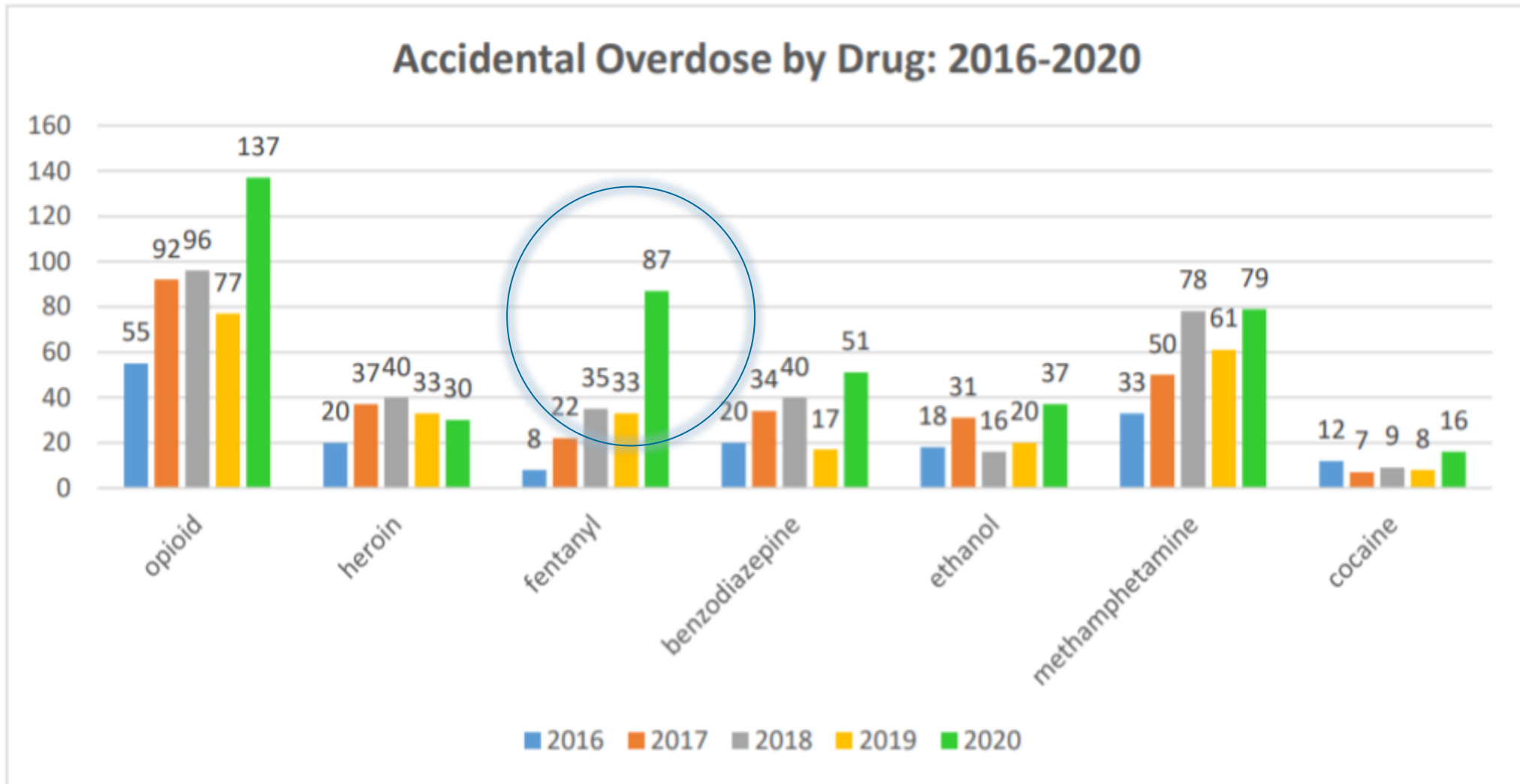
Noteworthy trends:

- 1) Overdose deaths between 2019 and 2020 increased by 68 (45.6% increase). Compared to the previous year, accidental overdoses for 2020 increased by 75 while suicidal overdoses decreased by 5.
- 2) Fentanyl and benzodiazepine deaths increased significantly in 2020 compared to 2019. Fentanyl contributed to 54 more deaths than the previous year. Benzodiazepines contributed to 34 more deaths than the previous year.
- 3) The highest number of overdose deaths in 2020 were between ages 31 to 40 years (49 deaths) and of these deaths, 24 involved fentanyl.

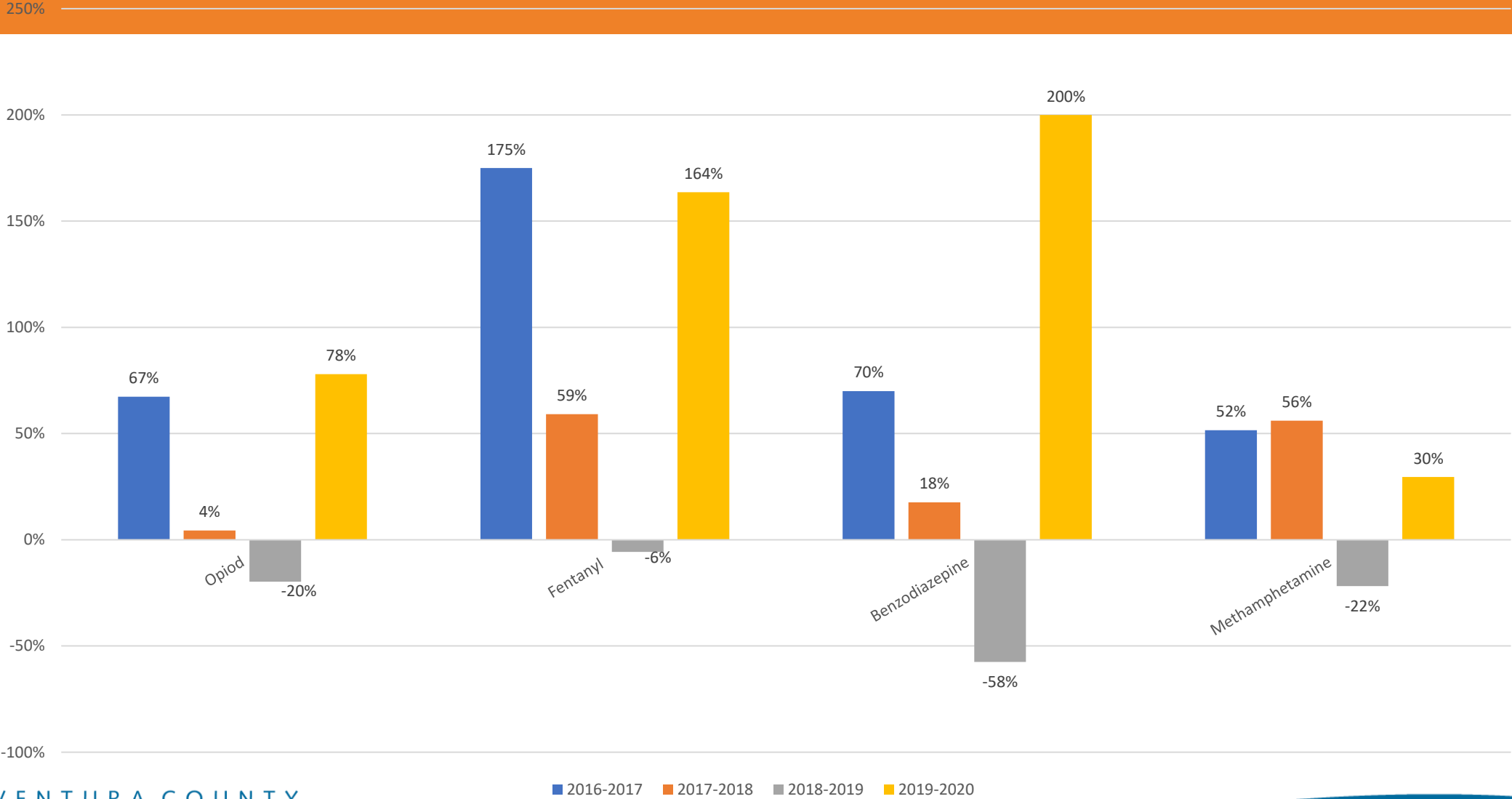
Of 706 Postmortem Exams, 203 were Accidental ODs



Fentanyl significant in Fatal OD increase 2020



Accidental Overdose by Drug Percent Change: 2016-2020



Anticipating the Challenges

In response to significant challenges, VCBH took specific steps:

- We fortified efforts to warn residents at-risk of OD and supported all law enforcement, countywide, with with life-saving naloxone.
- During the same time period (CY 2020), we distributed 890 Overdose Rescue Kits to clients, and documented 317 reversals of overdose; that is, 317 lives saved.
- We expanded fentanyl warning messages throughout the community, with the Public Health department's collaboration.
- Our COAST Opioid Data Dashboard is updated for the public, with treatment, syringe replacement, and drug disposal information.



Street Fentanyl Surges In Western U.S ...

Community Posters



DID YOU KNOW

that our community is **AT RISK** from fentanyl?

Anyone who takes a drug that isn't prescribed for them may accidentally take fentanyl.

- Our local opioid epidemic has been worsened by a recent influx of illegal fentanyl, which is sometimes mixed in with other drugs.
- If your doctor didn't prescribe medication for you or a family member, there's no way to know what's really inside a pill.
- Fentanyl is so strong that even a tiny amount can lead to overdose and death for people of any age.

Did you know that you could save a life with an Overdose Rescue Kit?

Call 1-805-667-6663. It's confidential and free.

LEARN MORE:
www.VenturaCountyResponds.org



¿SABÍAS QUE...

nuestra comunidad se encuentra **EN PELIGRO** debido al fentanilo?

Cualquier persona que consume una droga que no se le ha sido recetada puede estar accidentalmente consumiendo fentanilo.

- La epidemia local de los opioides ha empeorado debido a un reciente flujo de fentanilo ilegal, el cual a veces es mezclado con otras drogas.
- Si su doctor no le recetó medicamentos a usted o a un miembro de familia, no hay manera de saber lo que realmente hay dentro de una pastilla.
- El fentanilo es tan fuerte que incluso una cantidad pequeña puede resultar en sobredosis y muerte para personas de cualquier edad.

¿Sabías que puedes salvar una vida con un Kit de Rescate?

Llame al 1-800-667-663. Es gratis y confidencial.

APRENDA MÁS:
www.VenturaCountyResponds.org/es



Community Messaging

OVERDOSE – could it happen to someone you care about?

If prescription pain medicines are misused, they could lead to an overdose.

And our local opioid epidemic has been worsened by a recent influx of illegal fentanyl, which is sometimes mixed in with other drugs, including heroin. Fentanyl is so strong that even a tiny amount can lead to overdose and death for people of any age.

DID YOU KNOW
that you could save a life
with a free Rescue Kit?

CALL 1-800-667-6663

LEARN MORE:
www.VenturaCountyResponds.org



SOBREDOSIS – ¿le podría pasar a alguien importante para usted?

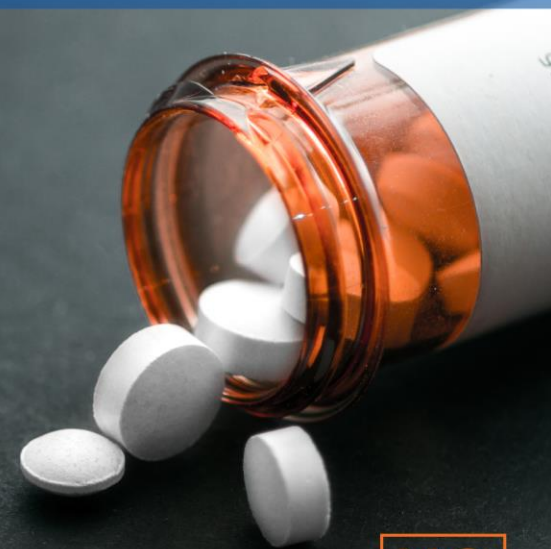
Si los medicamentos recetados para el dolor son usados indebidamente, esto puede resultar en una sobredosis.

Además, la epidemia local de los opioides ha empeorado debido a un reciente flujo de fentanilo ilegal, el cual a veces es mezclado con otras drogas, incluyendo la heroína. El fentanilo es tan fuerte que incluso una cantidad pequeña puede resultar en sobredosis y muerte para personas de cualquier edad.

¿SABÍAS QUE
puedes salvar una vida
con un Kit de Rescate gratis?

LLAME AL 1-800-667-6663

APRENDA MÁS:
www.VenturaCountyResponds.org/es



Near Horizon

Enhancing OD Prevention Program's design

- Rescue kits to hold three (3) doses of Naloxone, instead of current two (2)
- Training for OD response to include information of Fentanyl-specific symptoms
- Paperless OD reversal questionnaire; more useful data in shorter time

Harm Reduction Messaging to People Who Use Drugs – Public Health

- Stigma reduction messaging efforts, Opioid Use Disorders (OUD)
- On-site availability of drug check strips; safety education and ACCESS line info
- Educating family members and partners – Opioid Agonist Therapy v. abstinence (e.g., buprenorphine) as relapse more life-threatening (after jail, in treatment)

Considering what did NOT happen

“While we recognize that fatal ODs have reached a new high point, we are confident that the death toll could have been even higher were it not for the collaborative prevention and overdose rescue efforts – including the 317 documented reversals in 2020—which were the result of our Overdose Prevention Program”

- Dr. Loretta Denering

Visit www.VenturaCountyResponds.org

Sources and Citations

Special Report: 2020 Fatal Overdoses; Christopher Young, MD, Chief Medical Examiner: February 21, 2021; County of Ventura Office of the Medical Examiner. <https://meo.ventura.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/OD-Report-2020.pdf>

Continued Increases in Overdose Deaths Related to Synthetic Opioids: Implications for Clinical Practice; Grant T. Baldwin, PhD, MPH¹; Puja Seth, PhD¹; Rita K. Noonan, PhD; Division of Overdose Prevention, National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, GA; [JAMA. 2021;325\(12\):1151-1152. doi:10.1001/jama.2021.1169](#)

Fentanyl, Inc.: How Rogue Chemists Are Creating the Deadliest Wave of the Opioid Epidemic; Ben Westhoff, Atlantic Monthly Press: September 2019;
ISBN 978-0-8021-2743-3

Working with Interpreters

Best Practices

Interpreters orally or visually relay a message, between 2 or more people that do not have a common language without adding, deleting, or changing the content or intent of the message.

Interpreter

- Interpreter explains basic rules and process
- Interpretations will be made in 1st person
 - *If the interpreter speaks for him/herself it will be in 3rd person*
- Impartiality
- Confidentiality
- All communication will be interpreted
 - *Including negative comments, obscenities, objectionable declarations, any comments by anyone that are heard*

Participant/Conversational Etiquette

- One person speaks at a time
- Speak loudly and clearly
- Speak at a moderate pace
 - *Please be careful not to speak too fast so interpreter can keep up*
- Speak directly to one another, not to the interpreter
- Observe interpreter signals, to stop, slow down...
- Jokes/idioms/inside jokes are often not interpretable; avoid when possible
- Avoid side conversations
 - *They are distracting, disrespectful, and lead to missed information*

Considerations

- Avoid dual roles for interpreters
 - *The rapid mental processing, attention, and focus required of interpreters does not allow them to effectively conduct a secondary role.*
- Any event longer than an hour requires 2 interpreters
- Provide pertinent information and documents to interpreter in advance

Ventura County Behavioral Health
Board Letter Summary of Contracts for April 2021

Board Date	Contractor	Amount	Term	Description
4/13/2021	Dennis M. Giroux & Associates	\$519,166	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021	<p>Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 First Amendment to the Agreement with Dennis M. Giroux & Associates (DMG). DMG provides outpatient SUD treatment services to adults involved in the criminal justice system at various locations in Ventura County, including Oxnard, Ventura, and the Todd Road County Jail. DMG uses the following evidence-based practices: matrix, seeking safety, and moral reconnection therapy. From July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020, DMG served 215 clients funded through AB109 funds and 324 clients funded through Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) funds. Since July 1, 2020, DMG has served 78 clients funded through AB109 funds and 390 clients funded through DMC funds. DMG expects to serve a total of 128 clients funded through AB109 funds and 550 clients funded through DMC funds. The amendment to the existing agreement with DMG reflects an increase of \$19,931 due to an upward trend in DMC clients resulting in an increase in outpatient services. This agreement is funded by DMC Federal Financial Participation (FFP), Realignment, and AB 109 funds.</p>
4/13/2021	Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.	\$2,117,713	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021	<p>FY 2020-21 Second Amendment to the Agreement with Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc. (Tarzana). Tarzana provides multiple levels of residential substance use disorder (SUD) and residential withdrawal management treatment services for adults and youth. From July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020, Tarzana served 200 inpatient withdrawal management clients with a completion rate of 77%, 112 clients in adult residential with a completion rate of 71%, and 13 clients in youth residential with a 31% completion rate. Since July 1, 2020, Tarzana served 139 inpatient withdrawal management clients with a completion rate of 73%, 60 clients in adult residential with a completion rate of 58%, and 6 clients in youth residential with a 0% completion rate. Tarzana expects to serve a total of 238 inpatient withdrawal management clients, 103 clients in adult residential, and 15 clients in youth residential by the end of this fiscal year. The amendment to the existing agreement with Tarzana reflects an increase of \$200,000 due an upward trend in clients as well as the expansion of SUD treatment services to Lancaster and Long Beach. In Lancaster, four (4) additional residential beds have been added; and in Long Beach, six (6) additional residential beds have been added for withdrawal management SUD treatment services. This agreement is funded with DMC FFP, Substance abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) discretionary, 2011 Realignment and AB 109 funds.</p>

4/13/2021	Tri-Counties Regional Center	\$0	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022	<p>FY 2020-21 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Tri-Counties Regional Center (TCRC). TCRC is a private, non-profit corporation that contracts with the California Department of Development Services to provide or arrange for a continuum of diagnostic and support services to persons with developmental disabilities. Most services and support are free, regardless of age or income, and the majority of persons serviced are Medi-Cal recipients. The MOU with TCRC establishes a non-binding, cooperative working relationship between TCRC, Ventura County Medical Center Inpatient Unit (VCMC-IPU) and Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) to improve the quality of mental health outcomes for individuals dually diagnosed with mental illness and developmental disability. The MOU also provides provisions for reimbursement for services when a TCRC client, who is admitted to the VCMC-IPU, no longer meets inpatient medical necessity criteria for psychiatric hospital services and there is difficulty discharging the patient back to their support system. If an appropriate placement cannot be found after a patient has been determined to no longer meet medical necessity for inpatient hospitalization, then the MOU sets forth that TCRC will: (1) compensate VCMC-IPU on a daily basis at the administrative sub-acute rate based on the county interim rate that is established by the State, (2) remit payment for medication costs at a rate of \$100 per day if there is no medical insurance that will pay for medication costs, and (3) assume financial responsibility for any needed one-to-one patient monitoring and transportation to the patient's next placement. The MOU with TCRC establishes a cooperative relationship between the Regional Center and HCA mental health agencies consisting of VCMC-IPU and VCBH, effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2022.</p>
4/27/2021	All Languages Interpreting and Translating, Inc.	\$0	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021	<p>FY 2020-21 Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with All Languages Interpreting and Translating, Inc. (ALIT). ALIT provides interpreting and translating services for VCBH and VCBH clients. The Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with ALIT adds video remote interpreting services as well as minimum rates and cancellation fees for both video remote and telephone line interpreting services. The Fifth Amendment clarifies the scope of video remote and telephone line interpreting services by adding a specific video remote interpreting service description and corresponding rates as ALIT has been charging VCBH the telephone line interpreting rates for all video remote interpreting provided to date. Additionally, the Fifth Amendment adds a 30-minute minimum rate and a cancellation fee based on 30 minutes of the assigned language rate to the agreement as ALIT is experiencing a difficult time covering VCBH service assignments without such fees being included in the agreement. The addition of these rates will ensure that interpreting service providers can be obtained and retained for future service needs. These changes are effective March 1, 2021 onwards.</p>

4/27/2021	Health Care Foundation Ventura County	\$128,150	July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021	<p>FY 2020-21 Third Amendment to the Agreement with the Health Care Foundation for Ventura County, Inc. (HCFVC). HCFVC is a non-profit public benefit corporation whose exclusive purpose is to provide financial and other forms of support for the benefit of the Ventura County Health Care Agency. HCFVC provides administration and disbursement services for the following VCBH Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funded activities: (1) internship stipends for undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral students pursuing a mental health degree and interning with VCBH; and (2) Full-Service Partnership (FSP) and Rapid Integrated Support and Engagement (RISE) program basic needs payment services for clients in immediate crisis, such as clothes, food, and housing. The rates and requirements associated with these activities are detailed in the Program Description and Payment Terms of the HCFVC agreement. The Third Amendment to the agreement with HCFVC reinstates intern stipends and provides additional funding for administration services increasing the contract maximum from \$49,500 to \$128,150 (an increase of \$78,650), effective July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. The increase provides stipends for 19 interns and covers the administrative costs associated with the disbursement. The stipends encourage students to intern at VCBH and increase the likelihood that they will be available to hire when they complete their internship. The Basic Needs FSP/RISE program portion of the agreement remains in place at the same budget amount of \$49,500. The agreement is funded with MHSA funding.</p>
4/27/2021	Health Care Foundation Ventura County	\$242,000	July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022	<p>FY 2021-22 Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with HCFVC for MHSA Funded Educational Stipends and Basic Needs Program Supports and Administrative Services. The Fourth Amendment for MHSA funded educational stipends and basic needs program funding supports and administration services with HCFVC will extend the term of the agreement from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and increase the contract maximum from \$128,150 to \$242,000 (stipends program \$192,500 and basic needs program \$49,500). The amount reflects an increase to the stipends program in the amount of \$113,850 from prior fiscal year and this will allow up to 42 interns to participate.</p>