

LOCAL OPIOID SETTLEMENT SPENDING LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

Meeting Summary

November 13, 2025

INTRODUCTION

Twenty-four people attended the November Local Opioid Settlement Learning Collaborative (LOSLC) session. Annaliese Dolph, Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission (ADPC), and Lisa Shields, Oregon Health Authority (OHA), presented on the data the Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment and Recovery (OSPTR) Board uses to lead decision making for settlement allocations. Elizabeth (Liz) McCarthy, OHA, discussed accessing public overdose-related data dashboards. Lisa Schuyler, Clatsop County Department of Public Health, Haley Medina, Columbia County Public Health, and Austin Close, Tillamook County Community Health Centers, shared how their counties collaborate and use data to respond to increases in overdose across the North Coast region.

A recording of the November session can be found [here](#).

OPIOID SETTLEMENT LEARNING COLLABORATIVE QUESTIONS

Question	Answer
What is a recovery-oriented system of care?	A recovery-oriented system of care is a framework for addressing the full spectrum of a person's substance use disorder (SUD)-related needs through a coordinated network of community-based services and supports. This approach centers around the individual, their family, and the community, and encompasses the entire continuum of care—from prevention and early intervention through treatment and long-term recovery support. The OSPTR Board uses this framework to inform spending allocation, and the ADPC is adopting it in the 2026-2030 Comprehensive Plan.
What are the trends in overdose deaths in Oregon?	According to the Oregon Center for Health Statistics, drug overdose deaths reached a peak in 2023, with preliminary figures showing a slight decrease in 2024. More deaths occurred in Multnomah County than in any other county.
What was the OSPTR Board's goal to expand treatment access?	The OSPTR Board set a goal of bringing methadone clinics within 15 to 50 minutes of 90% of the state. The OSPTR Board used data to map existing opioid treatment programs across the state to identify gaps in treatment access. Funding from the OSPTR Board was used to open 12 opioid treatment programs across the state, including in five counties with no opioid treatment programs.

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What data informed the OSPTR Board's decision to allocate funding to Save Lives Oregon?	The OSPTR Board's harm reduction allocation was made to Save Lives Oregon. This decision was made based on several sources of data: ▶ Overdose death data showed the urgency for funding harm reduction programs ▶ Oregon Health and Science University's Oregon SUD Services Inventory and Gap Analysis presentation recommended critical investments in harm reduction programs ▶ Outside In's presentation demonstrated the value of harm reduction and overdose prevention across the SUD continuum of care ▶ Save Lives Oregon's presentation recommended investing in harm reduction
How is the OSPTR Board using settlement funds to make a lasting impact?	The OSPTR Board recognizes that Oregon's opioid crisis requires a coordinated, long-term response, and the settlement funds present a unique opportunity to build that by: ▶ Investing in prevention, treatment, and recovery, simultaneously ▶ Centering equity and learning, especially in areas like data systems and community-led solutions ▶ Tracking both immediate outcomes (like overdose reversals) and long-term change (like recovery infrastructure)
Where can I find data specific to Oregon or my county?	OHA's Injury and Violence Prevention Program maintains several public data dashboards. You can find these dashboards by following this link or typing in a web search "Oregon injury data." The dashboards include data on: ▶ Fatal and nonfatal overdoses ▶ Opioid overdoses ▶ Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response to illicit opioid overdose encounters ▶ Prescription drug prescribing ▶ Death certificates (i.e., cause of death and demographics) ▶ State Unintentional Drug Overdose Reporting System (SUDORS) ▶ Emergency department (ED) and hospitalization discharge data ▶ Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics (ESSENCE)
What are SUDORS data?	SUDORS is a surveillance system that collects detailed data on fatal drug overdoses by linking several sources of data, such as death certificate information, medical examiner reports, and toxicology results. SUDORS is used to identify trends in overdose deaths, target prevention and intervention efforts, and inform policy decisions.

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What is ESSENCE data?	ESSENCE data describes ED and urgent care visits in Oregon, including opioid overdose-related visits. The data is collected during the patient's visit at intake. ESSENCE data can differ from hospital discharge data because the diagnosis may change after additional testing or after the provider sees the patient. ESSENCE data is updated daily, and hospital discharge data is updated quarterly.
What data is included in each dashboard?	Follow this link for an overview of each dashboard, including the data reported and the how often the data is updated for each dashboard. The following four dashboards provide overdose and SUD-related data: ▶ Overdose Prevention Dashboard: Data from SUDORS, hospital and ED visits, and causes of death. The data from this dashboard can be downloaded to create tables and graphs. This dashboard is updated quarterly. ▶ Opioid Overdose Updates Dashboard: Opioid overdose data from both SUDORS and ESSENCE. This dashboard is updated monthly. ▶ EMS Response to Illicit Opioid Overdose Calls: Mapped data of illicit opioid overdose calls responded to by EMS. Note, the counts represent that an emergency call was made, not that a person was transported to an ED. This dashboard shows data at both the county and census tract level. ▶ Prescription Drug Monitoring Dashboard: Displays counts of prescription drugs dispensed from Oregon retail pharmacies tracked in the prescription drug monitoring program. Provide feedback, comments, or questions on the dashboards by emailing: ivpp.general@oha.oregon.gov.
Why are data suppressed for some counties?	Some counties may have small counts (typically ten or less) so removing data from those counties protects the confidentiality and identity of those individuals.

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What is the North Coast's overdose surveillance and response plan?	The North Coast region consists of Clatsop, Columbia, and Tillamook counties. They received funding to implement a regional surveillance system across their counties. The surveillance system's response is organized into three levels: ▶ Green: At or below the expected number of overdoses. This response level consists of routine data monitoring and communication with regional and local stakeholders. ▶ Yellow: Higher than expected number of overdoses. This response level involves intensification of surveillance, increasing communication with stakeholders about the change in response level, and focusing communication on impacted populations and geographic areas. ▶ Red: Much higher than the expected number of overdoses. This response level includes all steps taken at the yellow level, as well as assessing internal programs and facilitation meetings with the regional overdose response coordinator, health department leadership, and leaders from groups impacted by the overdose increase.
What data sources are used in North Coast's overdose surveillance system?	The surveillance system determines the region's response level based on monitoring both quantitative and qualitative data. Quantitative data sources include: ▶ ESSENCE ▶ Preliminary count toxicology results ▶ EMS ESSENCE data map ▶ SUDORS ▶ Overdose Detections Mapping Application Program (ODMAP) Qualitative data are gleaned from: ▶ Harm reduction and syringe services programs ▶ Law enforcement ▶ Community-based organizations
When is the next Local Opioid Settlement Learning Collaborative (LOSLC) session?	The LOSLC will resume on Thursday, February 5, 2026. To join the listserv and receive a link to virtually attend the next LOSLC session, please email: opiodsettlementcollaborative@comagine.org.

LINKS TO RESOURCES

- Oregon SUD Services Inventory and Gap Analysis:
<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/AMH/DataReports/SUD-Gap-Analysis-Inventory-Report.pdf>
- OHA's Injury Data Homepage:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/diseasesconditions/injuryfatalitydata/pages/index.aspx>
- OHA Injury & Violence Prevention Program's Dashboard Overview:
<http://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/DISEASESCONDITIONS/INJURYFATALITYDATA/Documents/Dashboard%20Overview.pdf>
- Overdose Prevention Dashboard: <https://oregoninjurydata.shinyapps.io/overdose/>
- Opioid Overdose Updates Dashboard: https://connect-oha.acuna.cloud/opioid_updates/
- EMS Response to Illicit Opioid Overdose Calls: https://oregoninjurydata.shinyapps.io/ems_map/
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Dashboard:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/PREVENTIONWELLNESS/SUBSTANCEUSE/OPIOIDS/Pages/data.aspx>
- OHA's Public Health Division's Substance Use & Overdose Continuum Digest:
https://app.smartsheet.com/b/publish?EQBCT=f80ca31e2afa4d8a93d1e681c132e4cd&utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
- Exhibit E: nationalopioidsettlement.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/TEVA-Exhibit-E.pdf
- Information about Oregon's opioid settlement: www.oregon.gov/opioidsettlement
- Oregon's OSPTR Board:
www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/preventionwellness/substanceuse/opioids/pages/osptr-board.aspx
- Information about nationally recognized guidance for the use of opioid settlement funds:
opioidprinciples.jhsph.edu/?ref=header-logo
- Previous materials, recordings, and relevant information for the Local Opioid Settlement Learning Collaborative: www.oregon.gov/adpc/Pages/Local-Opioid-Settlement-Learning-Collaborative.aspx