



**UCLA MAT ECHO Program  
May 22, 2021**

**Mary Maddux-Gonzalez, MD, MPH  
COPN Accelerator Program**

**California  
Overdose  
Prevention  
Network  
(COPN)**



**University of California Los Angeles  
Integrated Substance Abuse Programs**

# Disclosures

There are no relevant financial relationships with ACCME-defined commercial interests for anyone who was in control of the content of this activity.



Since 2018, COPN has provided a statewide forum for all coalitions, organizations and individuals working to combat the opioid crisis in California.



## Scale

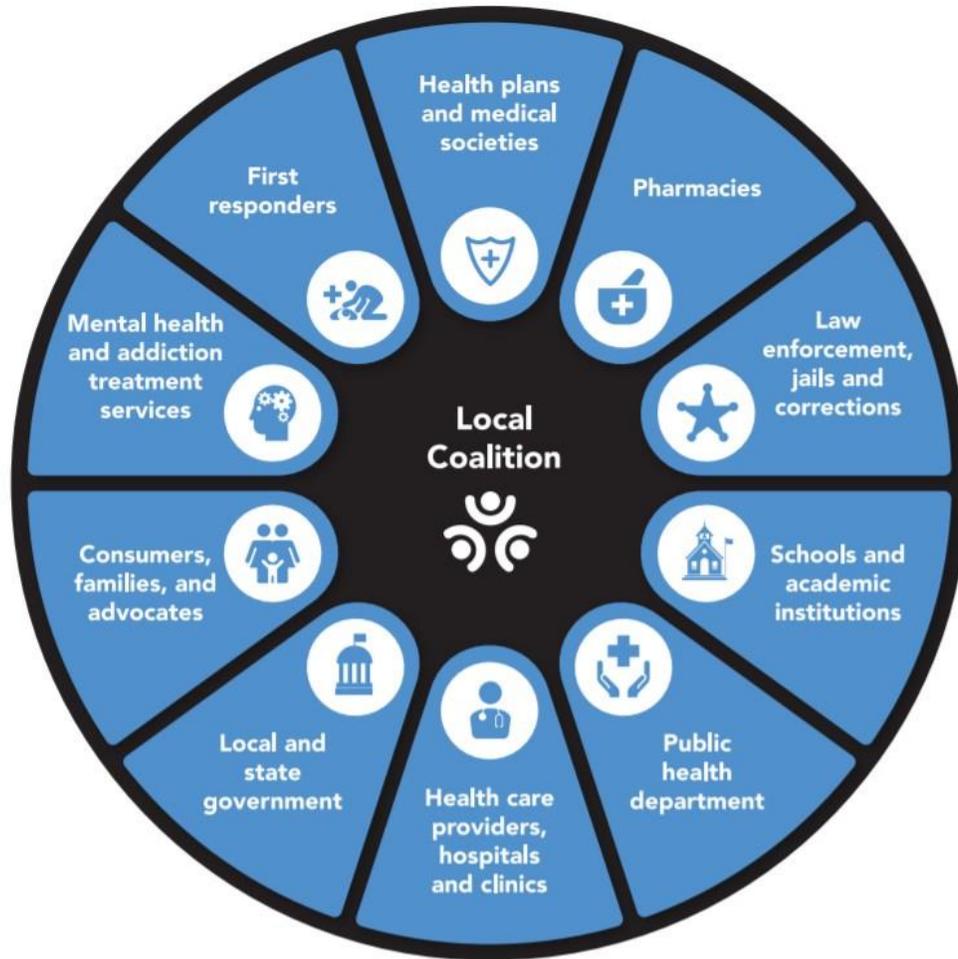
The California Opioid Safety Network began as a mix of 16 urban, rural, and suburban coalitions, representing 22 counties



*Our Network in 2015* →



# Why Coalitions?



## STRENGTHEN SYSTEMS

Generate dialogue between sectors

## DEVELOP LOCAL RESPONSE

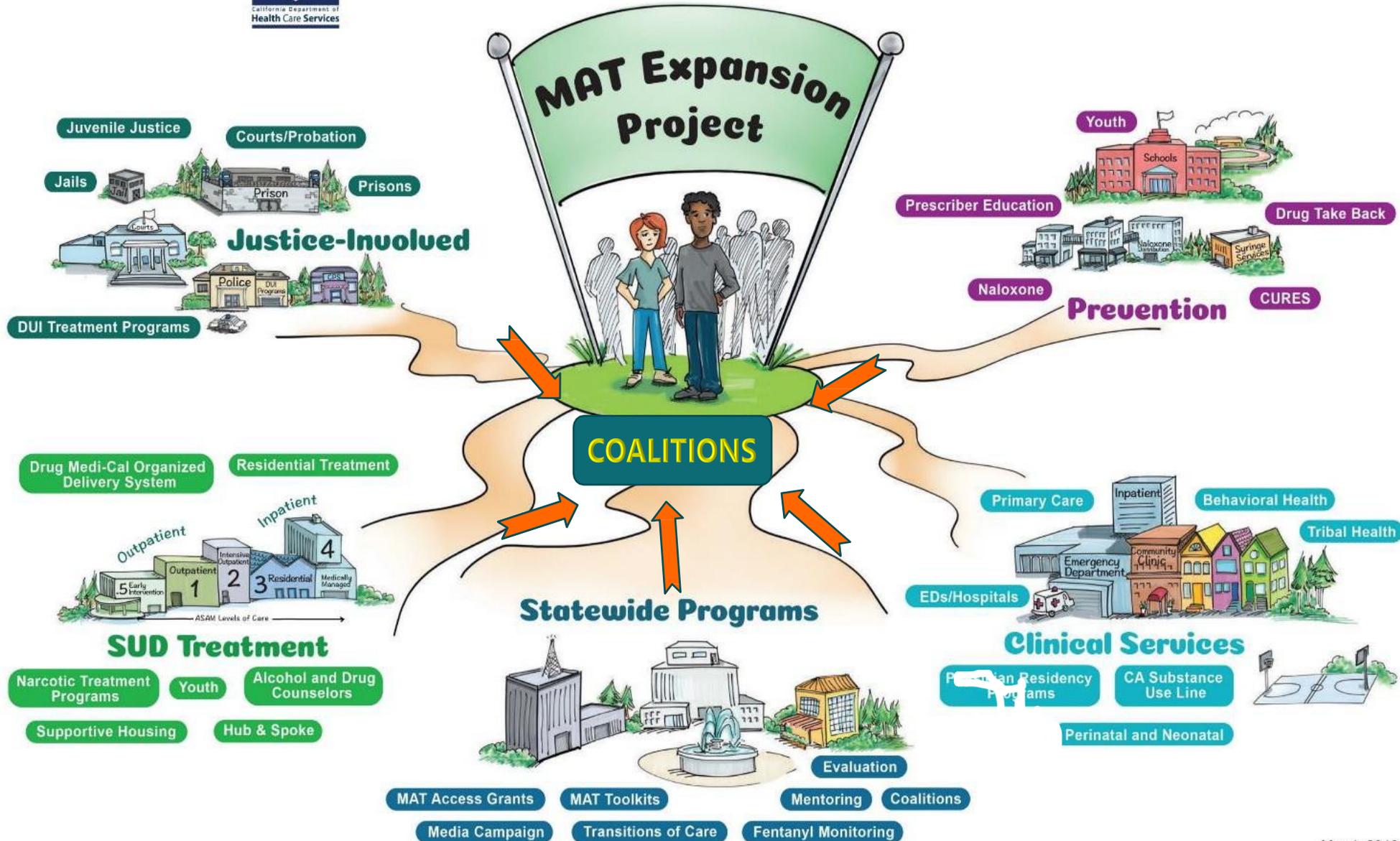
Respond to community needs

## SUSTAIN ACTION

Focus on long term solutions



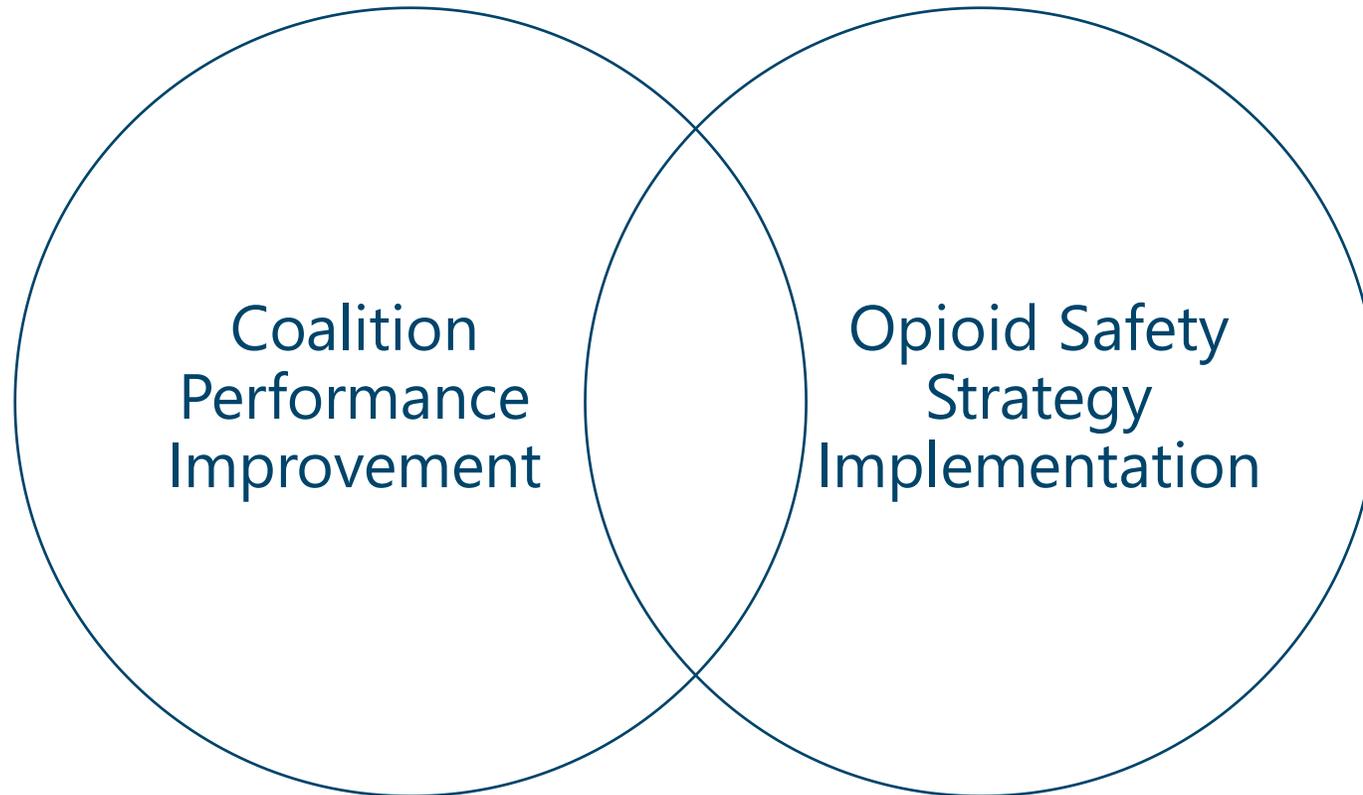
# In California, Treatment Starts Here



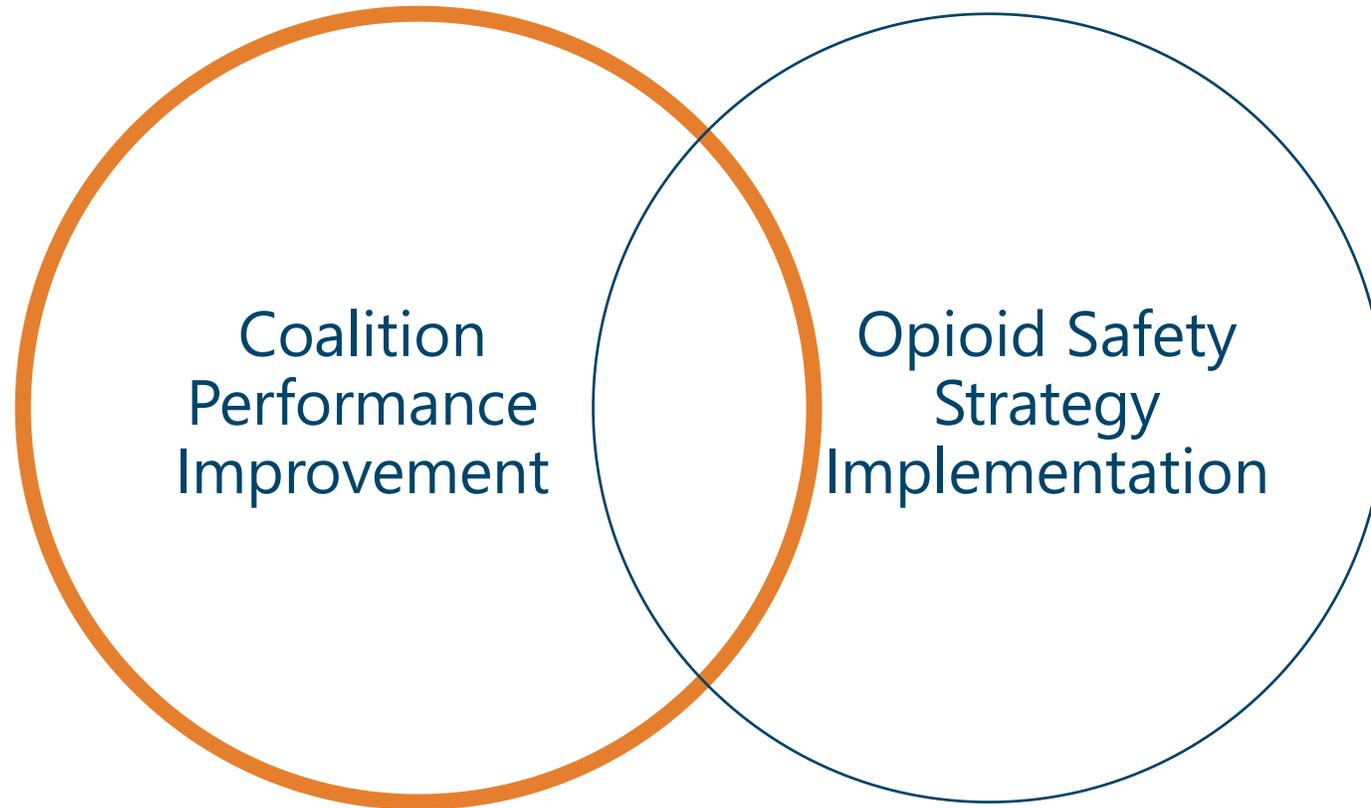
March 2019



# COSN Accelerator Program



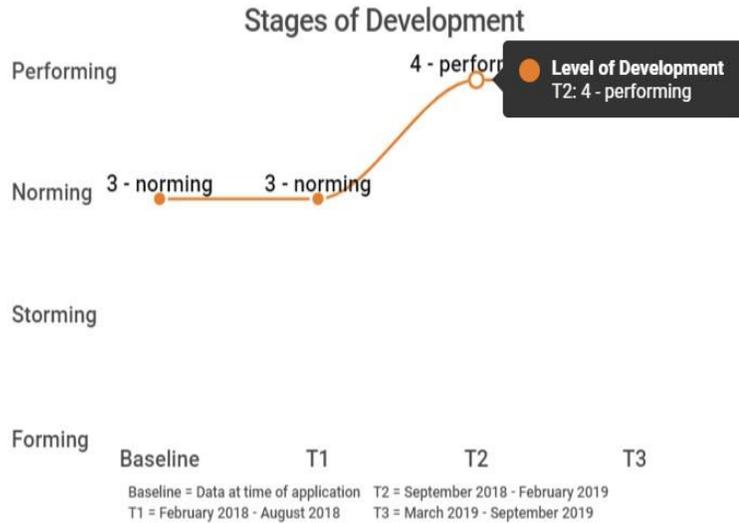
# COSN Accelerator Program



# California Opioid Safety Network: Accelerator Data Dashboard

Press **Esc** to exit full screen

## Contra Costa County MEDS Coalition



### 1000 Youth Reached

Provided opioid and prescription drug education to over 1000 youth in classroom presentations.



### Naloxone Grant

Succeeded in obtaining 156 boxes of Narcan after being approved for a Naloxone Distribution Grant and have scheduled trainings to continue distribution



### Youth Intern Program

Started a youth Intern program that was a direct result of classroom presentations to high school students.

## Assessment of Internal Strength



Trust = Trust exists among members of our coalition.

Transparency = The coalition members are open and transparent with their points of view.

Decision Making = An agreed upon decision-making style is in place within our coalition.

Dialogue = Coalition members are able to openly dialogue about differing points of view in the spirit of finding the best solution(s).

Commitment = Individual members are committed to coalition decisions, even if they initially disagreed with the direction proposed.

Communication = A coalition communication system exists that supports accountability.

Accountability = The coalition members are comfortable holding each other accountable to decisions and action items.

Change = The coalition can be effective in promoting policy and systems change.

Collaboration = Existing coalition collaboration is sufficient to achieve local project goals.



# More than 50 AmeriCorps VISTA members placed within local coalitions to date



# What People Say

*"Our VISTA has been by far the most value-added aspect of the program. Her dedication and work ethic, passion for serving the disenfranchised persons; and demonstration of professionalism, tact and judgement at such an early point in her career have been truly inspiring to the rest of our coalition members that she was worked tirelessly and for very little pay to assist."*

Butte-Glenn Medical Society Drug Abuse  
Prevention Task Force



# 100% of teams in the COSN Accelerator program agree...

- ✓ The program has been **valuable** to their coalition
- ✓ The program has **improved the performance** of their coalition
- ✓ They would **recommend the program** to other coalitions

# What does COPN accomplish?

- 1. Built alignment for evidence-based strategies across a variety of geographic and demographic communities**

# Coalition Activities

	Alameda-Contra Costa	Butte Glenn	Contra Costa	Humboldt	Imperial	Los Angeles	Lake	Marin	Mendocino	Monterey	Northern Sierra	Orange	Placer-Nevada	Riverside-San Bernardino	Sacramento	San Benito	San Diego	San Joaquin	San Luis Obispo	Santa Clara	Santa Cruz	Siskiyou	Redwood (Sonoma, Napa, Marin, Yolo)	Tuolumne
Increasing Access to MAT																								
Implementing Academic Detailing																								
Promoting Adoption of Safe Prescribing Guidelines																								
Using Opioid Safety/Surveillance Data at Local Level																								
Promoting healthy pain management/alternatives to opioids for managing chronic pain																								
Implementing Naloxone Distribution Site(s)/Systems																								
Increasing Public Awareness of Opioid Safety																								
Implementing Local Policy Changes																								

Not started or no current activity  
 Planning Stage  
 In progress or completed

# What does COPN accomplish?

1. Built alignment for evidence-based strategies across a variety of geographic and demographic communities
- 2. Support learning and develop innovation across communities**

# COPN Cross- Sector Learning and Innovation

- Partnering with Law Enforcement & Criminal Justice
  - MAT in County Jails
  - Addiction and MAT curriculum for jail and probation staff
  - *Give Life a Chance* Program
  - Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Leaders and Champions

## What did COSN accomplish?

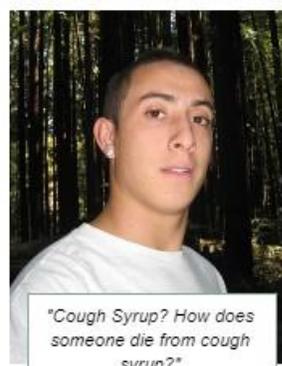
1. Built alignment for evidence-based strategies across a variety of geographic and demographic communities
2. Support cross learning and develop innovation between communities
3. **Communicate impact to change hearts and minds**



*"A Teacher's Perspective"*  
 SafeRx-Adventist Health Clear Lake  
[View Data Story](#)



*"Change isn't change until you change"*  
 Monterey County Prescribe Safe Initiative  
[View Data Story](#)



*"Cough Syrup? How does someone die from cough syrup?"*  
 RxSafe Marin  
[View Data Story](#)



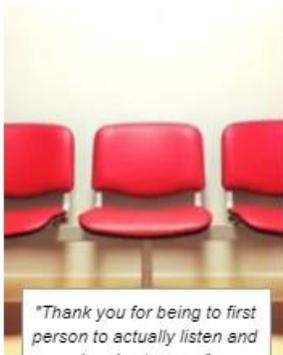
*"Naloxone Saves Lives."*  
 SafeRxOC  
[View Data Story](#)



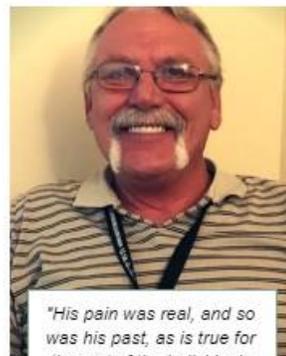
*"I can help you start on buprenorphine treatment today"*  
 SafeRxOC  
[View Data Story](#)



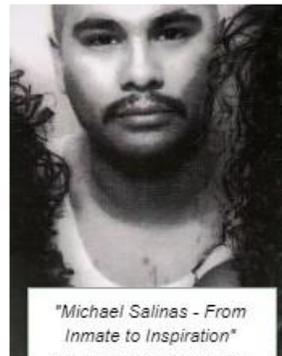
*"One day, I decided that I'm more important"*  
 Yurok Tribe Wellness Coalition  
[View Data Story](#)



*"Thank you for being to first person to actually listen and be nice to me..."*  
 East Bay Safe Prescribing Coalition  
[View Data Story](#)



*"His pain was real, and so was his past, as is true for the rest of the individuals that are represented here."*  
 Glenn County Alliance for Prevention (GCAP) Coalition



*"Michael Salinas - From Inmate to Inspiration"*  
 Monterey County Prescribe Safe Initiative  
[View Data Story](#)

# Stories





Rita on the left and Natalie on the right



Rita today

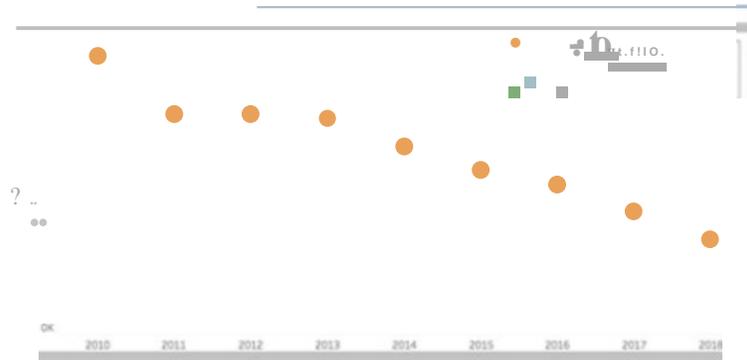
## From Prescription to Addiction: A Sister's Journey

Although she has never lived with addiction, Rita has witnessed the long and painful journey associated with opioid misuse. At the age of sixteen, Rita's sister, Natalie, was given prescriptions for sixty 10mg/325 Percocets and sixty 2mg Xanax for knee pain and anxiety. This was the standard of care, and in many places it still is. That day marked the beginning of Natalie's long battle with substance use disorder.

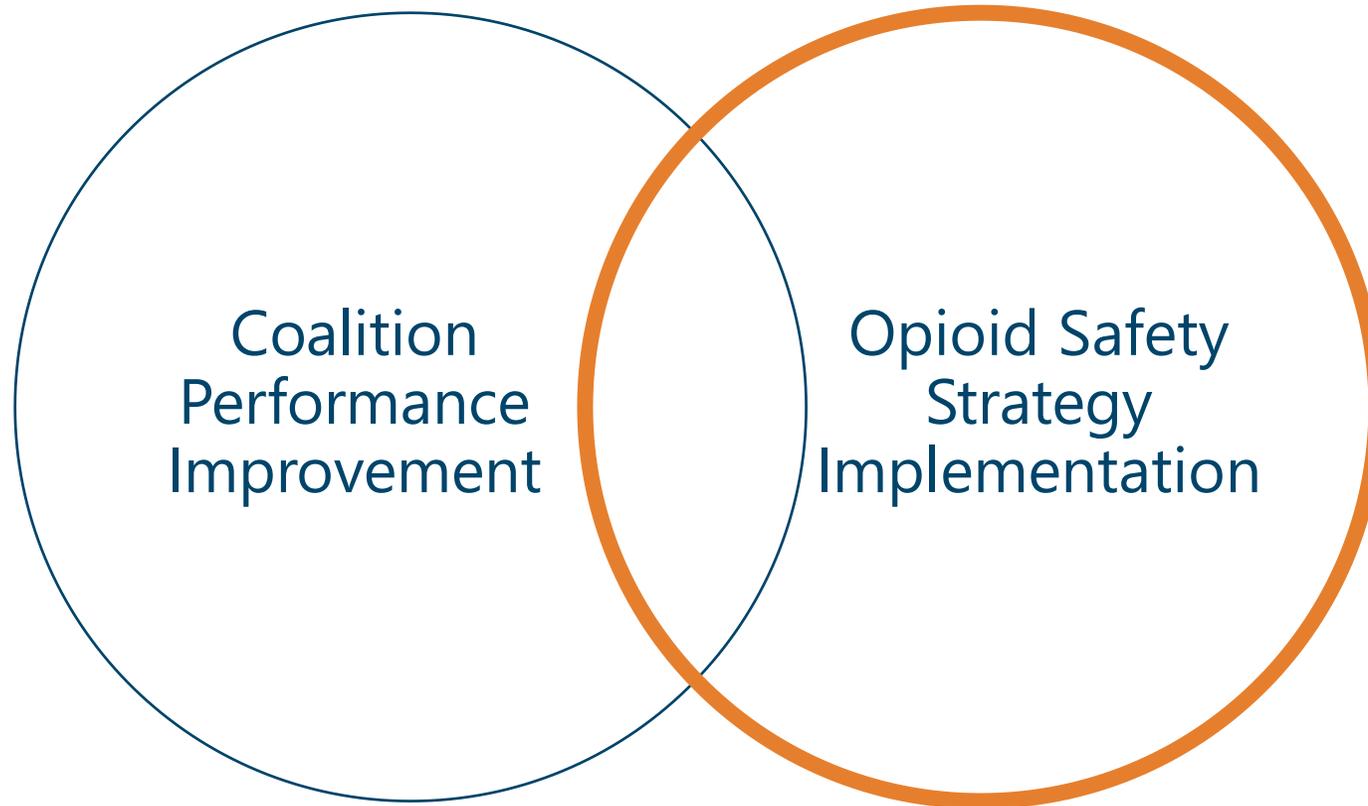
In order to satisfy the physical dependence that she developed, Natalie continued to approach her providers with symptoms that would warrant a prescription for opioids and/or benzodiazepines. Rita knew something was wrong in the early years. She wanted her parents to talk to Natalie, but the stigma surrounding addiction was too big a hurdle for them to do so. In addition to the mixture of opioids and benzodiazepines she was receiving, Natalie's psychiatrist prescribed her Adderall. She enjoyed the stimulant's euphoric effects - a potential sign of her future use of methamphetamine. After eight years of cycling through prescriptions, Natalie's physicians discontinued treatment and refused to prescribe any more medications.

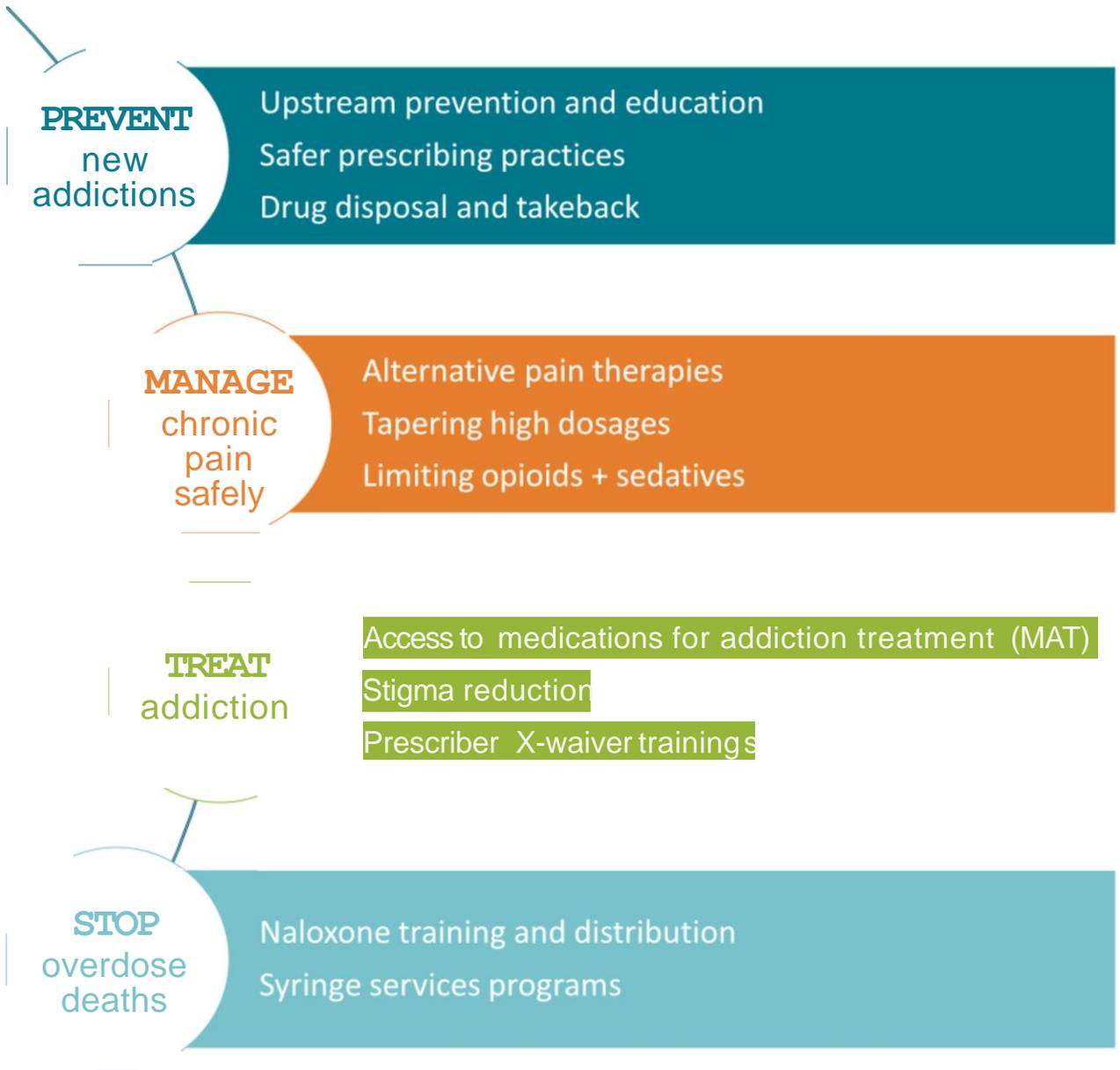
Certain prescription drug combinations and dosages, like Natalie's overlapping benzodiazepine/opioid prescriptions, constitute a high-risk for overdose and/or substance misuse. This graph marks a

number in Santa Cruz County- possibly a result of safer prescribing protocols.

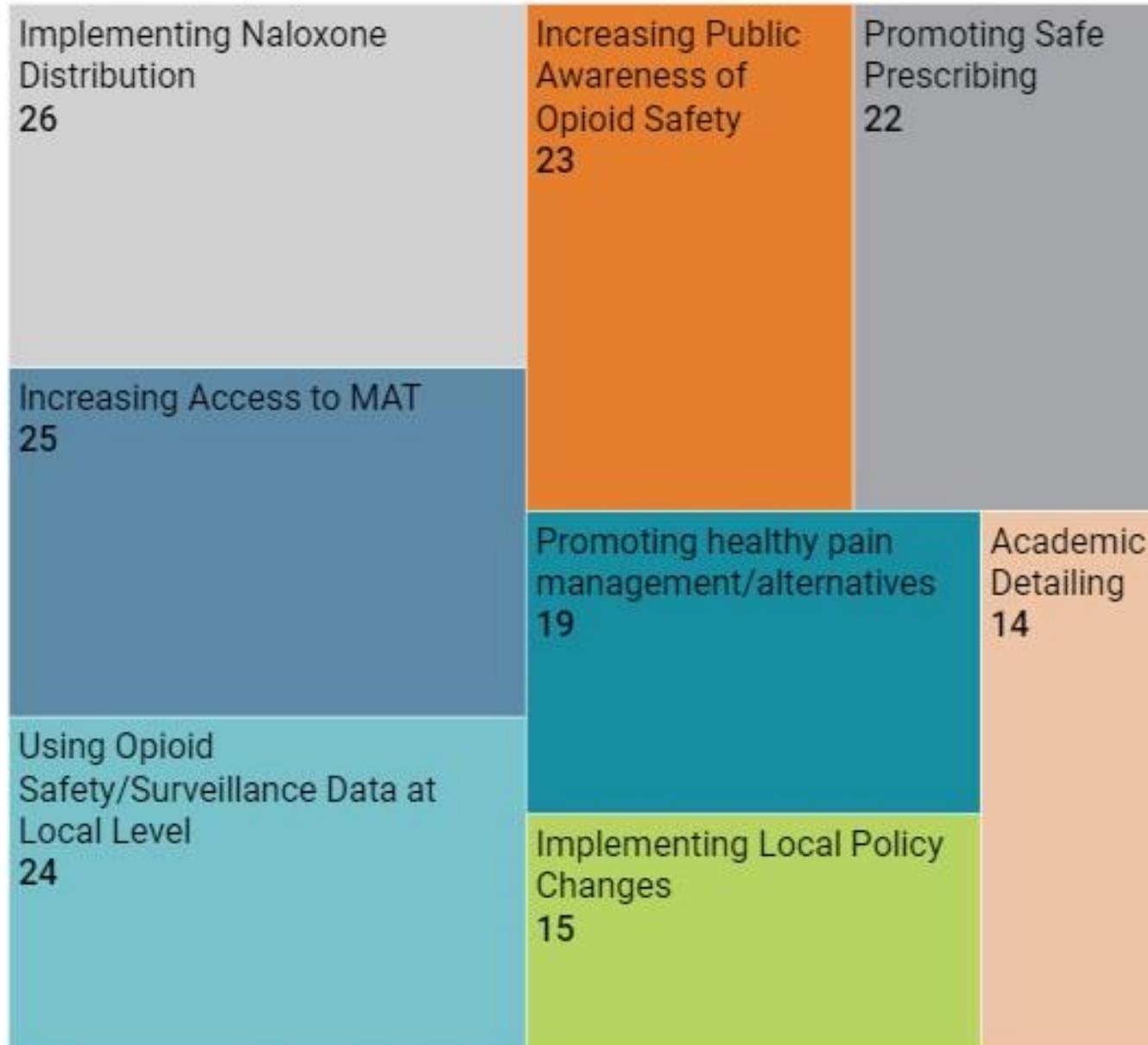


# COSN Accelerator Program





## Coalition Activities\* from March 2019 - September 2019



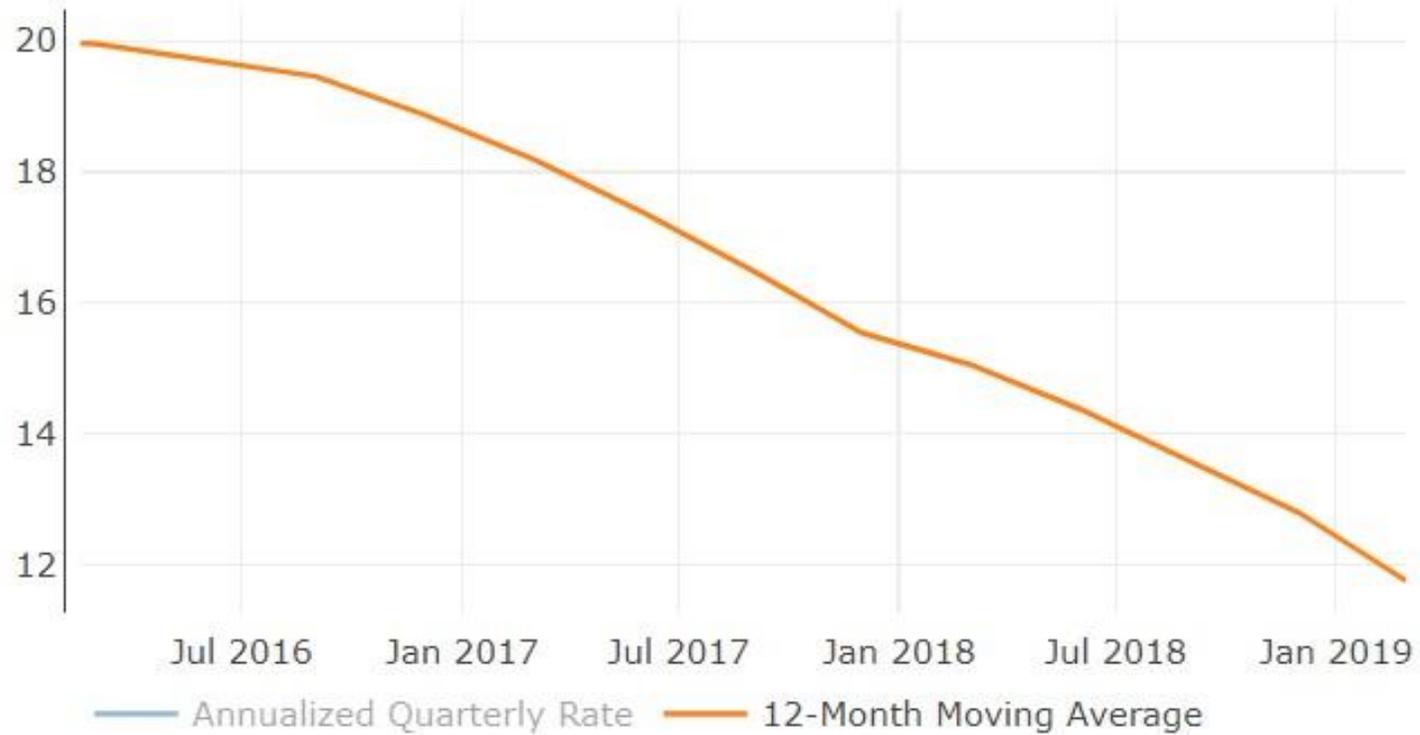
\*Number of coalitions indicating "In Progress" or "Completed" for each activity (n=28)



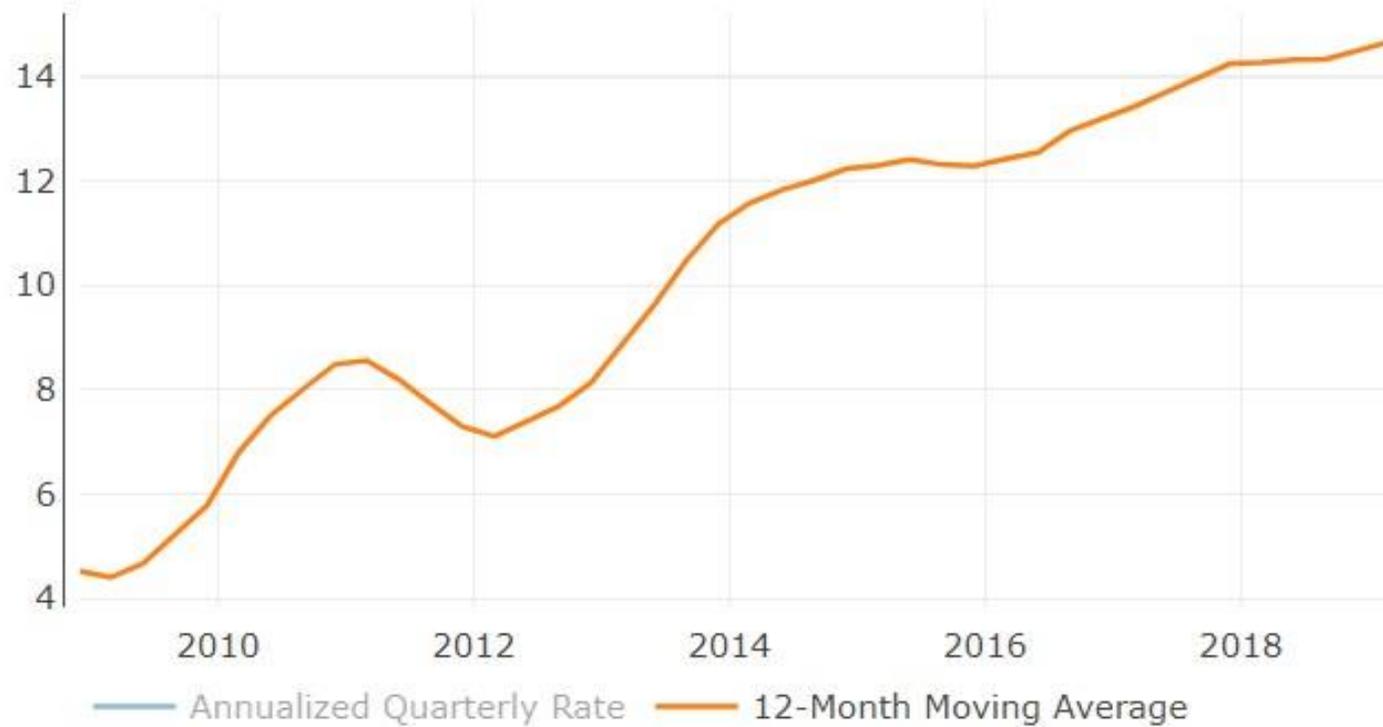
### Residents on > 90 MMEs of Opioids - Total Population Age-Adjusted Rate per 1,000 Residents



## Residents w/ Overlapping Opioid/Benzos - Total Population Age-Adjusted Rate per 1,000 Residents



## Buprenorphine Prescriptions - Total Population Age-Adjusted Rate per 1,000 Residents





Prescribe Safe Monterey

50% Reduction in  
Opioid Prescribing in  
Outpatient Clinics



Placer-Nevada Rx Drug Safety Coalition

100 Overdoses  
Reversed in Two Rural  
Counties



Northern Sierra Opioid Safety Coalition

From Zero to Multiple  
Addiction Treatment  
Providers

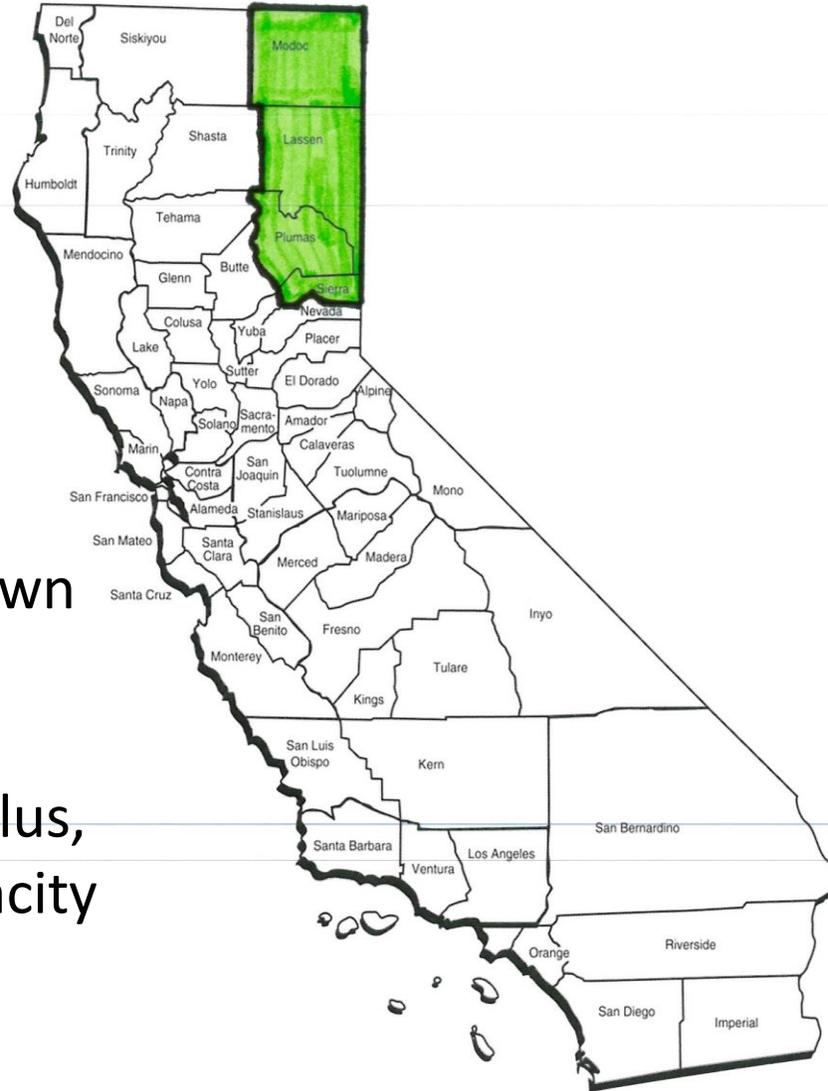
# About Us





## Our Region

Although each county has its own unique challenges, there are enough similarities to make it worthwhile to work together. Plus, none of us really have the capacity to take this on alone.



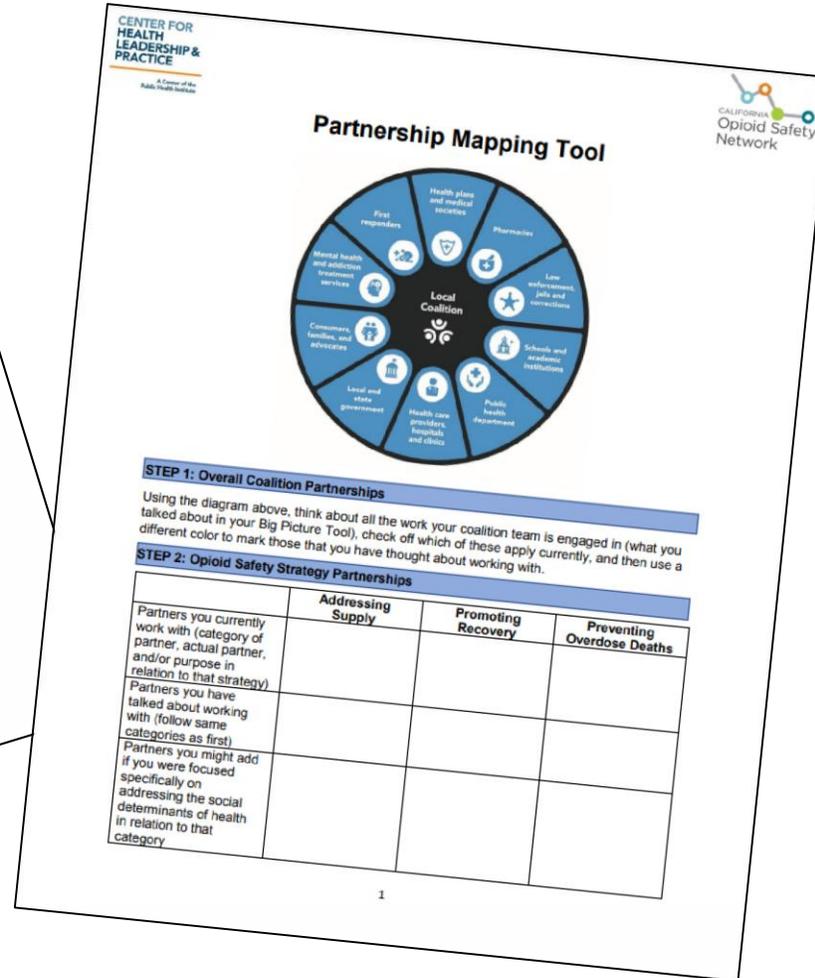
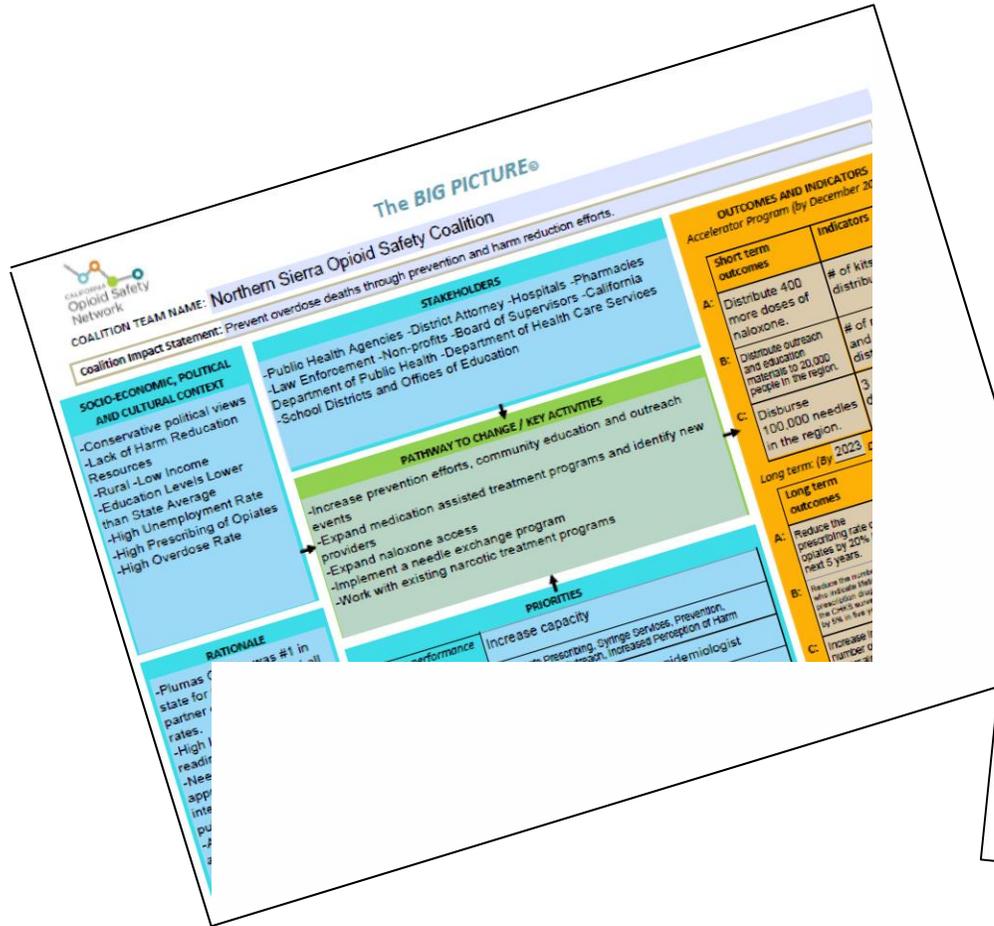
# Our Coalition



# Coaching Calls



# Capacity Building Tools



Which populations experience the greatest historical/current burden

- 1. Homeless
- 2. Native
- 3. Foster

Trading victim  
- HIV, Native populations, homeless, poverty, use drugs, conflict, just unclear opioid users, seniors, Foster, People of Color, LGBTQ, young

Why is it important to address health equity?

Stigma

Cultural sensitivity

Who is missing from the table?

- clients (homeless)
  - Social Services
  - Roundtable
  - Rancheria
  - Housing Authority
  - Foster agencies
  - Foster parents
- Mountain Circle

What can our coalition do to ensure everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be as healthy as possible?

Stigma

Cultural sensitivity

Priorities

- Coalition performance improvement
- Opioid strategy implementation
- Measurement and CQI
- Communications
- Sustainability

Short Term Steps

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

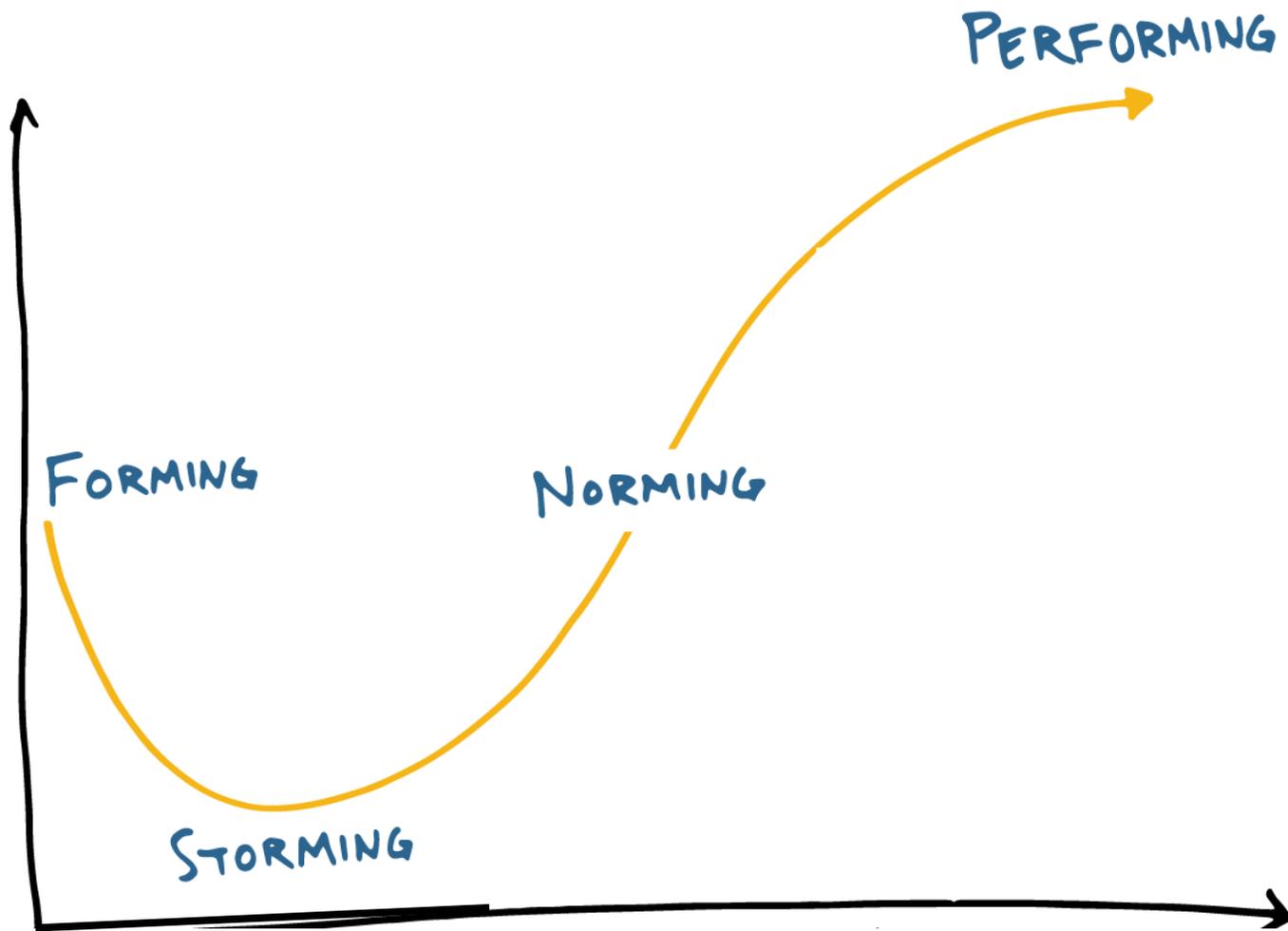
Long term outcomes

1. Have homeless, native, and foster engaged in coalition meetings
  2. Prevent new addictions
- Reduced overdose deaths
- Increased referrals
  - Decreased stigma



# In-Person Convenings



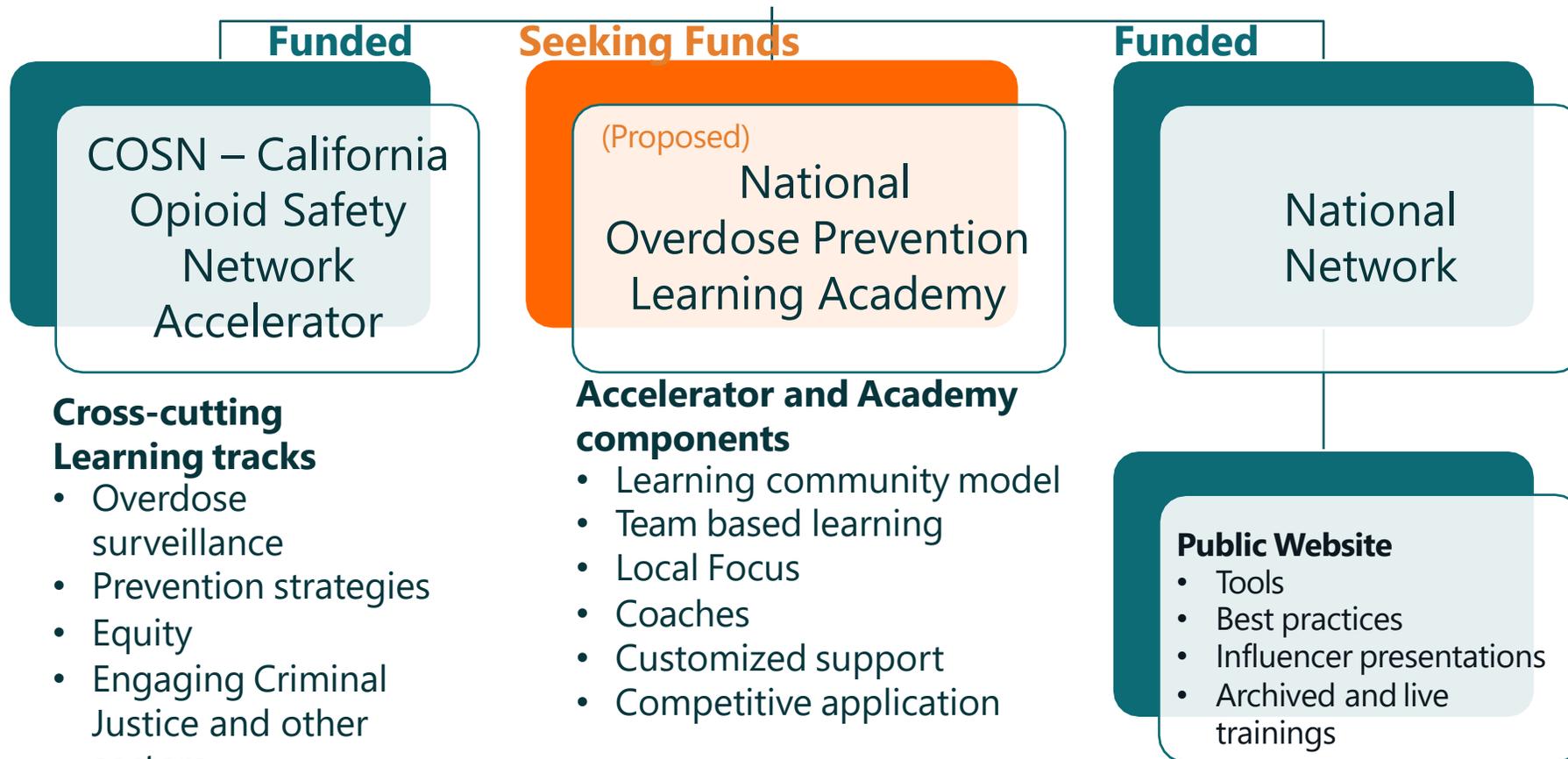




## National Overdose Prevention Network

### Reducing overdose deaths by

- Building evidence-based knowledge
- Strengthening local efforts



# BUILDING A MOVEMENT: LAUNCH EVENT FOR THE NATIONAL OVERDOSE PREVENTION NETWORK

Thursday, February 27, 2020

Sacramento Masonic Temple  
and via live webcast  
9am PT/12pm ET - 11am PT/12pm ET

In-Person Workshops  
11am PT - 3pm PT



**National  
Overdose Prevention  
Network**

A project of the Public Health InstiMe



University of California Los Angeles  
Integrated Substance Abuse Programs

# National Overdose Prevention Network (NOPN)



[About](#) [COVID-19](#) [California](#) [Partnerships](#) [Events](#) [Resources](#) [Contact Us](#)

Helping you to save lives with partnerships, strategies, and resources for overdose prevention.

About the Network



# National Overdose Prevention Network (NOPN)



## How does NOPN benefit you?



### Best practices

Affords opportunity to participate in national conversations about best practices



### Policy

Offers enhanced ability to influence state and federal drug and addiction policies



### Strategy

Get access to proven, evidence-based strategies from leaders and local coalitions throughout the country.



### Partners

Connects you with innovative partners from across the nation representing diverse economic, ethnic, and geographic communities



### Sustainability

Provides access to tools, resources, and information on funding opportunities



<https://nopn.org/california>  
<https://nopn.org/>