



Manchester, CT

H.O.P.E. Initiative

Heroin/Opioid Prevention & Education

Addressing the Opioid Crisis

Heroin History

- Originally invented as a less addictive alternative to morphine in 1874, Heroin was first commercial produced in 1898 under the name “Heroin” because of the ‘heroic’ feeling users received ¹.
- Opiates were completely unregulated in the U.S. until 1920.



Heroin History

“It’s not hypnotic and theirs no danger in acquiring a habit!”

–Boston Medical and Surgical Journal 1900

- Heroin, which was once legal in the U.S. was sold over-the-counter as freely as aspirin is today.
- In fact, the Bayer company was the first to import Heroin into the United States.
- The Northeast has always had a higher incidents of Heroin use than the rest of the nation.

Why Now?

- In 2012, 259 million prescriptions were written for opioids².
- More than enough to give every American adult their own bottle of pills².
- The United States makes up only 4.6 percent of the world's population, but consumes 80 percent of its opioids -- and 99 percent of the world's hydrocodone⁵.

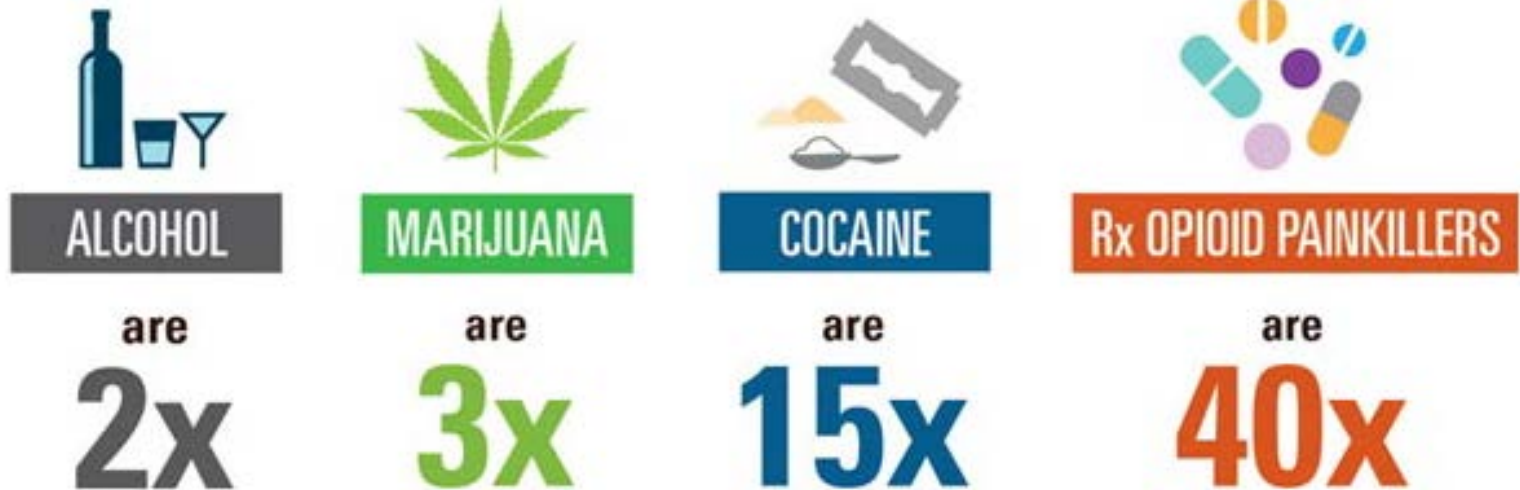
Why Now?

- Since 1999, the number of overdose deaths involving opioids (including prescription opioids and Heroin) quadrupled.
- From 2000 to 2015 more than half a million people died from drug overdoses. 91 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/>.

Why Now?

People who are addicted to...



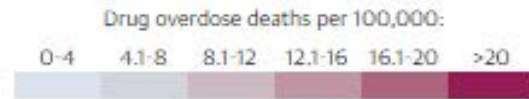
...more likely to be addicted to heroin.

Four in five new heroin users started out misusing prescription painkillers.³

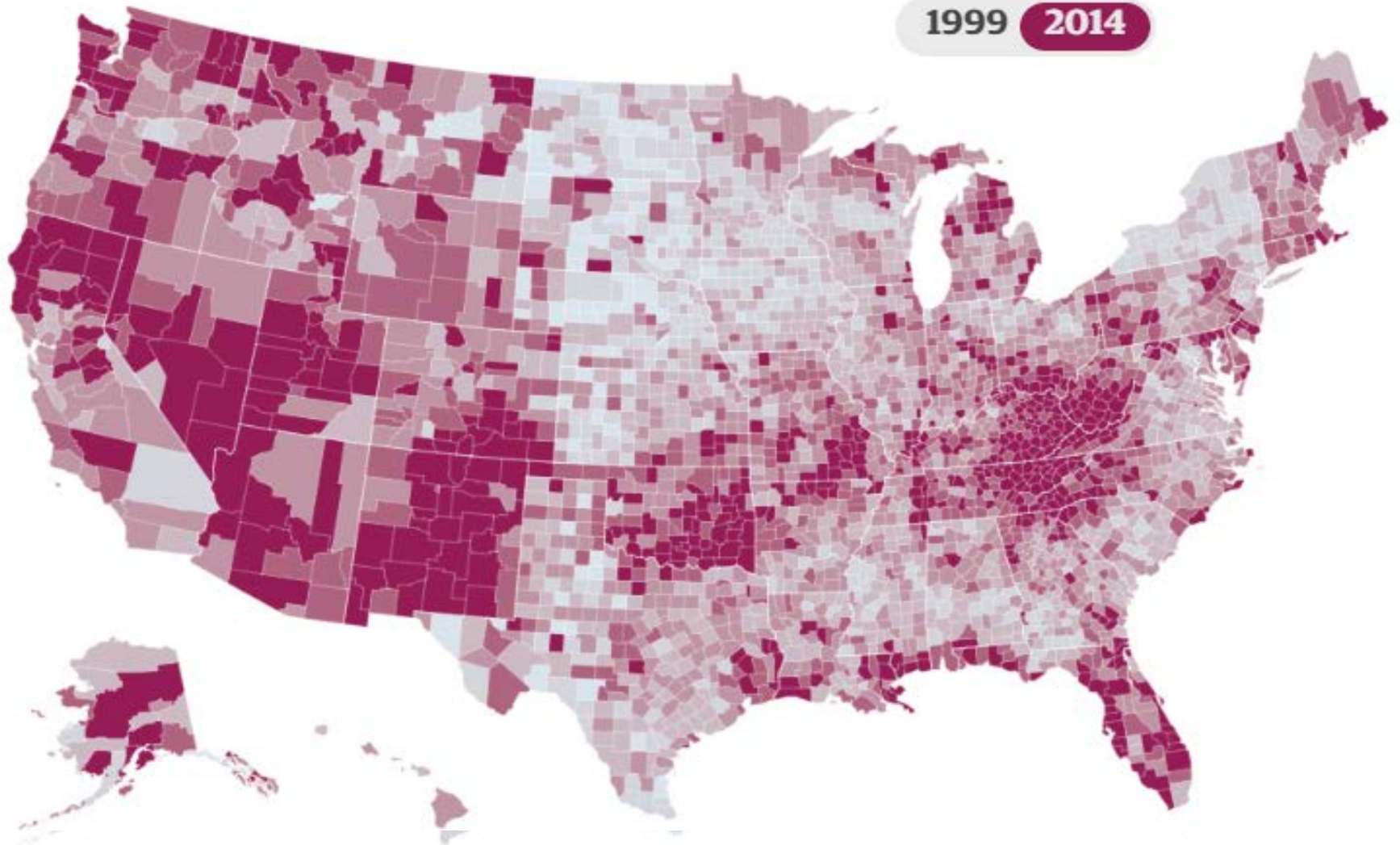
Community Connection

- Sarah and friends ask to meet to discuss the crisis.
- They asked what the police department could do to help stem the tide of recent overdose deaths.
- My initial response was “we’re the police department, we arrest drug users, and send them to jail.”
- **“How’s that working out for you?”**

Opioid-related Overdose Deaths



1999 2014



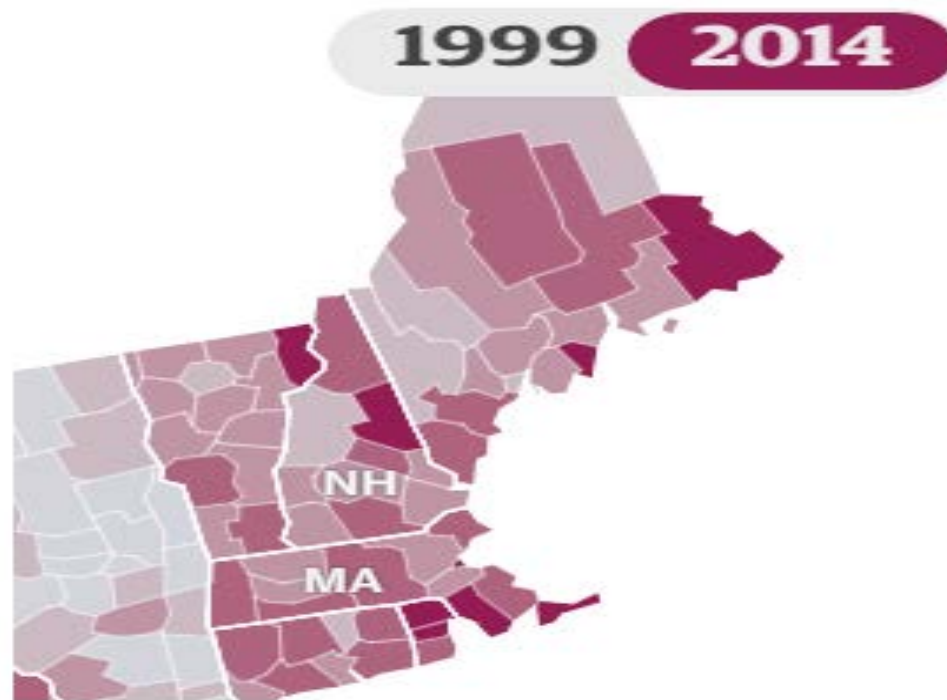
How did we get here?

Drug overdose deaths per 100,000:

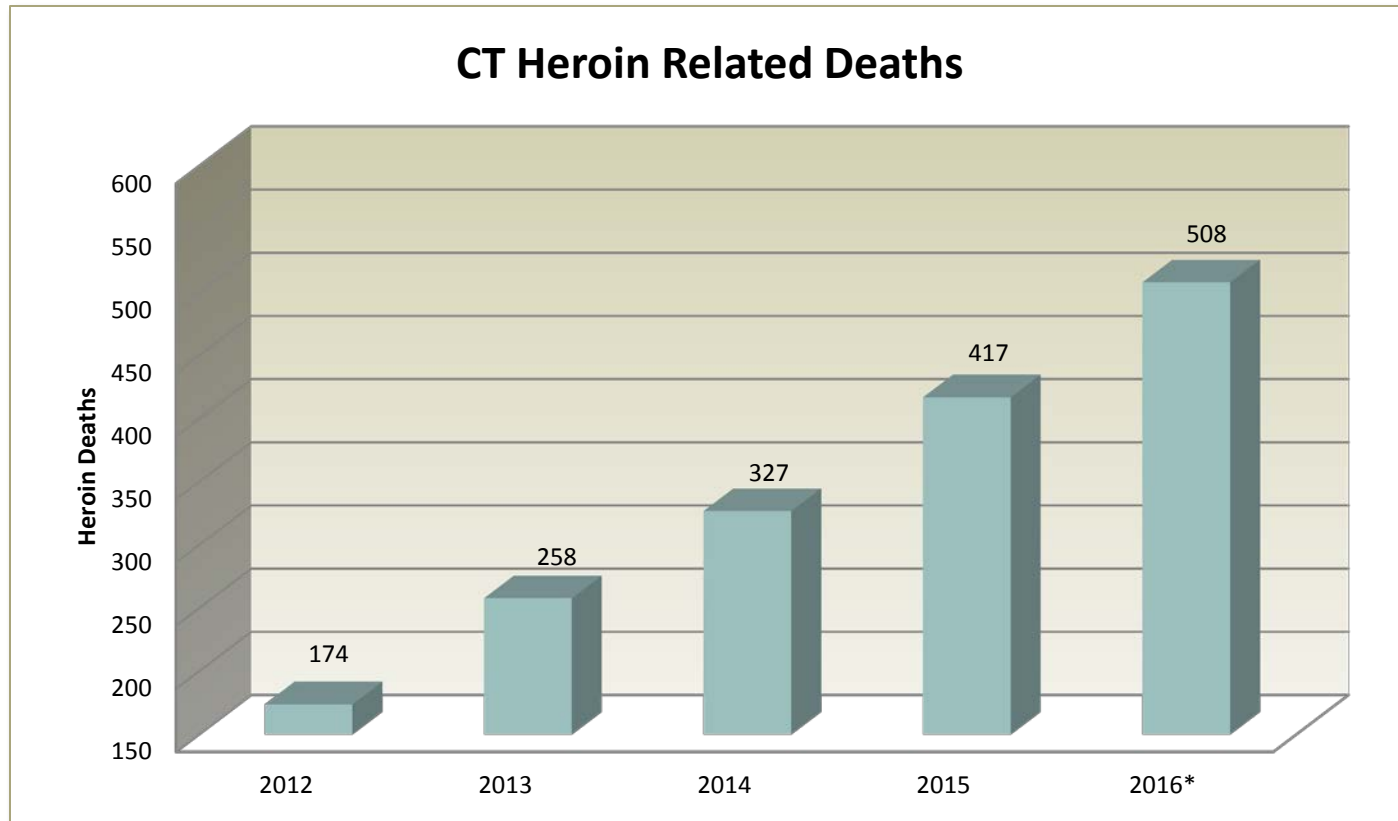
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New England



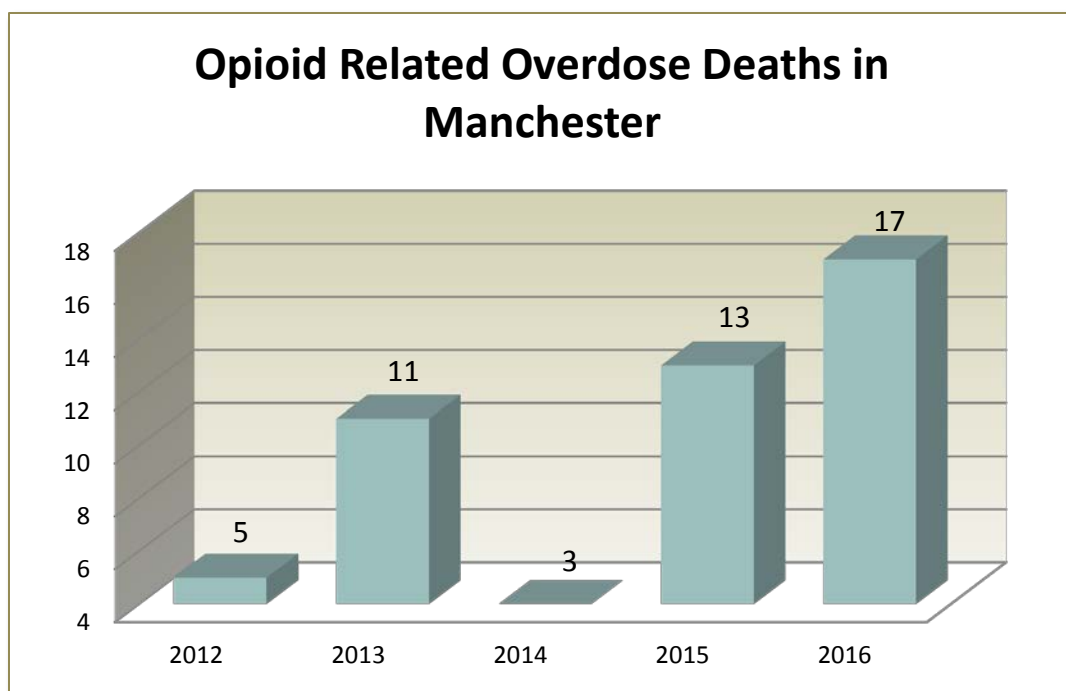
Overdose Rates



192% Increase from 2012 to 2016
(*55% Contained Fentanyl)

Manchester Experience

- 13 Heroin related overdose deaths in 2015.
 - 8 male, 5 female.
 - 11 were residents, 2 were from out of town.
 - The average age was 36.



How can Law Enforcement Change This?

- Convened a working group to assess the options.
- Invited industry experts and state officials.
- Included people in recovery for their experience with the 'system'.
- Looked at successes from other states, notably Massachusetts.
- Took inventory of our existing assets here in town.
 - ECHN
 - CHR
 - Hartford Dispensary
 - Pathfinders

How can Law Enforcement Change This?

- We concluded:
 - The Police need to adopt a new philosophy regarding addicted people.
 - The necessary resources were already here in town.
 - Using available resources to formulate a plan to combat addiction working together rather than separately.
 - **The police become the entry point to the recovery system rather than the criminal justice system.**
 - Guidance was sought from the States Attorney's Office who were in full support of this initiative.

Manchester HOPE!

Contact

- Police come into contact with Heroin abusers on a regular basis. Utilize this contact to encourage treatment without fear of arrest.

Detox

- Police bring the patient to the E.R. as a HOPE patient. Medical staff will determine the need to detoxify or stabilize the patient.

Treatment

- ECHN clinical staff will determine the appropriate treatment regimen, ranging from medication assisted treatment to long term inpatient care.

Release

- The patient is provided with a recovery coach, and access to wraparound services.

Core Participants

- ECHN
 - Memorandum of understanding signed
- Manchester Human Services
 - Wrap around services
- CHR
 - Dual diagnoses treatment and eventual Suboxone therapy.
- CCAR
 - Grant funded professional recovery coaches (January 2017)
- Hartford Dispensary
 - Methadone treatment
- UCONN
 - Program evaluation and administrative support

ECHN

- Act as the clinical gatekeepers.
- Medical staff has assisted the PD with Roll Call training.
- ER staff will provide the patient intake process.
- ECHN staff will determine if detoxification is necessary.
- ECHN staff will provide medication assisted treatment or connect patient to alternative treatment.



UConn

- Provided HOPE with a graduate student to act as program support.
- Seeking grant opportunities for program evaluation and effectiveness.



CCAR

- Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery.
- Provides “recovery coaches” to assist patients with peer-to-peer recovery support services.
 - This program started in January of 2017 by grant funded positions.
- CCAR also conducts recovery coach training for members of the community who want to volunteer.



Manchester Police



- Policy change
 - Any person who comes to the police station and requests help with their addiction to opiates will be screened into the H.O.P.E. program.
 - If a person who has requested help with their addiction is in possession of drugs or drug equipment (needles, etc.), they will not be charged with this offense.
 - Any officers having contact with an individual entering MPD and requesting help with their addiction will be professional, compassionate and understanding at all times.
 - MPD officers who contact person(s) in the field who are in possession of opiates and/or opiate related paraphernalia have the discretion to use the H.O.P.E. Program in lieu of, or in conjunction with an arrest.

Manchester Police



- Training
 - Officers are trained in the administration of Naloxone (Narcan) as part of their medical training. Update refresher training is being provided as well.
 - Training staff, hospital staff, and Command Staff have provided roll call training to ensure the intent of the program and the philosophy is understood.
- Procurement
 - A supply of Narcan is available within the building (but is not be carried by officers)
 - A “sharps container” has been mounted near the lobby entrance for needles etc.

Education

- HOPE members have been active in educational aspects of the program.
 - Speaking engagements with the media
 - Lectures to High School students.
- Narcan
 - How to obtain the drug & how to utilize it.
- Social Media
 - Facebook page
 - Reach 41,670
 - Likes 386
- Liaison & coordination with support groups
 - COPE
 - Justices Fight

Program Launch

- A press conference was held on 12-5-16 to officially launch the program.
 - Many press outlets were present.
 - Several state officials were present.
 - A special thank you to Board of Directors who were present as well.
 - We had a member of PARRI (The Police Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative) attend from Massachusetts.
- A Narcan training seminar was held at the Police Department. Free doses were handed out.