



State Opioid Response (SOR) III Grant Listening Session Feedback Summary

On June 1, 2022, DHCS hosted a public listening session on the implementation of the SOR III grant. The listening session was conducted via a PowerPoint presentation webinar that focused on the following areas:

- Fentanyl
- Prevention and early education
- Harm reduction
- Treatment
- Recovery
- Health Equity

327 stakeholders registered for the listening session including treatment providers, harm reduction organizations, county partners, representatives from various non-profit organizations, consumers, and other interested individuals. DHCS solicited written feedback during the webinar and received email submissions to DHCSMATExpansion@dhcs.ca.gov between the period of June 1, and June 8, 2022.

DHCS reviewed the hundreds of comments pertaining to the SOR III listening session and below is a high-level summary of the feedback received, which will be taken into consideration in the development of SOR III funding priorities and application development.

METHODS

THEMATIC ANALYSIS

Please note that the percentages below capture the proportion of comments that mention the given theme, and comments may mention multiple themes. As such, the percentages may add up to over or under 100%.

Additionally, the themes listed below do not comprise 100% of feedback received under each topic. The themes captured in this report reflect the most significant themes and those most frequently mentioned in the comments under each topic. Themes that were not relevant to the topic or were not mentioned frequently may not be captured in the themes below.

FENTANYL

QUESTIONS

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the following questions about fentanyl:

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

COMMON THEMES

This topic received 86 comments. Feedback included the following themes:

- Naloxone access and distribution (27%)
- Youth engagement (23%)
- Education on fentanyl (19%)
- Harm reduction programs (16%)
- Fentanyl test strips (15%)

PREVENTION AND EARLY EDUCATION

QUESTIONS

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the following question about prevention and early education:

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

COMMON THEMES

This topic received the most comments at 125 comments. Feedback included the following themes:

- Youth engagement and education (15%)
- General education (14%)
- Messaging efforts through social media and targeted messaging (11%)
- Naloxone access and distribution (9%)
- Education for providers and clinicians (5%)
- Culturally appropriate outreach (5%)

HARM REDUCTION

QUESTIONS

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the following question about harm reduction:

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

COMMON THEMES

This topic received 119 comments. Feedback included the following themes:

- Naloxone access, distribution, higher dosage (26%)
- Education on harm reduction (15%)
- Safe consumption (12%)
- Youth focused efforts (12%)
- Funding harm reduction programs (11%)

- Reducing stigma of harm reduction (8%)

TREATMENT

QUESTIONS

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the following question about treatment:

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

COMMON THEMES

This topic received 116 comments. Feedback included the following themes:

- MAT expansion (10%)
- Contingency management (7%)
- Treatment for justice-involved people (7%)
- Recovery services (7%)

RECOVERY

QUESTIONS

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the following question about recovery:

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

COMMON THEMES

This topic received the fewest comments at 78 comments. Feedback included the following themes:

- Peer recovery support and programs (15%)
- Housing support (9%)
- Recovery support programs (8%)
- Youth focused programs (8%)

HEALTH EQUITY

QUESTIONS

Participants were asked to provide feedback on the following question about health equity:

- 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?

COMMON THEMES

This topic received 85 comments. Feedback included the following themes:

- Prioritizing the needs of marginalized populations (12%)
- Prioritizing BIPOC communities (11%)
- Addressing upstream factors that cause health disparities and SUD (9%)
- Centering cultural humility training and culturally responsive treatment (7%)
- Mobile units (7%)
- Centering lived experience of staff and community (7%)