



MOUNTAIN PLAINS
RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

MOUNTAIN PLAINS POST

The month in review and looking forward

IN THIS EDITION:

SUD TREATMENT AND
RECOVERY ESSENTIALS:
IMPROVING SERVICE
DELIVERY IN 2023

RECORDING: UTAH STATE
UNIVERSITY EXTENSION'S
P.E.A.C.E PROGRAM
WEBINAR

UPCOMING VIRTUAL
LEARNING COURSE:
TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

NEW

VIRTUAL LEARNING COURSE: TRAUMA-INFORMED CARE

Join the Mountain Plains Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center (MP ROTAC) for the third installment of our Virtual Learning Course Series! During the event, participants will learn how trauma-informed care is defined, its five guiding principles, alignment of policies, procedures and treatment strategies, and how to support staff in trauma informed programs/services. Additionally, information will be shared on how to use trauma knowledge to guide how treatment services are delivered and to apply a trauma lens to promote organizational change.

Tuesday, June 20
1 p.m. MST



**Need to catch up on the
first two installments?
Click below!**

Stigma 101

**Stigma Reduction:
Addressing
Stigmatizing Language
in Today's Landscape**

FEATURED

USU P.E.A.C.E PROGRAM WEBINAR

MP ROTAC was honored to host Utah State University's Pain Education and Community Empathy (P.E.A.C.E) Program in May as they shared information about their unique, peer-led pain management program. In case you missed it, you can access the recording below. If you are interested in learning more about the program, email Maren Voss at maren.voss@usu.edu or Jennifer Peatross at jennifer.peatross@usu.edu.



Click here!



AROUND THE REGION

WEBINAR: The Perfect and the Good: Engaging People around Harm Reduction and Non-Abstinence Based Goals

On June 20 at 11 a.m., the Mountain Plains Addiction Technology Transfer Center will host a webinar titled "The Perfect and the Good: Engaging People around Harm Reduction and Non-Abstinence Based Goals." This presentation will be presented by Scott Walters, Ph.D., who will review the current literature on harm reduction, discuss factors affecting strategy suitability and effectiveness, and demonstrate how to use motivational interviewing to engage and motivate clients in adopting strategies to minimize drug use risks. By actively involving individuals in harm reduction, providers can optimize benefits and support the well-being of people with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD).

REGISTER NOW

UTAH PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT: COMMUNITY BRIDGE PROGRAM



Utah's Community Bridge Program allows Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in rural areas to connect a person experiencing opioid poisoning (after revival) to recovery resources. If the person accepts, EMS administers the first dose of buprenorphine to the patient. Following is a "Program Sketch:"

- 911 call for opioid overdose; EMS responds.
- If the patient is identified as stable per EMS protocol, EMS notifies Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness (USARA).
- USARA is dispatched to the scene to meet with EMS to invite patient to enroll into the Community Bridge Program.
- If patient is enrolled, the patient receives a first dose of buprenorphine by EMS, following EMS protocol.
- USARA provides a warm-handoff to the MOUD provider and Case Manager from the "Bridge Clinic" (Huntsman Mental Health Institute Addiction Recovery Clinic).
- The patient will receive a five-day prescription for buprenorphine until continuity can be provided by the Bridge Clinic.

Click the titles below to read related peer-reviewed literature!

Impact of Administering Buprenorphine to Overdose Survivors Using Emergency Medical Services

Buprenorphine Field Initiation of Rescue Treatment by Emergency Medical Services: A Case Series

Prehospital Initiation of Buprenorphine Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder by Paramedics

Want to learn more? Email Taylor Morsillo, MPH,

RESOURCE REVIEW

RESOURCE: DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION'S (DEA) FENTANYL AWARENESS HUB

Check out the DEA's Fentanyl Awareness hub to access various resources, including the Fentanyl Factsheet, parental and treatment resources, as well as information on DEA's Faces of Fentanyl exhibit.

[ACCESS THE HUB](#)

CHECK IT OUT

HHS LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE TO HELP PEOPLE FIND SUPPORT FOR ISSUES WITH MENTAL HEALTH, DRUGS, OR ALCOHOL

In May, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) launched FindSupport.gov. This website allows the public to identify available resources, explore unbiased information about various treatment options, and learn how to get support for issues pertaining to mental health, drugs, or alcohol.

[FindSupport.gov](#)

INJURY PREVENTION LEGISLATION DATABASE: OPIOID ABUSE PREVENTION

Hosted by the National Conference of State Legislatures, this database provides current information about injury prevention legislation introduced or enacted in the United States. Information is searchable by state, topic, keyword, year, status or primary sponsor.

[VISIT THE DATABASE](#)

NEWLY RELEASED: AN EXPLORATORY STUDY OF A HANDS-ON NALOXONE TRAINING FOR RURAL CLINICIANS AND STAFF

This peer-reviewed study explores the role of hands-on naloxone training for rural healthcare providers to reduce opioid overdose fatalities in rural areas. The study discusses the fentanyl-driven surge in opioid overdose deaths, and includes a description of the naloxone training session.

[READ THE STUDY](#)

SAMHSA AND FDA ISSUE NEW DEAR COLLEAGUE LETTER PROMOTING THE MEDICATION FIRST MODEL

[READ THE LETTER](#)

MOUNTAIN PLAINS RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER: MARGIE DeANDA



Margie DeAnda is MP ROTAC's administrative assistant. She earned her Bachelor of Business Administration with concentrations in finance and marketing/sales from Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Margie enjoys hiking the mountains of Colorado and spending time with her family including a spunky Shih Tzu named Yo-Yo.

What do you enjoy most about your work on the MP ROTAC team?

Working for the Mountain Plains Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center is rewarding because I love to learn, and I consider myself a servant to all that I can help. I love learning about opioid and stimulant misuse in the context of substance use disorders. This knowledge has given me a greater understanding of the opioid crises in our country; the many reasons why people start taking these substances. Learning and practicing how we can change the narrative for people with opioid and stimulant use disorders (OUD/SUD) is hopeful. Sharing what I am learning with my family and friends gives me hope that they will share the information with their networks, which is critical to what it takes to change minds about people suffering from OUD/SUD. We're at the beginning of steps to change processes and methods for treatment and openly discussing OUD/SUD in a way that we can all begin to treat all people with the dignity and respect they deserve. Sharing information along with getting the right people involved, is how anything changes.



MOUNTAIN PLAINS
RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER



Human Services in Rural Contexts: Comprehensive Report and Accompanying Briefs Share Opportunities and Challenges

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST ROTA-R--This new report, accompanied by seven briefs, provides information on how human services operate in rural contexts. The report illustrates the remaining need for human services in rural communities and the unique challenges and opportunities that exist to address this remaining need. The first three briefs delve into more detail about specific topics relevant to human services programs in rural areas. The Broadband Access brief discusses how rural areas lack access to broadband internet and how this impacts rural communities. The Housing Supports brief describes the need for housing in rural communities and the existing supports which work to address this need.

[**READ MORE**](#)

Heat Health Awareness: Why It's Important For Persons With SUD & Mental Health Conditions, Caregivers & Health Care Providers

SAMHSA--Last year, amidst one of the warmest global summers recorded, the Biden Administration launched Heat.gov as a "a one-stop hub on heat and health for the nation." The website provides information on at-risk groups, tools and resources, and ways to prepare for extreme heat. Heat.gov is overseen by the National Integrated Heat Health Information System (NIHHIS), an interagency collaboration that includes the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Federal Emergency Management Agency, Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

[**READ MORE**](#)

DEA, SAMHSA Extend COVID-19 Telemedicine Flexibilities for Prescribing Controlled Medications for Six Months While Considering Comments from the Public

On May 11, the DEA and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) issued the "Temporary Extension of COVID-19 Telemedicine Flexibilities for Prescription of Controlled Medications." This temporary rule extends telemedicine flexibilities adopted during the COVID-19 public health emergency, through November 11, 2023.

[**READ MORE**](#)



MOUNTAIN PLAINS
RURAL OPIOID TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

THANK YOU FOR READING!

The Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) has been strengthening higher education, workforce development, and behavioral health throughout the region since 1953. As an interstate compact, WICHE partners with states, territories, freely associated states, and postsecondary institutions in the West to share knowledge, create resources, and develop innovative solutions that address some of society's most pressing needs.

In 2022, WICHE was awarded a two-year grant from SAMHSA to establish the Mountain Plains Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Center (MP ROTAC). MP ROTAC is dedicated to supporting opioid and stimulant prevention, treatment, and recovery in HHS Region 8, comprised of Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming. MP ROTAC develops and disseminates resources, training, and technical assistance to rural communities across the continuum of care. In partnership with our Regional Advisory Workgroup, MP ROTAC's efforts aim to meet the needs of a wide variety of audiences that are not traditionally targeted by other training efforts. We look forward to serving you and making a difference in Region 8's rural communities!

CONTACT US:
MPROTAC@WICHE.EDU

**[Click here to
check out our
website!](#)**