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California Bridge Program

bridgetotreatment.org
Revolutionizing the system of care

Training and technical assistance to hospital providers to initiate patient-centered rapid treatment for substance use disorders

• Starting life-saving medications
• Treating opioid withdrawal as an emergency
• Connecting from acute care to long term recovery

BridgeToTreatment.org
Our Problems:

- Rural, geographically isolated community
- Culturally diverse population
- Patients from both California and Nevada
- Minimal access to care
  - Only 1 x-waivered provider in the county
Our Solution

• Addiction Task Force
• Tribal Opiate Response Coalition
• Physician Champion
• Law Enforcement Champion: Sgt. Gladding
• Recovery Assistance Navigator
• Improve communication with Inyo County Behavioral Health Services
• Campaign to De-stigmatize Substance Use Disorder
• In the hospital
• In the community
Overcoming Pushback

• The community: “We don’t have *that* problem here.”
  
  • Unprecedented number of overdoses
    
  • Overdose Awareness Event

• The ED: “Why are we treating *those* patients?”
  
  • Physician and staff education
  
  • Giving providers tools to help patients

• Law Enforcement: “Why aren’t we arresting *those* people?”
  
  • Law enforcement education
  
  • Naloxone training

• Getting patients into care means fewer repeat offenders
Successes

- Law enforcement officers are using naloxone to reverse potentially fatal overdoses.
- The ED has been starting patients on Buprenorphine and linking them into treatment.
- The Recovery Assistance Navigator has helped break down barriers to treatment.
Successes:

• Identify and empower others who stand to benefit from simplified access to substance use treatment

• A healthcare issue that influences the entire community
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www.californiaopioidsafetynetwork.org