




MEMORANDUM

Date: September 26, 2018

To: The Honorable Chairman and Members
Pima County Board of Supervisors

From: C.H. Huckelberry
County Administrator 

Re: **US Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grant in the Amount of \$1,475,316 for Substance Abuse Treatment**

We were recently notified that Pima County's collaboration with a number of agencies has received a significant grant designed to reduce substance overdose deaths and provide continuum of treatment and case management to reduce overdose and death incidents related to opiate compounds. This is a collaboration among the following agencies:

- Pima County;
- Pima County Sheriff's Department;
- the Tucson Police Department;
- CODAC Health Recovery and Wellness;
- the University of Arizona Southwest Institute for Research on Women;
- Arizona Superior Court Pretrial Services; and
- Cenpatico

Key County personnel associated with grant receipt are Director of Justice Reform Initiatives Terrance Cheung and Grants Management and Innovation Director Regina Kelly.

The attached September 26, 2018 memorandum from Assistant County Administrator Wendy Petersen provides more details regarding the grant.

CHH/anc

Attachment

c: Wendy Petersen, Assistant County Administrator for Justice and Law Enforcement
Terrance Cheung, Director of Justice Reform Initiatives, Criminal Justice Reform Unit
Regina Kelly, Director, Grants Management and Innovation Department




MEMORANDUM

County Administration
Justice and Law

Date: September 26, 2018

To: C. H. Huckelberry
County Administrator

From: Wendy Petersen 
Assistant County Administrator
for Justice & Law Enforcement

Re: Pima County awarded \$1,475,316 grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

On Monday, September 17, 2018, Pima County learned that SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services] Center for Substance Abuse Treatment) awarded Pima County a grant in the amount of \$1,475,316 to support Pima County's project: Unified Medication Assistant Treatment Targeted Engagement Response ("U-MATTER"). The grant is for the budget period September 30, 2018 through September 29, 2021.

The intent and focus of the U-MATTER project will be on providing case management support services to adults with Opioid Use Disorder.

Between FY 2010 and FY 2017, substance overdose deaths have increased by 20%. In 2017, 73% of the overdose deaths included an opiate compound and 89% of those deaths were accidental. Emergency rooms in Pima County have documented an increase of 102% of opioid related emergency room visits. First responder teams such as the Tucson Police Department and Tucson Fire Department report that individuals, who receive initial opioid treatment frequently refuse further treatment.

As a result, the following needs have been identified:

1. Increased infrastructure and capacity to identify adults with Opioid Use Disorder ("OUD"), who are candidates for Medication Assisted Treatment ("MAT") and enroll them in comprehensive services;
2. Peer-supported case management services to encourage adults receiving MAT to stay in services and re-engage in services in MAT after disengagement. This includes interaction with a law enforcement/behavioral health peer support co-responder team which will strive to deflect the participants with contact from the criminal justice system whenever possible;
3. Community treatment alternatives to jail for community members with substance abuse disorders under Pima County Pretrial Services supervision;

Mr. C.H. Huckelberry

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4. Programmatic monitoring and evaluating efforts related to increasing access to and retention in MAT and to decreasing opioid misuse and overdose in order to identify best practices in addressing this public health issue.

The U-MATTER project is a collaboration among the following agencies and organizations:

1. Pima County Criminal Justice Reform Unit and Grants Management & Innovation;
2. Pretrial Services of Arizona Superior Court in Pima County;
3. CODAC Health Recovery and Wellness (Service Provider);
4. Pima County Sheriff's Department;
5. Tucson Police Department;
6. The University of Arizona Southwest Institute for Research on Women (SIROW, Evaluator);
7. Arizona Complete Care Plan (formerly Cenpatico).

The acceptance of this grant will be placed onto the Board of Supervisor's October 16, 2018 meeting.

Terrance Cheung, my Director of Justice Reform Initiatives, will be the main contact for the grant and will be hiring a Program Manager with whom program responsibilities will be transferred.

Opioid misuse and overdose deaths are on the rise and affect every social and economic community. While behavioral health and substance abuse treatment access has improved in Arizona, there is a demonstrated gap among individuals who become enrolled in treatment but withdraw after the first thirty days. With assistance from this grant and U-MATTER, we are encouraged that this gap will close.