

Unique Perspectives and Innovative Partnerships – What AmeriCorps Members Bring to Public Health

May 15, 2019

11 AM – 12 PM Pacific

2 PM – 3 PM Eastern

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Closed captioning instructions will be provided.

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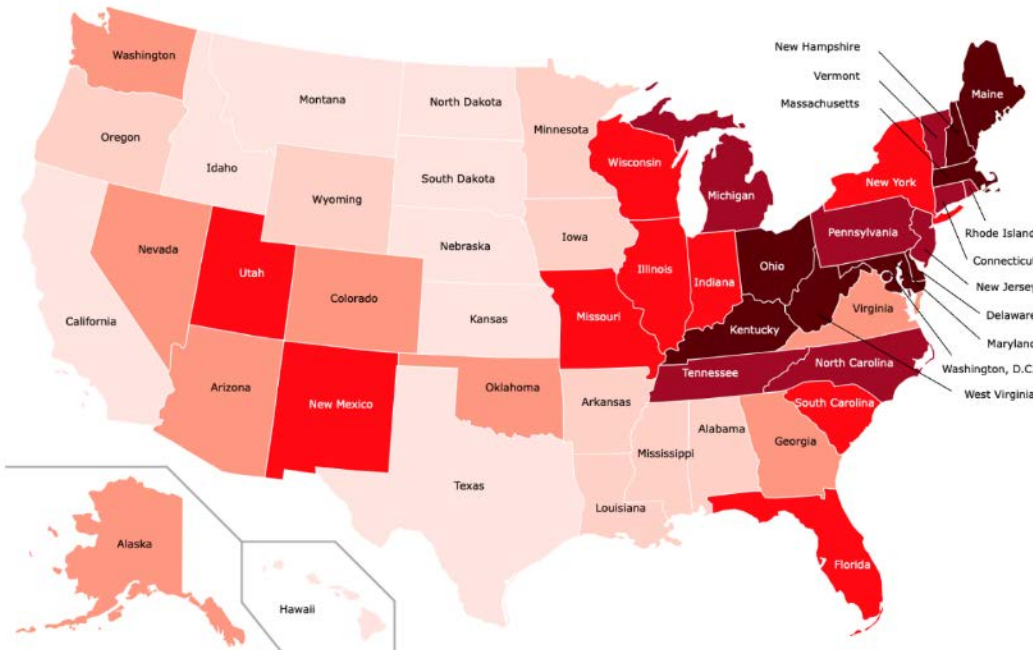
Nicole Vavro

AmeriCorps Member
Mercy Health Cincinnati

[mercy.com](https://www.mercy.com)

Community Need

2017 Opioid-Related Overdose Death Rates (per 100,000 people)¹



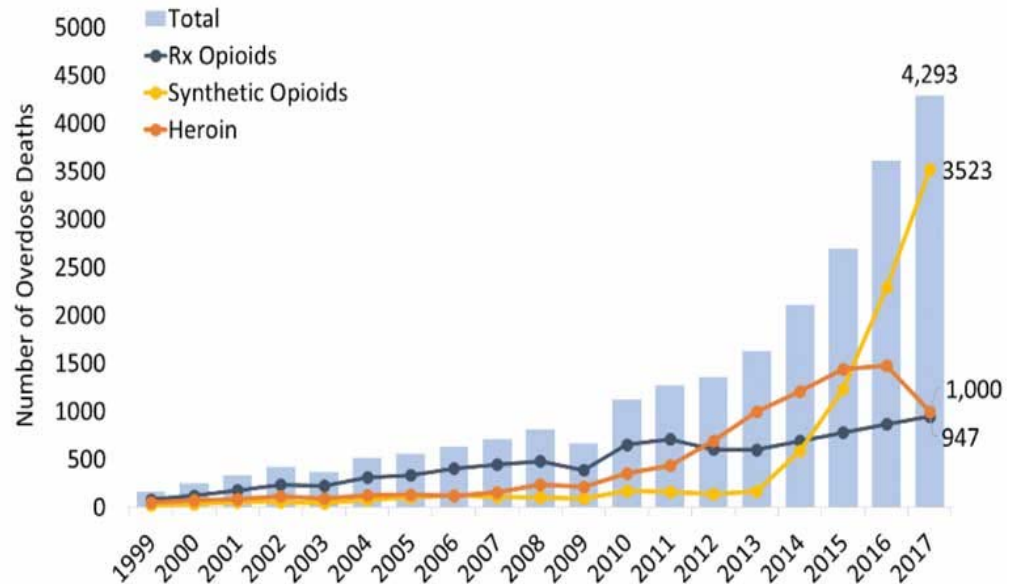
- Ohio led nation in opiate abuse in 2017
- Hamilton County had daily average of 7.0 ER visits for overdoses, 3/2018 – 3/2019
- 347 overdose deaths in Hamilton County in 2018

Data Retrieved From:

Hamilton County Public Health. (2019). *Hamilton County Overdose Report March 2019*. [PDF File].

Community Need

- 88% of deaths were by Fentanyl and analogs—more present than ever in 2018
- 80% of deaths involved fentanyl; 26% involved heroin
- Most deaths involving cocaine involved fentanyl (77%)
- 37% of deaths were people aged 35-49; 75% were Non-Hispanic White; 70% were male



- Data Retrieved From:
- Hamilton County Public Health. (2019). *Hamilton County Overdose Report March 2019*. [PDF File].

Retrieved From: National Institute on Drug Abuse. (2018). *Ohio Opioid Summary 2018*. [PDF File].

Our Niche

- Members serve directly in an Emergency Department, working alongside nurses and providers to provide the highest quality care for patients with substance abuse disorders.
- Members identify and address barriers to treatment, work with the patient to find treatment options, and provide emotional support to patients.



Our Niche



- Mercy Serves AmeriCorps addiction navigators seek to reach these individuals at risk of developing substance abuse related health issues or disorders by:
 - integrating SBIRT techniques, and motivational interviewing throughout the ED
 - Providing more time, individual attention, and an empathetic ear

Unique Perspective

- I am more adaptive than I previously thought
- I have learned a new definition of what it means to be successful – it is not always about getting a patient directly into treatment
- Getting out of my comfort zone was really challenging at first, but I am thankful for those who encouraged me to step out. It has helped me grow personally and professionally
- I sought out this position for more experience inside a healthcare system and to work in an emergency room, particularly, with an at risk population I was interested in better understanding
- I am a more compassionate person than I was before
 - I come from a family of addicts where I previously held some negative views of the disease

Moving Forward

- Through the professional development and leadership courses, I am more confident in my abilities to become a healthcare leader
- My knowledge on substance abuse has expanded and this experience has increased my desire to work with at risk populations
- Our program provides me with a unique insight into the organization of healthcare systems, thus, helping me realize I want to pursue graduate education in healthcare administration

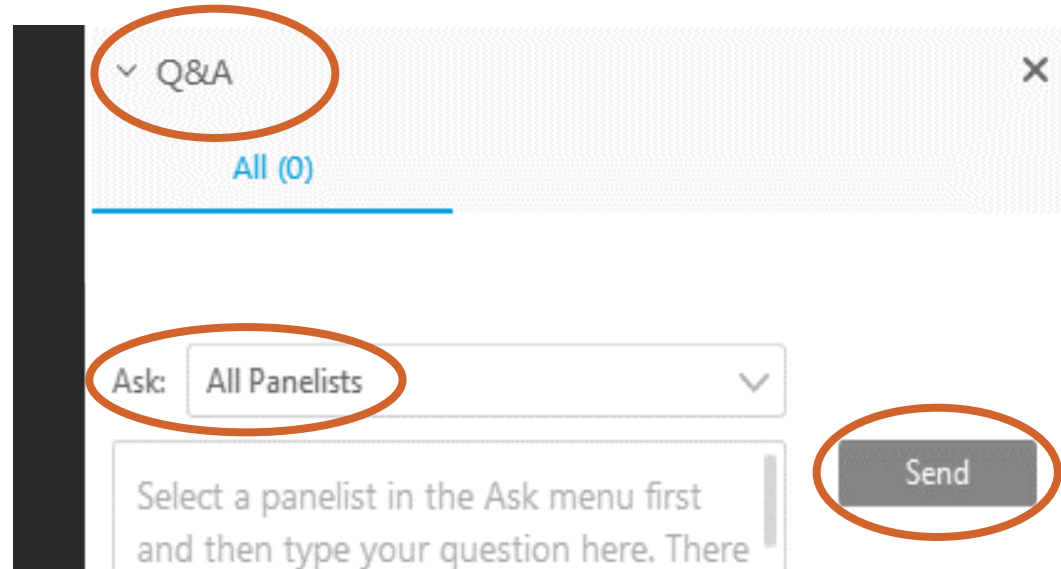


Q&A Feature

1. At the bottom of your screen, click to open the Q&A panel



2. Type your question in the **Q&A box**



3. Select **Ask: All Panelists**

4. Click **Send**



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Thank you to today's moderator & presenters!



**Brenna
Banwarth-Kuhn**



**Anna
Zepeda**



**Nicole
Vavro**



**Shaina
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Thank you to today's partners and sponsors:

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