Successful Strategies to Address the Impacts of Opioids...Here’s What’s Working

Area 3 Best Practices
April 2, 2020
Ohio’s Opioid Grant Strategies

• Provide temporary disaster relief employment

• Build the skilled workforce in professions that could impact the causes and treatment of the opioid crisis in your community

• Reintegrate into employment, individuals who have a history of opioid use or have a friend or family member with a history of opioid use

• Engage employers to become recovery-friendly workplaces
Unique Aspects of Area 3’s Service Model

• Reaching out to customers early in the recovery process

• Training for and using key professions

• Providing temporary employment

• Providing innovative support solutions

• Developing recovery-friendly workplaces
Reaching Out to Customers Early in the Recovery Process

• **Key Positions**
  - Community Development Specialists
  - Opioid Project Coordinator

• **Outreach Locations**
  - Sober Living Housing
  - Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP)
Training For & Using Key Professions

• **Peer Support Specialists**
  
  *Identify goals for recovery; monitor progress; support customers in treatment; model effective coping techniques; and reinforce and promote self-help strategies.*

  - Personal experience with recovery
  - Specialized training or 3 years of related work or volunteer experience
  - 16 hours of E-based Academy courses through OhioMHAS
  - Bureau of Criminal Investigations (BCI) background check

• **Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistants (CDCAs)**
  
  *Complete admissions and discharge forms; provide assessment and crisis intervention; facilitate group sessions and individual discussions; observe patients; and identify and address client and family needs.*

  - High school diploma or equivalency
  - Phase I - 40 hours training plus 10 months work experience
  - Phase II – 30 hours training plus Phase I certification
Providing Temporary Employment

• **Organizations**
  - Sober Living Houses
  - Addiction Recovery Services
  - Long-Term Treatment Centers

• **Temporary Jobs**
  - Peer Support Specialists
  - Crisis Intervention Specialists
  - Intake Coordinators
  - Administrative Assistants
Providing Innovative Support Solutions

- **Needs-Based Payments**
  - Up to $25 per day while in training
  - Help pay for items not covered by “traditional” supportive services, such as rent for sober living housing
  - Does not replace other supportive services
Developing Recovery-Friendly Workplaces

• Defined “recovery-friendly”

• Conducted an employer survey to garner interest

• To host a roundtable to identify specific action steps to take with employers once the survey is complete
Summary: Pro Tips

• **Stay flexible and develop new services and solutions to meet any unique situations that your area is facing.** Area 3 is now conducting telephone intake as a result of Covid-19.

• **Get pro-active and be a part of an individual’s recovery process.** Area 3 has personnel to go out into the community to meet customers “where they’re at.”

• **Be creative in the service delivery process.** Area 3 trains individuals for critical professions and then incorporates them into the service structure.

Remember that eligibility for these grants is not limited solely to individuals who have been impacted by Opioid Use Disorder!
Questions

What questions do you have for Area 3?
Contacts

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