Quick Response Team

One Community’s Response
To The Heroin/Opiate Epidemic

Colerain Township Department of Public Safety
Hamilton County, Ohio
Objectives

• Discuss the Quick Response Team (QRT) response model

• Describe the need for culture change amongst fire, EMS, and law enforcement personnel.

• Review the effectiveness of the QRT response model.
Statistical Data: Painting the Picture

- 14th Largest Community in the State of Ohio
- 45 Square Miles
- 60,000 residents
- 5 Fire Stations
- 170 Fire Department Personnel
- Fire Department Staffing: 33 personnel
- 54 Law Enforcement Personnel
Statistical Data: Painting the Picture

- 2011 – 51 Overdoses
- 2012 – 115 (125% Increase)
- 2013 – 116 (0.87% Increase)
- 2014 – 141 (22% Increase)
- 2015 – 167 (18% Increase)
- 2016 – 197*  
  - 54 in September  
  - Remove September and apply average = 154 (8.1% Reduction)

Total Emergency Medical Responses in 2015 - 7520
Overdose runs = 2.2% of run volume
Community Expectations

• Public safety for our communities demands a constant review and adjustment: *Leaders cannot rest on the success or failure of past responses*

• Community members believe their government and public safety leaders are working to address the harm associated with this heroin/opioid epidemic

• The reality is…. many communities are waiting and watching…afraid to fail or take a risk
QRT Staffing Model

• Six firefighter (FF)/medics; each specially trained as a “Tactical Medic” (TACMED) (SWAT, Military and HRT Experience)

• Five Police Officers (SWAT, Military, Narcotics Inv. Experience)

• Social Worker/Addiction Counseling Expert
  o Triage
  o Assessment
  o Medicaid Sign up Assistance
How Does it Work?

• Follow-up is led by police officers and is facilitated by a commitment to investigate the overdose incidents as criminal acts.

• The police officer brings a paramedic and licensed counselor from the Addiction Services Council of Greater Cincinnati.

• Discretion is used as a means to introducing the counselor.
QRT Goal

• Move patient towards action
• Assist in preparation
• “Bridge to treatment”
Operational Data

- QRT Unit (General Response Model) Operational since July 2015

- 310 “Overdose Follow-up” investigations (July 2015 through March 2017)

- QRT responded to more than 1,500 incidents, to include medic and fire incidents (Experienced “response time” impact)
Overdose Follow-Up Data

• The QRT and Addiction Services Council professionals conducted 310 investigations between July 2015 and March 2017. 82% of the persons have entered treatment – in/outpatient
  o Face to Face Engagement – 250
  o In recovery - 205

• Conducted “door to door” canvassing of “Working to Save Lives” brochure in Township neighborhoods (follow-ups responded to the Police Department, seeking help)
Creating the 360 Solution

Police officers carrying Nasal Narcan

Canvassed “door to door” (Brochure distribution)
Collaborative Assistance

• Addiction Services Council of Greater Cincinnati

• The QRT effort received $50,000 Naloxone donation to dispense Narcan during follow-up investigation for patients unable to enter treatment immediately

• Ohio Department and Hamilton County Department of Public Health provided Narcan doses for distribution by our QRT

• Many others!
Success Requires Culture Change

• Why a culture change?

• How do we measure culture change?
Success Requires a Culture Change

- August 2014 through September 2016: 600+ Recovery Resource Packets Distributed
- Shift from approximately 65% to 100%+ in compliance
- Medic Transport
- Police Officer Arrest and Assessment
Moving Forward

• What are next steps?

“The best way to predict the future is to create it.”
Abraham Lincoln
Next Steps

• Understand the problem – Compile and understand overdose statistics
  o How is the data acquired? Relationship between police, fire, coroner
• Identify internal champions (Police and Fire/EMS)
• Local community collaboration (public health, schools, local business, police, fire, HR, faith based, recovery assets, etc.)
• Identify team partners (LE, Medic and Counseling experts)
• Recovery packet creation
• Canvass impacted neighborhoods
• HIPA release
• Policy creation – differential patrol response, team selection
• Training of staff
• Equipping medic staff (vest and OC)
Other Communities and Presentations on the QRT

- Lawrenceburg, IN
- Troy, OH
- Kenton County, KY
- Richland County, OH
- Middletown, OH
- Logan County, OH
- Oxford, OH

Other Presentations
- San Antonio, TX – International Fire Chiefs Conference
- Huntington, WV
- Wilmington, NC
- Highland County, OH
- Raleigh, NC
- Wadsworth, OH
- Summit County, OH
- Indiana Institute of Justice and Lawrenceburg, IN
- Ohio Pharmaceutical Board
- Ohio Attorney Generals Office – “Best Practices” Summit
- Fort Hamilton Hospital, Hamilton, OH
- Ohio Department of Public Safety (May)
- Dayton, OH
- Mercer County, OH
- Clermont County, OH
- UC Community Paramedicine Course
- Greensboro, NC (May)
- Ohio Opiate Conference (June)
- Lorain County, OH (April)
Contact Information

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Questions