



# State Opioid Response (SOR) III Listening Session

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Community Services Division  
Department of Health Care Services

June 2022

# Housekeeping

- » Sound check
- » If you have a technical question, please send a direct message to Courtney Kashiwagi from Aurrera Health Group
- » Today's meeting materials will be available following the webinar

# Listening Session Format

**DHCS would appreciate your feedback as we plan for the implementation of SOR III. DHCS will:**

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2. Solicit stakeholder feedback on each prompt.
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# How to Provide Feedback

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# Public Health Emergency (PHE) Unwinding

- » **The COVID-19 PHE will end soon and millions of Medi-Cal beneficiaries may lose their coverage.**
- » **Top Goal of DHCS:** Minimize beneficiary burden and promote continuity of coverage for our beneficiaries.
- » **How you can help:**
  - » Become a **DHCS Coverage Ambassador**
  - » Download the Outreach Toolkit on the [DHCS Coverage Ambassador webpage](#)
  - » [Join the DHCS Coverage Ambassador mailing list](#) to receive updated toolkits as they become available

# DHCS PHE Unwind Communications Strategy

- **Phase One: Encourage Beneficiaries to Update Contact Information**
  - **Launch immediately**
  - Multi-channel communication campaign to encourage beneficiaries to update contact information with county offices.
    - » Flyers in provider/clinic offices, social media, call scripts, website banners
- **Phase Two: Watch for Renewal Packets in the mail. Remember to update your contact information!**
  - **Launch 60 days prior to COVID-19 PHE termination.**
  - Remind beneficiaries to watch for renewal packets in the mail and update contact information with county office if they have not done so yet.

# Agenda

- » Review of the opioid overdose crisis
- » Overview of State Opioid Response (SOR) II and the California Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Expansion Project
- » Stakeholder feedback on SOR III focus

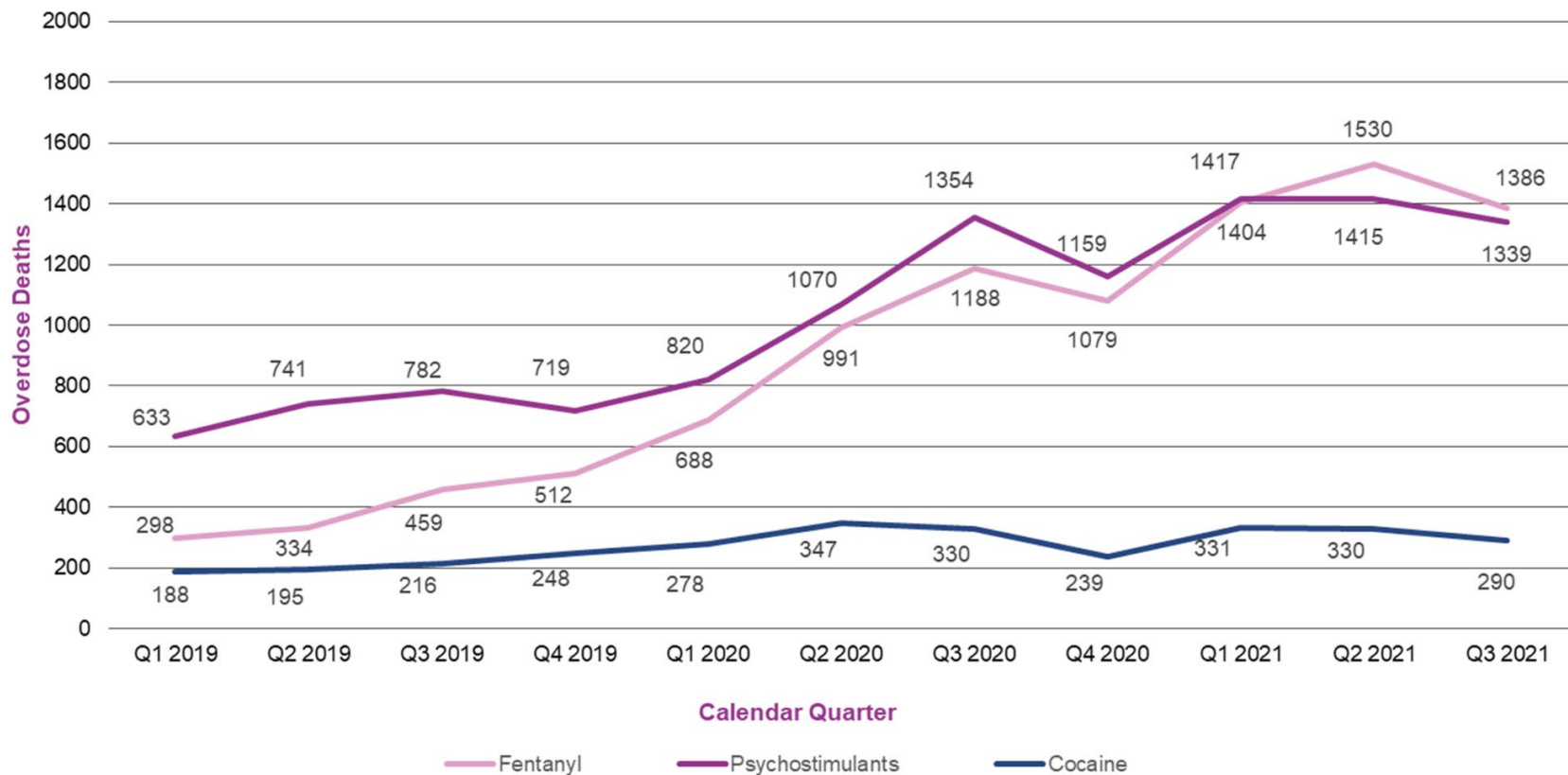
# Overdose Deaths Increased in 2020 and 2021

- » Overdose deaths significantly increased in 2020 and 2021, likely due to the compounding effects of COVID-19.
- » In California, over **10,000** people died from all-drug overdoses from October 2020 to September 2021.
  - » All drug-related overdose deaths increased by **70%** from September 2019 to September 2021.
- » Fentanyl is a major contributor to the growing rates of overdose deaths.
  - » In California, fentanyl accounted for **53%** of overdose deaths from October 2020 to September 2021.



# Stimulant and Fentanyl Overdose Deaths

CA Stimulant and Fentanyl Overdose Deaths  
Q1 2019 - Q3 2021



Data source: California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard | <https://cdph.ca.gov/opioiddashboard/> | Data Represented: 2020 | Date Downloaded: 2/25/2022

# MAT Expansion Project



Develop additional MAT locations



Provide MAT services to special or underserved populations



Transform entry points and create effective referrals into treatment



Develop processes to better manage high-risk transitions of care (e.g., jails or hospital re-entry)



Engage prescribers to increase provision of MAT



Prevent opioid misuse and opioid use disorder deaths

# MAT Expansion Project by the Numbers

**30+**

projects

**100,000+**

New patients receiving MAT

**650+**

Access points for MAT

**75,000+**

Overdose reversals

**1,200,000+**

Naloxone units  
distributed

**11,000+**

Patients receiving stimulant  
treatment

# MAT Expansion Project by the Numbers



**270** community access points



**11,000+** patients receiving stimulant treatment

**206** hospitals/emergency departments



**40** primary care sites



**31** county jail systems



**22** youth specific treatment sites

**12** Indian health programs



**10** mental health & SUD clinics



# MAT Expansion Project

**Justice-Involved**

- Juvenile Justice
- Courts/Probation
- Jails
- Prisons
- DUI Treatment Programs

**Prevention**

- Youth
- Schools
- Prescriber Education
- Naloxone

**SUD Treatment**

ALM Levels of Care

- Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System
- Syringe Service Programs
- Stimulant Use Disorder Treatment
- Residential Treatment
- Outpatient
- Inpatient

**Clinical Services**

- Primary Care
- Emergency Department
- EDs/Hospitals
- Inpatient
- Community Clinic
- Co-Occurring Mental Health Disorders
- Tribal Health

- Narcotic Treatment Programs
- Alcohol and Drug Counselors
- Youth Treatment & Recovery Services
- Supportive Housing
- Hub & Spoke

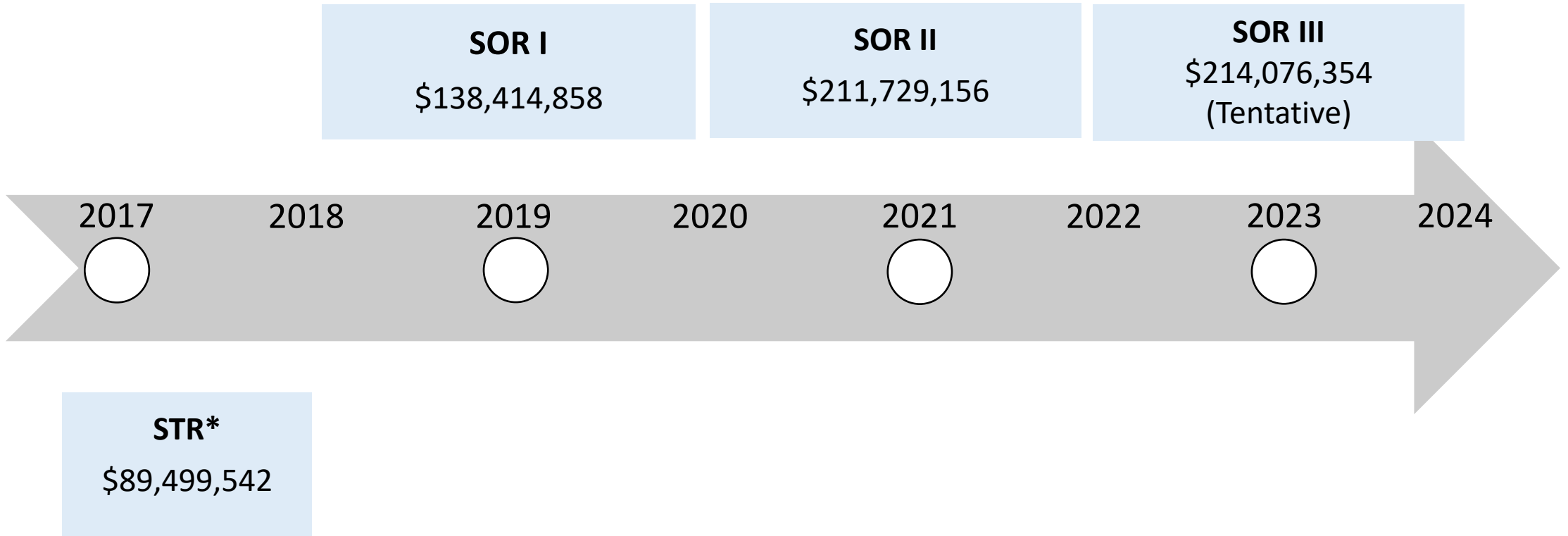
**Statewide Programs**

- Evaluation

- MAT Access Grants
- MAT Toolkits
- Mentoring
- Opioid Coalitions
- Media Campaign
- Systems of Care
- Fentanyl Monitoring

- Physician Residency Programs
- CA Substance Use Line
- Perinatal and Neonatal

# State Opioid Response (SOR) Grants Timeline



\*Precursor to SOR grants

# SOR III Overview

- » SOR III aims to build on the successes of SOR I and II to address the opioid crisis by:
  - » Increasing access to MAT and stimulant use disorder services (SOR II);
  - » Reducing unmet treatment need; and
  - » Reducing opioid overdose-related deaths through the provision of prevention, treatment, and recovery activities for opioid use disorder.
- » California's priorities include:
  - » Addressing Fentanyl
  - » Supporting prevention and early education
  - » Expanding harm reduction, treatment, and recovery
  - » Prioritizing vulnerable populations and health equity

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# Fentanyl in the MAT Expansion Project

- » Developed a fentanyl reporting system.
- » Improved detection of fentanyl outbreaks.
- » Introduced emergency department staff to harm reduction practices.
- » Provided training in specialty and primary care settings for treating fentanyl use.
- » Prevention, treatment, and recovery activities for fentanyl use.

# Feedback – Fentanyl

- » What strategies have been successful in preventing and reducing fentanyl overdose deaths and use?
- » What additional activities should DHCS support to prevent and reduce fentanyl overdose deaths and use?
- » How should DHCS expand its family-centered supports in preventing and reducing fentanyl overdose deaths and use?

# Prevention & Education in the MAT Expansion Project

- » **1.2 billion** media campaign impressions.
- » Funded Opioid Safety Coalitions throughout California that focus on increasing overdose prevention public awareness and education.
- » Developed educational materials on risks of opioid and stimulant use for youth.
- » Supported community-based organizations to conduct racially and culturally responsive prevention activities that will reduce stigma associated with MAT.

# Feedback – Prevention & Education

- » What additional prevention activities should DHCS support to prevent and reduce opioid (including fentanyl), stimulant, and co-occurring disorder related deaths?

# Harm Reduction in the MAT Expansion Project

- » **21,000** patients received harm reduction services.
- » Naloxone
  - » Over **1,200,000** units of naloxone (Narcan) distributed.
  - » Reversed over **75,000** opioid overdoses.
  - » Provided naloxone training to recipients
- » Low-barrier access to treatment in 19 Syringe Services Programs.
- » Expanded options for discarding unwanted medications.

# Feedback – Harm Reduction

- » What additional harm reduction activities should DHCS support to prevent and reduce opioid (including fentanyl), stimulant, and co-occurring disorder related deaths?

# Treatment in the MAT Expansion Project

- » More than **100,000** patients received MAT.
- » More than **41,000** patients received telehealth services.
- » More than **270** community access points for MAT or referral to MAT.
- » Expanded access to MAT in **206** hospital emergency departments.
- » Provided training and teleconsultation services for California clinicians evaluating and treating patients with SUD.
- » Expanded access to MAT through driving under the influence (DUI) programs.



# Feedback – Treatment

- » What additional treatment activities should DHCS support to prevent and reduce opioid (including fentanyl), stimulant, and co-occurring disorder related deaths?

# Recovery in the MAT Expansion Project

- » Over **66,000** patients received recovery support services.
- » Developed new life skills curriculum programs for individuals in recovery.
- » Expanded supportive housing projects for individuals seeking treatment for opioid use disorder.
- » Trained justice-involved youth to provide recovery support to peers.

# Feedback – Recovery

- » What additional recovery activities should DHCS support to prevent and reduce opioid (including fentanyl), stimulant, and co-occurring disorder related deaths?

# Vulnerable Populations in the MAT Expansion Project

- » Tribal MAT Project
  - » Integrated cultural and traditional healing and recovery practices.
  - » Supported health care providers in delivering culturally responsive, evidence-based treatment for opioid and stimulant use disorders in Indian Country.
  - » Developed approaches for Native harm reduction.
  - » Sharing of successful examples of Tribal and Urban Indian community health approaches.
- » TA for counties to expand access to MAT and treatment for psychostimulant use disorder in jails and drug courts.
  - » **17,000+** patients received MAT in **31** county jails.
- » Youth-focused MAT and opioid use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery services.
  - » **22** sites specifically for youth.

# Feedback – Vulnerable Populations

- » What additional activities should DHCS support to advance health equity and meet the needs of vulnerable and marginalized populations with opioid use disorder, stimulant use disorder, and other co-occurring disorders?

# Resources & Additional Feedback

- » [CaliforniaMAT.org](https://CaliforniaMAT.org) includes information on each of the MAT Expansion Projects, latest project updates, and MAT-related resources.

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