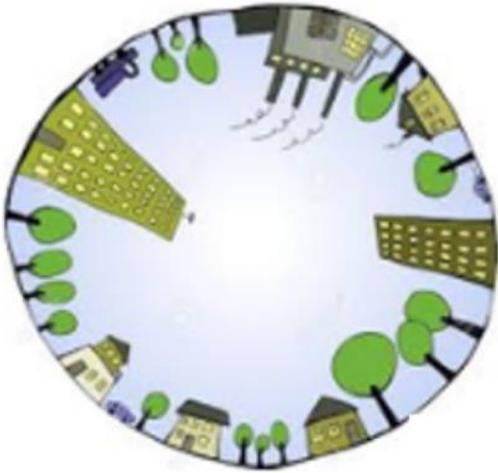


Substance Use Response Ecosystem (SURE)

Annual Report 2020



SURE

Executive Summary | Ecosystem Backbone

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Substance Use Response Ecosystem (SURE) is a collective impact modeled coalition working to reduce deaths, hospital utilizations, and drain on community resources related to substance (mis)use in Pueblo. SURE was created in November 2017 to combat effects of the current opioid epidemic in Pueblo County and prepare the community to address any other substance use crisis that may develop.

SURE is comprised of work groups called pods, which are designed to address the spectrum of substance use from prevention to recovery. Pods are organized with individuals based on their role and how they engage within the community to address substance use. Comprised of individuals representing various organizations (businesses, non-profits, community coalitions, etc.) and community members, over 20 agencies and organizations are engaged in this collective effort. SURE works to facilitate collective action between pods across the ecosystem to align and integrate efforts to address and combat substance (mis)use in Pueblo.

Major Accomplishments

Increased number of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) providers in Pueblo and Southern Colorado, including the establishment of a Mobile MAT Unit.

Provided a series of virtual events covering topics concerning substance use, including: Science of Addiction, Marijuana and COVID-19, and The Impact of Substance Use Disorder on Businesses.

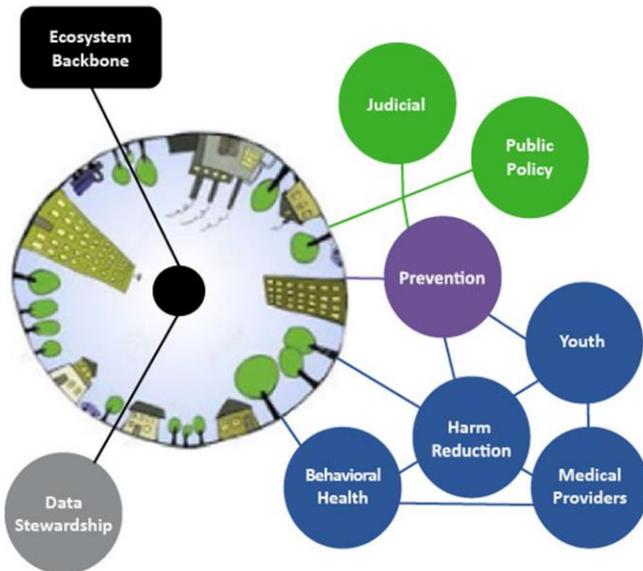
Held a virtual third Annual Forum featuring testimonials from peers in recovery who shared personal experiences and advice.

Robust expansion and improved data sharing with local hospitals, behavioral health centers, law enforcement, emergency services, coroner, government support services, the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, state data, and harm reduction programs.

Implemented funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Program Partnerships to Support Data-driven Responses to Emerging Drug Threats to enhance current efforts and secure near real-time data collection for Pueblo County and the development of implementation responses. SURE serves as the Stakeholder Committee for this grant project, and Dr. Shaun Gogarty and Judge Kim Karn represented SURE at a partnership meeting with the Department of Justice and Centers for Disease Control in Washington D.C. in February.

Ecosystem Backbone

SURE Facilitator
Ryan Turner



Data

Pueblo Triple Aim Corporation
Eileen Dennis

Pueblo Triple Aim Corporation
Lexie Ellis

Judicial

10th Judicial District
Judge Kim Karn
Pueblo Fire Department
District Attorney's Office
Public Defender
Jail Based Behavioral Health Services
DOC Parole
Pueblo Police Department

Prevention

Pueblo Department of
Public Health and Environment
Barbara Jackson
Communities That Care
Sarah Martinez

Youth

University Family Medicine Center
Veronica Ritchey

Harm Reduction

Access Point
Southern Colorado Health Network
Sarah Money
Southern Colorado Harm Reduction
Association
Dr. Mike Nerenberg

Public Policy

LEAD® (Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion)
Christine Zeitvogel
Pueblo City Council
Ed Brown
Pueblo County Commissioner
Garrison Ortiz

Behavioral Health

Health Solutions
Jessica Russell
Parkview Medical Center
Valerie Baughman
Pueblo Community Health Center
Denise Kidd
Crossroads' Turning Points
Shannon Miller

Providers

Front Range Clinic
Dr. Shaun Gogarty

This graphic indicates the interconnected nature of the ecosystem of pods. The information listed for each pod provides an indication of the main pod facilitator, listed first, as well as additional organization and member participation. The organizations and individuals listed provide an overview and is not an exhaustive list.

Pod Highlights

Behavioral Health

Continued pod meetings every other month, despite treatment providers being highly affected by the demands of COVID-19.

Created a decision tree that helps individuals determine what resources are available and who to contact when trying to address substance use no matter the individual's stage of change or need.
(county.pueblo.org/public-health/SURE)

Continued outreach to providers to expand group contact and engagement.

Initial discussions concerning the need to provide improved education in the community about treatment, what treatment is, what resources are available, and education on the recovery process and understanding of substance use disorders.

Data

Recruitment of additional data partners and establishment of near real-time reporting from major agencies on data concerning substance use in Pueblo.

Development of data dashboards for use by SURE in making data-driven decisions for action. Also, development of a public data dashboard to go live in early 2021.

Monthly meetings from data experts and analysts from partner organizations.

Refining and guiding data collection and reporting for SURE, as well as the Executive Committee for the Pueblo County Partnerships for Data.

Harm Reduction

Modification of operations in order to continue to provide services to clients during the COVID-19 pandemic, including scheduled pick-ups and extended and modified operation hours.

Implementation of monthly syringe pick-ups from community organizations.

Southern Colorado Harm Reduction Association (SCHRA) received a Harm Reduction Grant to support operations and implement life skills development training.

Southern Colorado Health Network Access Point Pueblo worked creatively to maintain relationships with people served, continuing to monitor trends and keep individuals safe during COVID-19 and rapidly evolving fentanyl crisis, and working to identify unique needs of clients throughout the pandemic, increasing capacity for linkage to care.

Judicial

Working to enhance overall coordination between pre-trial services, jail, probation, and community re-entry programs to assist those affected by substance use.

Coordination with Medical Provider Pod and Pueblo Fire Department on implementation of the Quick Response Team that responds to individuals who have experienced a recent overdose event.

In conjunction with the Medical Provider Pod, Jail Based Behavioral Health Services and Community ReEntry piloted Peer Services to assist individuals transitioning out of incarceration and ensure support in connection to care in the community.

Application to and acceptance into the Bureau of Justice Assistance's Peer Site Mentoring Program. This program provides an opportunity to learn from a community with an established peer program.

Medical Providers

Increase in the number of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) providers and locations in Pueblo and throughout Southern Colorado. Also, establishment of a Mobile MAT unit that provides services to La Junta, Springfield, and Trinidad.

Increased the exposure of primary care providers to MAT. Included exposure for family medicine residents who now spend time in a MAT clinic as part of their training program.

Coordinated with Judicial Pod and Pueblo Fire Department on implementation of the Quick Response Team that responds to individuals who experienced a recent overdose event.

Prevention

Organized and produced a series of virtual events covering topics concerning substance use, including: Science of Addiction, Marijuana and COVID-19, and The Impact of Substance Use Disorder on Businesses.

Held a free virtual Nalaxone training in collaboration with Southern Colorado Health Network Access Point.

Lead the organization of and produced virtual testimonials for the third Annual SURE Forum.

Development of a Personal Choice Guide that can be used to help individuals in making difficult decisions. The guide will be piloted with SURE partner organizations for individuals affected by substance use.

Public Policy

Continued implementation of the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD[®]) Program using a harm reduction framework.

Maintained broad stakeholder support for harm reduction services.

Youth

Development of clinical care guidelines for youth to be finalized and shared with providers.

Organized education presentations for students about physical and psychological effects of substance use and addiction in conjunction with the Provider Pod. Presentations were followed up with collection of feedback from students.



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county.pueblo.org/public-health/SURE