



NATIONAL
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Expanding Access to Medications for Opioid Use Disorder in Corrections and Community Settings

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Welcome & Thank you!

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The National Governors Association and American Correctional Association would like to thank the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for their generous support and partnership in developing this roadmap.



Why Now?

- NGA has supported Governors combatting the opioid crisis since 2012 and released a roadmap in 2016 on Finding Solutions to the Prescription Opioid and Heroin Crisis.
- ACA has been at the forefront in supporting state correctional leaders in providing SUD treatment and issued a public policy in 2018 that placed MOUD as a priority in effective treatment.
- NGA and ACA hosted a series of regional workshops on MOUD in correctional settings.
- **This roadmap is specifically written for Governors' offices and corrections officials on the importance of and how to build support and increase access to MOUD.**



Overview of the Roadmap

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What is a Roadmap?

- Informed by lessons learned from Governors' offices, corrections directors, and senior state officials.
- Provides a step-by-step guide for governors and state officials who are pursuing initiatives to address OUD among individuals in the justice system.
- Includes strategies and policies for expanding access to MOUD and other needed supports with the goal of reducing recidivism, improving individual health and public safety.



Key Considerations

Roadmap Development

1. Access to evidence-based medications is a priority, medication should not be delayed in the absence of counseling or behavioral supports.
2. Offering a choice among all forms of the FDA-approved medications for OUD treatment and providing behavioral health services and supports whenever possible represents the best practice.
3. Fully implementing evidence-based MOUD requires making multiple forms of medication available and thoughtful coordination.
4. Collaboration among the justice system and health systems at every touch point of the justice system ensures access and continuity of treatment.
5. Needs, gaps and strengths assessments of policies and practices across agencies help state leaders identify a plan of action.
6. Treatment plans tailored to individuals prepare people and systems for continuity of treatment upon release.
7. Addressing possible barriers to success in supervision systems can improve outcomes and reduce recidivism upon release.
8. Training on diversion of medications in corrections settings should be complemented with education and training on access.
9. Strategic use, alignment and braiding of state and federal funds is key to ongoing stability and success of programs and initiatives.
10. Developing a robust evaluation approach at the outset with clearly defined outcome metrics, data collection and analysis processes can inform implementation.

Identifying Common Barriers

Roadmap Development

Garnering buy-in from correctional staff

Addressing security and diversion issues (e.g., trainings, protocols, etc.)

Structure of healthcare treatment and delivery in the correctional facility

Contracting challenges with internal and external treatment providers

Drug pricing

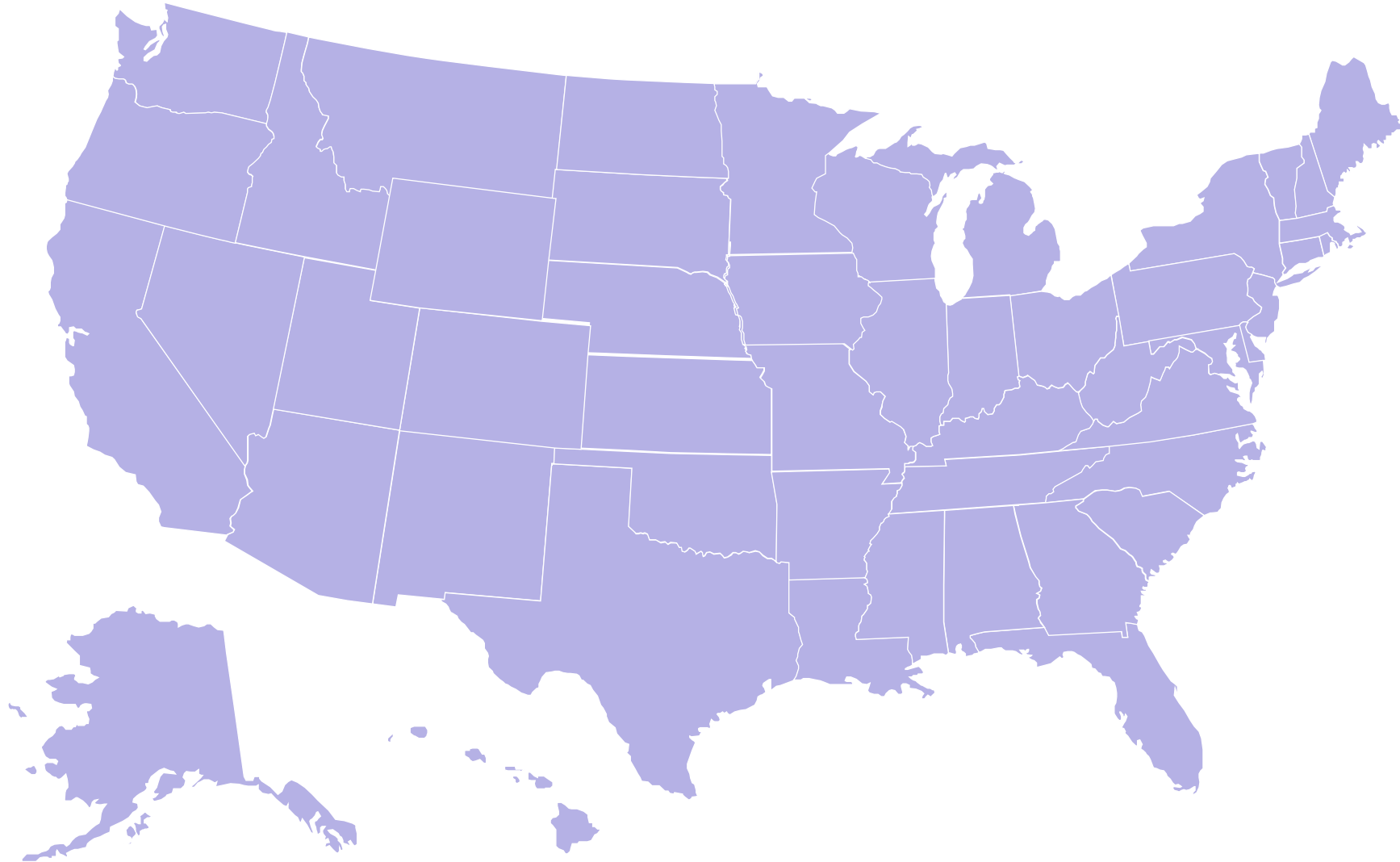
Ensuring continuity of treatment post-release

Securing sustainable funding, and unsure how to most effectively leverage existing funding

Inadequate screening processes and failure to identify co-occurring disorders/substance use

Lessons Learned from States

Regional Workshops



Identifying Success

✓ Providing MOUD and quality Medical treatment during Incarceration

✓ Ensuring successful reentry with warm hand offs, continuity of care, and recovery support services

✓ Reducing recidivism

✓ Decreasing overdoses and reducing hospitalizations post incarceration

✓ Decreasing infectious disease for people in the justice system

✓ Increasing connections to care and services



Elements to Success: Key Players

GATHER THE KEY PLAYERS



- Designate the opioid task force lead, drug czar, corrections, or health lead to convene a core team responsible for developing and executing a plan.
- Gather the key players to gain buy-in and identify priorities, including those with authorities and funding streams relevant to a comprehensive response.
- Engage stakeholders, system actors, and community leaders to learn of needs and priorities in corrections and in the community around OUD, and linkage to care and treatment.



Elements to Success: Action Plan




DEVELOP AN ACTION PLAN

- Complete an environmental scan with with state and county correctional health directors, wardens and key service delivery players.
- Determine data and information needs across agencies in correctional settings and in communities to facilitate treatment and linkage to care.
- Identify gaps and opportunities in access to screening, evidence-based interventions and implementation readiness.
- Set goals, action steps and timelines and develop an evaluation plan.
- Determine infrastructure and model for providing treatment in correctional settings.




Elements to Success: Capacity



- Reassess data frameworks and governance to ensure necessary data is available, reliable and accessible for implementation.
- Fill resource and training needs.
- Obtain treatment licensure and contracts.
- Enact or amend policies, regulations and laws to support state goals.



Elements to Success: Implementation & Evaluation



IMPLEMENT & EVALUATE

- Collect and analyze a set of core metrics, including number of incarcerated persons with OUD and receiving treatment, recidivism, treatment retention and number of overdose deaths.
- Evaluate for ongoing buy-in, needed course corrections and sustainability.



Operating Within a Pandemic Context

- Consider changes to treatment protocols for inside facilities.
- Consider access and availability of supports for potential early releases.
- Consider potential for shortened release time periods and continue reentry planning and coordination.



Q&A and Discussion

Questions:

- Please submit questions into the chat box.



Closing Remarks

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