

Northern Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy: Planning, Programming, and Partnerships



**NORTHERN KENTUCKY
OFFICE OF DRUG CONTROL POLICY**
Creating chances, creating change.



**NORTHERN KENTUCKY
859-415-9280
ADDICTION HELPLINE**

NKYODCP Board of Directors

Public Policy + Public Health + Public Safety

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Dr. Jennifer Mooney Northern Kentucky Health District Director

Garren Colvin, St. Elizabeth Healthcare Chief Executive Officer

Scott Hardcorn, Northern Kentucky Drug Strikeforce Director

Kentucky State Representative Kimberly Moser, Legislative Liaison

NKYODCP Board Mission Statement

The Northern Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy assists with the development of substance misuse policy initiatives, coordinates regional efforts at the direction of the board and provides advisory services to the fiscal courts of Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties.



Formed in 2015

NKYODCP Focus Areas: No Wrong Door to Treatment and Recovery

- ***Development and Coordination of Regional Strategic Response Initiatives***
 - *System Integration Strategies*
 - *CAREs: Coordinating All Recovery Efforts*
Multisystem, Multiagency Regional Initiative
- ***Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline***
- ***Local, State, and Organizational Policy Formation***
 - *Advise the fiscal courts regarding SUD and Opioid Abatement Funds*

Opening the Doors to

**TREATMENT
+ RECOVERY**

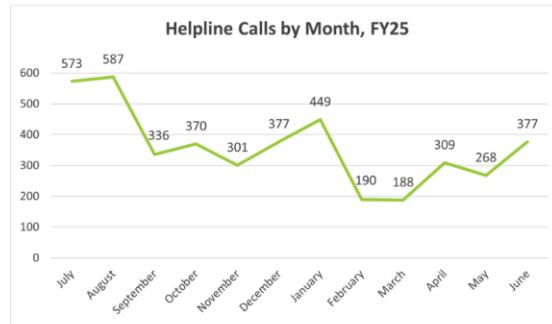


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NKY Addiction Helpline FY25 Reporting



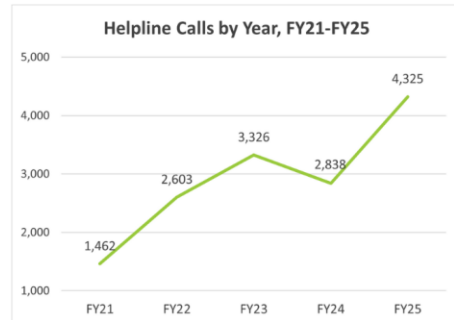
4,325 Total NKY Addiction Helpline Calls

2,012 Uber/Uber-Related
258 Hang-Up
99 Calls for Other Resources
63 General Information Requests
23 Spam
47 Treatment Navigation
35 Housing-Related
28 Crisis
15 CAREs Team
25 Casey's Law Assists

4 Narcan-Related
3 Criminal Justice Navigation
1,713 Missed*
**Consists of missed calls outside of Helpline hours, while helping other callers, or during community outreach where we are taking the helpline to the people. All missed calls are returned within 1 business day.*

2,227 Uber Health rides were provided, marking a 162.6% increase from FY24, in which The Helpline provided 848 Uber Health rides.

- The total cost of Uber Health for FY25 was \$44,068.65
- The average Uber Health ride cost was \$19.78



1,230 Dispatch Calls documented by NKYODCP Staff.

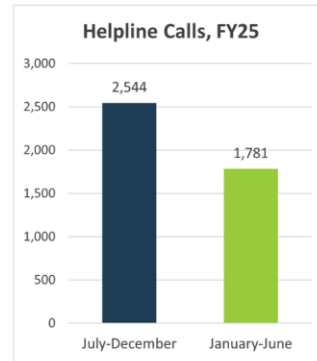
Dispatch reports are received from Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties.

34 Community Narcan Trainings Performed by NKYODCP Staff

- 202 Kits of Narcan Distributed

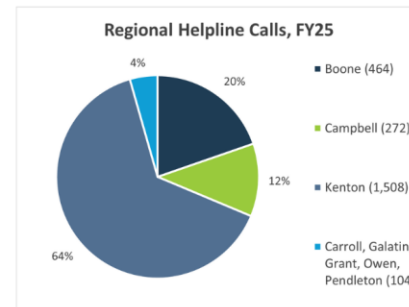
152 Community Outreach instances

- 464 Direct Interactions



During the 2025 Fiscal Year, the NKY Addiction Helpline received a total of 4,325 calls.

- This marks a 52.4% increase in total call volume from FY24, which saw 2,838 total calls.
- Of the total, 2,544 occurred in the first six months (July-December), and 1,781 occurred in the second six months (January-June).



Top Zip Codes from which calls were made to The Helpline:

41011 - 879	41051 - 35
41017 - 312	41016 - 33
41042 - 237	41015 - 15
41071 - 207	41073 - 15
41005 - 198	
41018 - 173	
41014 - 58	

Of the top Zip Codes, 7 were in Kenton County, 2 were in Campbell County, and 2 were in Boone County.

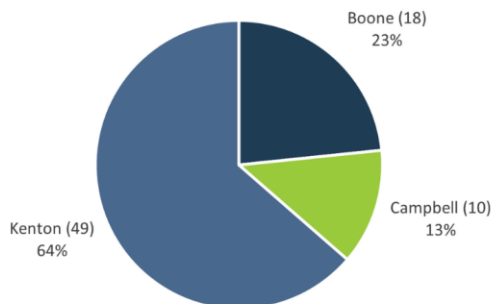


Regional Helpline: 17,481 from January 2019



NKY 2024 Overdose Deaths Reporting

2024 Fatal ODs by County



Overdose Deaths in Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties Decreased by 45% from 2023 to 2024.

The eight-county region saw a 33% decrease in overdose deaths from 2023 to 2024.

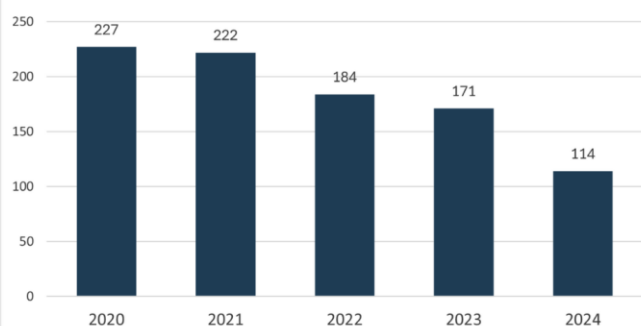
The Northern Kentucky Health Department (Boone, Campbell, Grant, Kenton) region saw a 42% decrease in overdose deaths from 2023-2024.

All data to the was obtained from official Kentucky Drug Overdose Fatality Reports.

All numbers are based on the decedent's county of residence.

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total
Boone	50	44	41	35	18	188
Campbell	54	31	35	26	10	156
Carroll	6	10	8	4	9	37
Gallatin	4	12	8	7	5	36
Grant	17	16	17	8	8	66
Kenton	85	91	65	80	49	370
Owen	6	4	6	4	4	24
Pendleton	5	14	4	7	11	41
Total	227	222	184	171	114	918

2020-2024 Fatal Overdoses: 8-County NKY Region



The full 2024 Report can be found at odcp.ky.gov/Reports/2024%20Drug%20Overdose%20Fatality%20Report.pdf

NKY Overdose Fatalities by the Numbers

Everyone is a first responder!
Contact the Helpline to receive
Naloxone at no cost today!
Training can be done in-person or
virtually and takes less than 10
minutes.



Sequential Intercept Model, SIM, Mapping

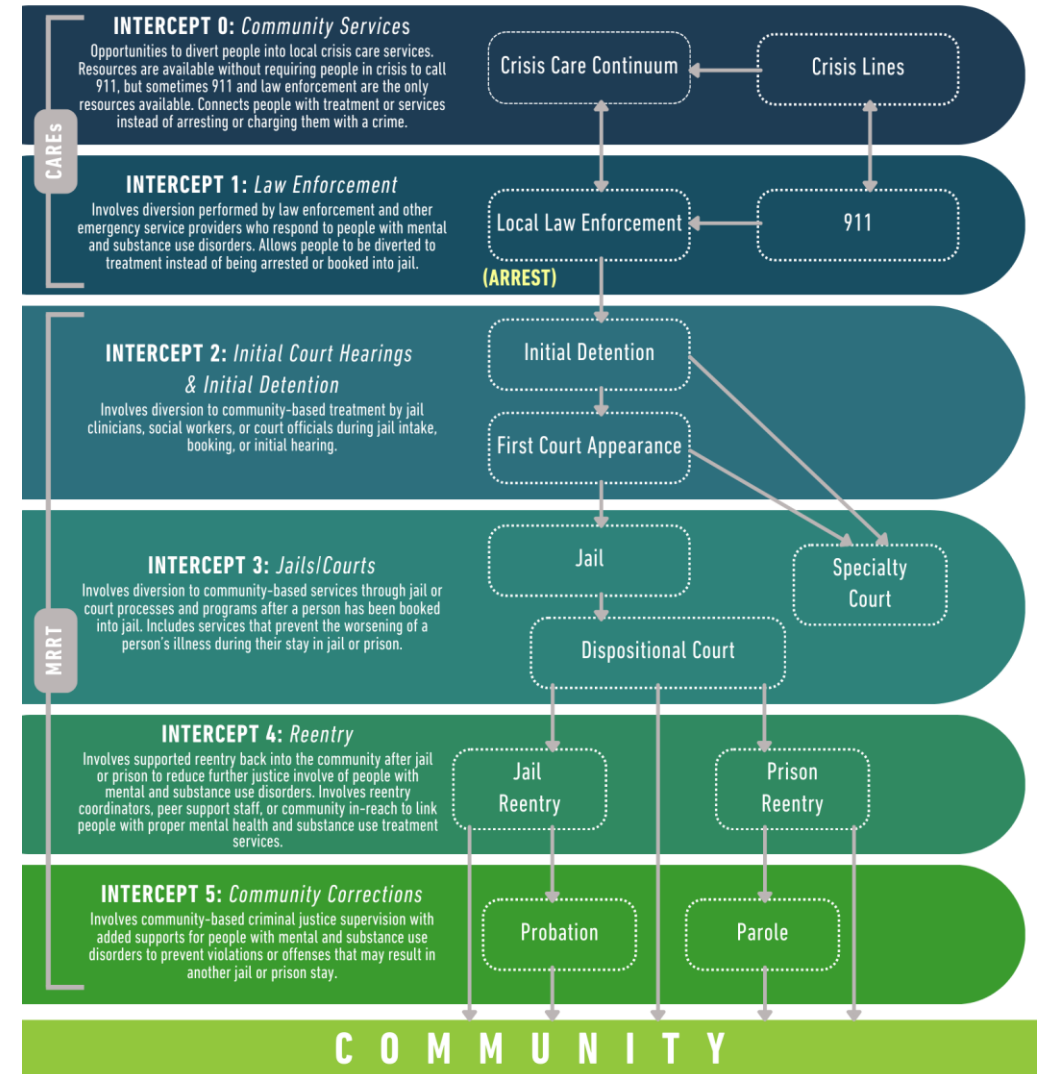
- The Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) details how individuals with mental and substance use disorders come into contact with and move through the criminal justice system.
- The SIM helps communities identify resources and gaps in services at each intercept and develop local strategic action plans.
- The SIM mapping process brings together leaders and different agencies and systems to work together to identify strategies to divert people with mental and substance use disorders away from the justice system into treatment.
- SIM mapping serves as a tool to **align public health and public safety efforts** through coordinated organizational strategies and informed local and state policy initiatives. Collaboration remains the key to saving lives and conserving resources while building a healthier, more resilient region.

The Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)



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Northern Kentucky's Public Health Approach for Better Public Safety

Police Social Workers, Police Navigators, and Law Enforcement Navigators

<i>Move folks from the criminal justice system to the healthcare system.</i>	<i>Provide Law Enforcement Officers with tools and resources to deflect more individuals to community-based services.</i>	<i>Enhance the quality of life for justice-involved individuals and families.</i>	<i>Remove barriers and break-down stigma.</i>	<i>Strengthen NKY's social infrastructure through collaboration.</i>	<i>Advocate for innovative public policy to improve community sector responses.</i>	<i>Improve community relations and support cultural shifts across systems.</i>
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Northern Kentucky Health Department Overdose Data Dashboard: ODMaP

<https://public.tableau.com/app/profile/nkyhealth/viz/OverdoseDataDashboardsuppressed/Public>



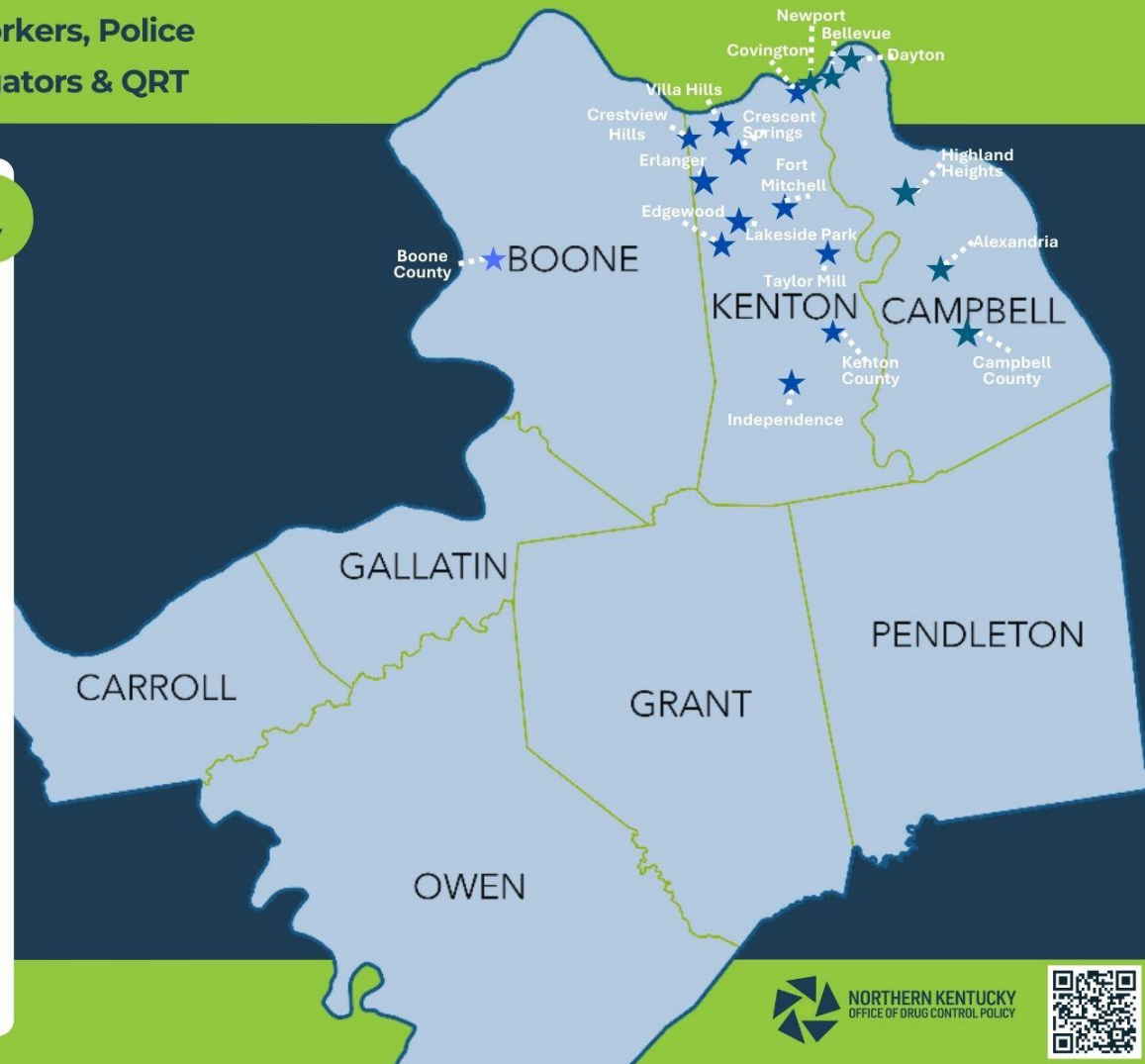
Diversion and Deflection: “Healthcare not Incarceration”

Northern Kentucky Police Social Workers, Police
Navigators, Law Enforcement Navigators & QRT

PUBLIC HEALTH + PUBLIC SAFETY = EFFECTIVE PUBLIC POLICY

17 Positions Regionally

Alexandria
Bellevue
Boone County (all)
Campbell County (unincorporated)
Covington
Crescent Springs
Crestview Hills
Dayton
Edgewood
Erlanger
Ft. Mitchell
Highland Heights
Independence
Kenton County (unincorporated)
Lakeside Park
Newport
Taylor Mill
Villa Hills



KYOAAC Project Objectives

The Why - Objectives

The Northern Kentucky Coordinating All Recovery Efforts, CAREs, Project Mission is to enhance and expand opportunities for health and recovery for persons with OUD and co-occurring disorders in Boone, Campbell, Grant, and Kenton Counties, especially for those at greatest risk for negative outcomes.

Goal 1

NKY Office of Drug Control Policy will create CAREs, a crisis intercept care coordination team with NKY Collaborative Community Partners to increase access to treatment and recovery supports through the “No Wrong Door” approach.

Goal 2

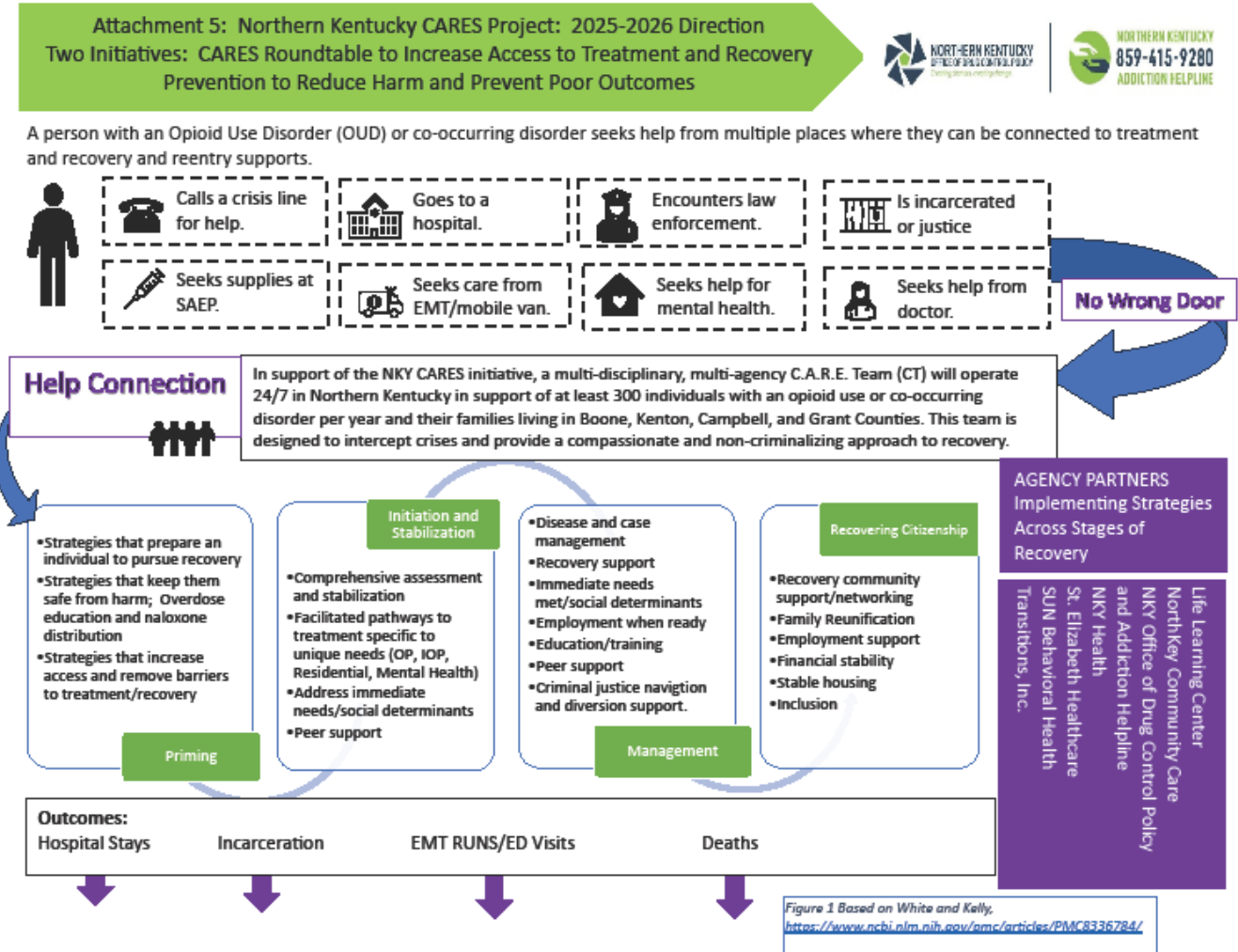
NKY Health Department (NKHD) will expand harm reduction services, increase peer support services, and overdose education and Naloxone distribution.

Goal 3

Life Learning Center (LLC) will expand pre-arrest and post-arrest diversion, recovery and reentry supports, and strengthen criminal justice integration response strategies to better serve justice-involved individuals and families.

Building Behavioral Health Infrastructure: Northern Kentucky CAREs: Coordinating All Recovery Efforts

- **Regional** treatment crisis and rapid reentry team care coordination and infrastructure initiative.
- Multisystem, multiagency partnership project aimed at **serving high system utilizers** across the crisis continuum.
- Standardized interagency intake and release of information, expedited appointments and weekly review of participants.
- **18 Positions:** Emergency Department Nurse Navigators, SUN Mobile Assessor, NorthKey Crisis Team Member, Transitions In-Take Specialist, Peer Support Specialists, LLC Reentry & Workforce Positions
- Utilizes creative funding streams including blending, braiding, and sequencing.

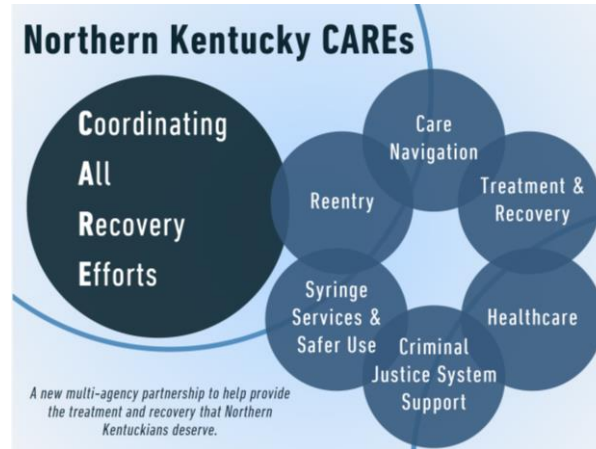


Roadmap to Recovery

The program follows a **“No Wrong Door”** approach, ensuring that Northern Kentuckians can access treatment and recovery services through a variety of entry points.

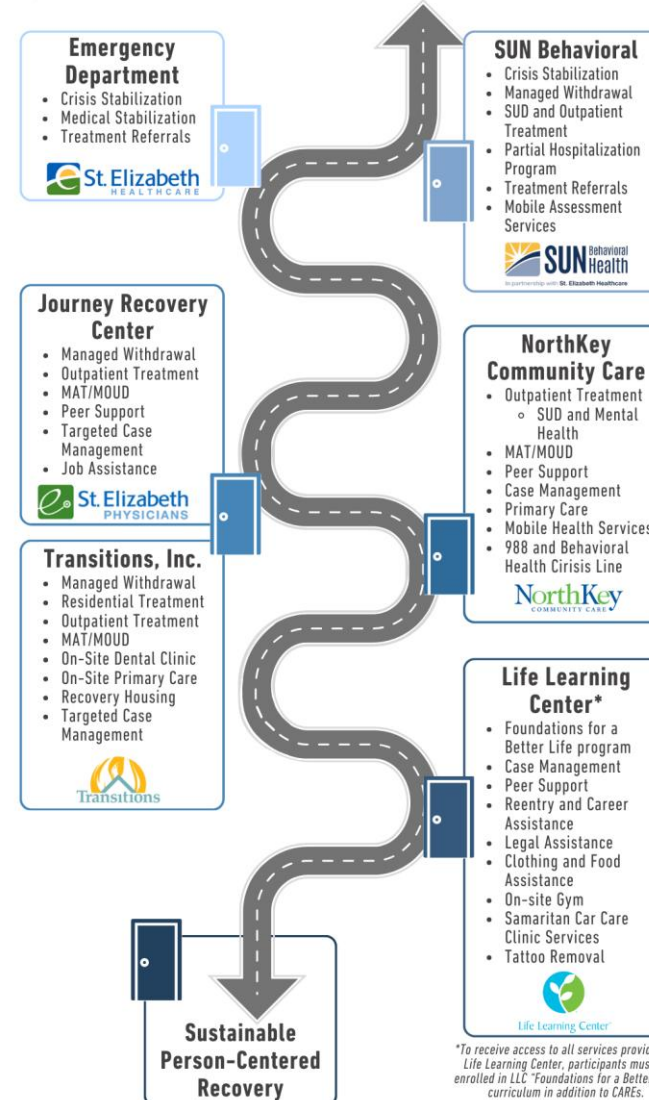
CAREs supports individuals across the full continuum of care from acute treatment to long-term recovery and self-sufficiency by fostering collaborative pathways that include emergent medical care, person-centered treatment modalities, preventive approaches that reduce risks associated with substance use, expanded deflection and diversion programs, legal assistance, transportation support, and reentry services.

The initiative also prioritizes **employment opportunities** for individuals with opioid use disorder (OUD), including those who are justice-involved, promoting sustained recovery, improved wellness, and lifelong disease management.



CAREs: Northern Kentucky's Road to Recovery

In NKY, there's no wrong path to recovery.



Pit Stops and Detours

Harm Reduction

- Harm Reduction and Safer Use
- Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution
- Interagency Referrals
- Peer support
- Connection to Public Health Services
 - Women's Health Services
 - Immunizations
 - WIC
 - Infectious Disease Testing
 - HIV and Hepatitis C linkage to care and Case Management
 - Oral Health
 - Smoking Cessation



NKY Addiction Helpline

- Transportation Assistance
- Treatment Navigation
- Recovery Housing Navigation
- Narcan Access
- Interagency Referrals
- Casey's Law Information
- Diversion and QRT
- General FAQ



To learn more about CAREs (Coordinating All Recovery Efforts), call the NKY Addiction Helpline at 859-415-9280, or scan the QR Code below.



The Doorway to Recovery:

Creating New Pathways, Formalizing Existing Pathways

The Who - *New Positions*

- **Life Learning Center**

- Care Coordinator
- Employment Coordinator
- Enrollment Coordinator
- Education Coordinator
- Peer Support Specialist
- Peer Support Specialist
- MRRT (Multidisciplinary Recovery Reentry Team) Coordinator

- **Northern Kentucky Health Department**

- Health Educator
- Peer Support Specialist

- **St. Elizabeth Healthcare and Physicians**

- Emergency Department Nurse Navigator
- Emergency Department Nurse Navigator
- Emergency Department Nurse Navigator
- Out-Patient Peer Support Specialist

- **NorthKey Community Care**

- Crisis Team Member

- **SUN Behavioral Health**

- Mobile Assessor

- **Transitions, Inc.**

- Registered Nurse
- Crisis Response Team (SUD Therapist)
- Intake Technician



May call a crisis line for help



May go to a hospital



May encounter law enforcement



May be incarcerated



May seek supplies at SAEP



May seek care from EMT/mobile



May be without food or shelter



May seek help from doctor

Local and State Opioid Abatement Funds

The Funding - Braided and Blended

Braided and blended funding represents a strategic policy approach that aligns federal, state, and local resources to strengthen the continuum of care for substance use disorders. By coordinating funding streams, policymakers can optimize resource allocation, reduce service duplication, address gaps in care, and support sustainable, community-based prevention, treatment, and recovery initiatives. This approach also promotes interagency collaboration and enhances the capacity of programs to respond effectively to evolving public health needs.

Kentucky's Opioid Abatement Funds are state-allocated resources derived from opioid settlement agreements. The funds are used to support programs and initiatives that prevent opioid misuse, expand treatment and recovery services, and reduce the impact of opioid-related harms across communities in Kentucky and are managed by the state's Attorney General's office.

Local Funds

Boone, Campbell, and Kenton Counties:
Expansion of police-led diversion and deflection programs. Additional funding will potentially be used to create positions to assist with diversion through pre-trial, alternative sentencing, probation, and parole throughout NKY.

State Funds

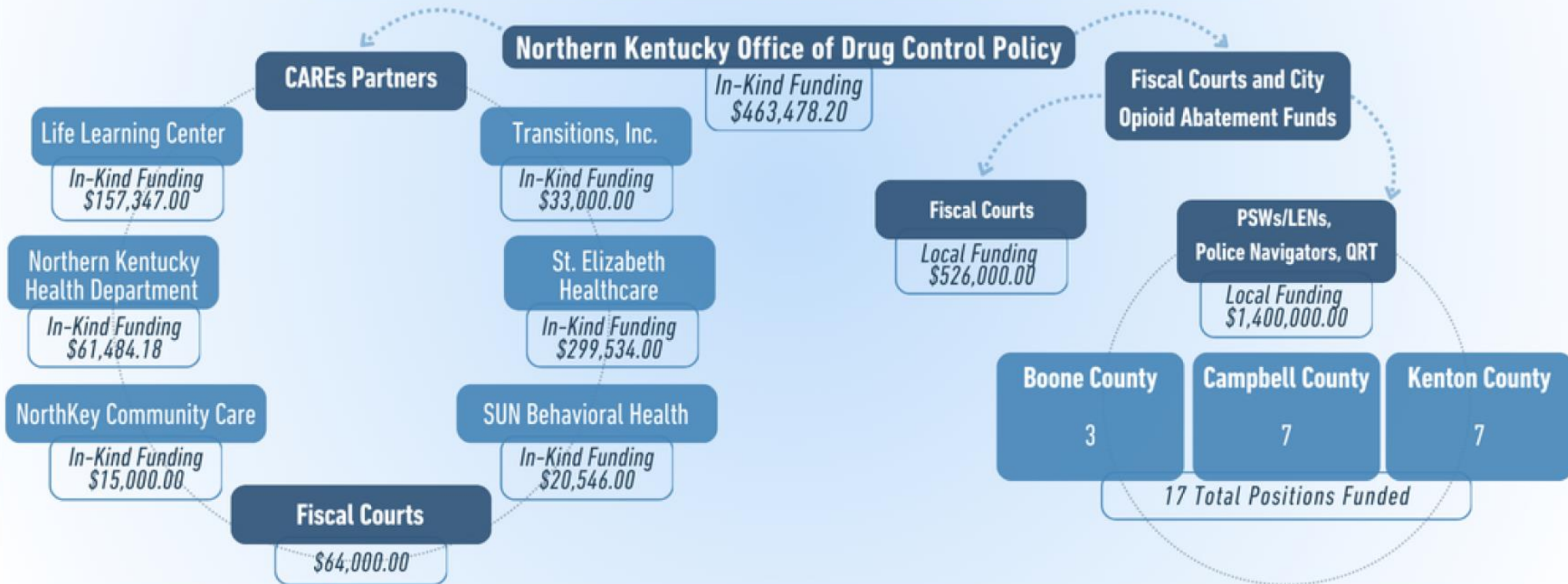
Formation of CAREs Team, a crisis intercept and rapid reentry team to enhance and expand opportunities for health and recovery for persons with OUD and co-occurring disorders in Boone, Campbell, Grant, and Kenton Counties, especially for those at greatest risk for negative outcomes.

Collective Impact: Collaboration is Key

NKY CAREs In-Kind Funding: Public Safety + Public Health + Public Policy

KYDAAC (Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission) Contributions: \$1,000,000

Total In-Kind, Local Abatement, and Municipality Contributions: \$4,040,389.38



Regionalism: Collaborative Investments

- *Saves lives and reduces recidivism, infectious disease, overdoses and death rates.*
- *Meets people where they are, providing person-centered, patient-directed healthcare.*
- *Strengthens the social infrastructure and SUD and behavioral health care continuum through community partnerships building a recovery-oriented system of care.*
- *Addresses multi-generational trauma, adverse childhood experiences, and social determinants of health that contribute to SUD and mental health issues.*
- *Eases tax-payer and multi-system burden by reducing service duplications, leveraging funding, and utilizing existing resources through an asset-mapping versus needs assessment approach.*



IN NORTHERN KENTUCKY,
THERE IS NO WRONG DOOR INTO
TREATMENT AND RECOVERY.

859-415-9280
Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline
Speak to trained, professional staff
24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Services Offered:

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Treatment placement assistance
- Casey's Law support
- Link to recovery and reentry services
- Diversion and Quick Response Team (QRT) support

We can overcome addiction together.

Facts about Addiction

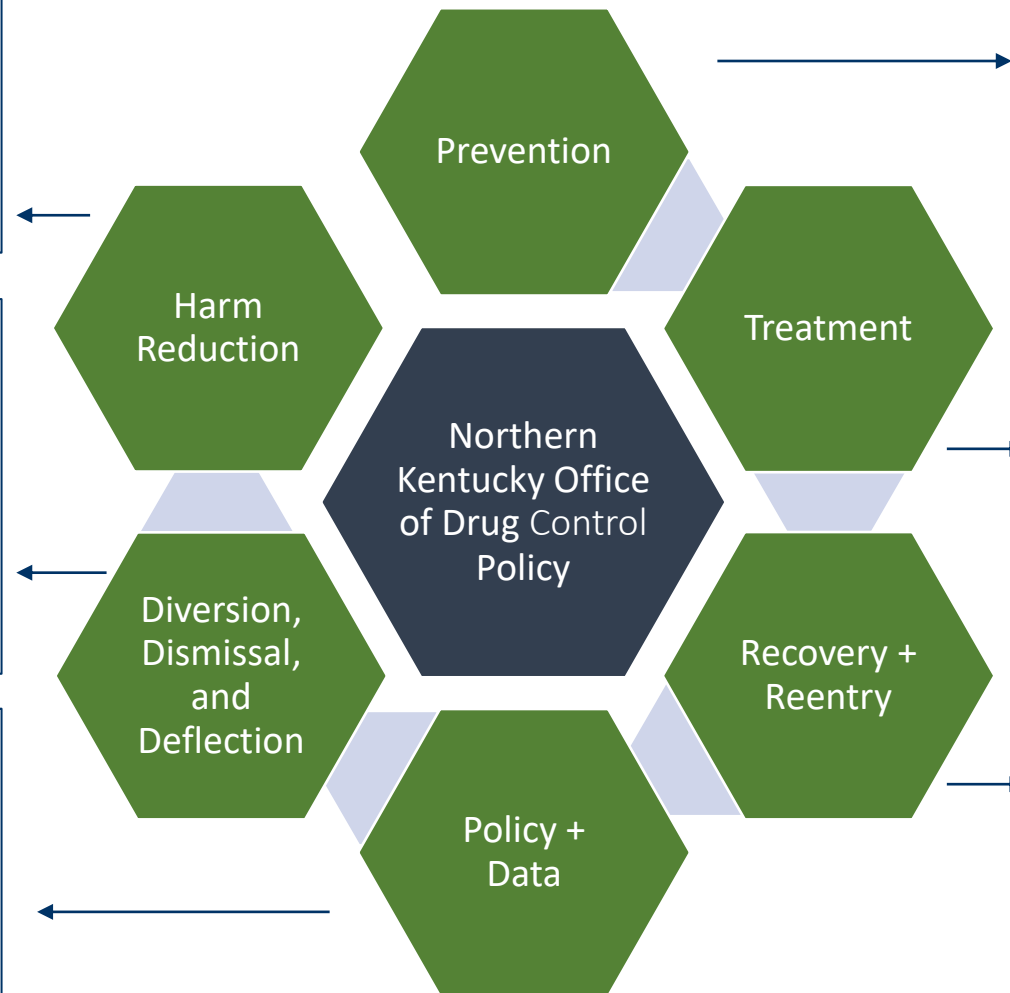
- ✦ Persons with substance use disorders come from all walks of life.
- ✦ Substance use changes the brain, which can make drug use compulsive.
- ✦ Addiction is a chronic disease that can be managed. Treatment works, people recover.
- ✦ Medication-assisted treatment, coupled with counseling, is the preferred treatment for heroin and other opioids.
- ✦ Many people struggling with substance use require longer-term and/or repeated treatment.
- ✦ Relapse is common and presents a learning opportunity.

Recovery-Oriented System of Care: Multi-Sector Collaboration and Overdose Prevention and Response

- Syringe Access Exchange Sites, SAEP
- Fentanyl Test Strips
- Naloxboxes and Harm Reduction Kiosks
- Regional Harm Reduction Hub
- Regional Naloxone Distribution Policies
- OD Map Overdose Surveillance System
- Integrated Peer Support & Case Management
- Collaborative Services for the Unsheltered
- Overdose Fatality Review Team

- Pre-Arrest Diversion: Quick Response Teams & Police Social Workers
- Crisis Intervention Team & Training, CIT
- Post-Arrest Diversion & Change Courts
- Heroin Expedited Addiction Recovery Treatment, HEART, Program, Rocket Docket & SB 90
- Multidisciplinary Reentry & Recovery Team, MRRT
- Criminal Justice Integration, Education and Training
- Safety-Net Alliance & Community-Based Services Routing and Deflection Utilization

- Organizational Policy, Local Government, State Legislation Policy Formation and Advisement
- Coordination of Capital Advocacy Days
- NKY Agency for Substance Abuse Policy Board & State ASAP
- Northern Kentucky University Training & Education
- KORE: KY Opioid Response Effort
- HEALing Communities Study
- Data Collection & Coordination
- Regional Data Dashboard & Capacity "Bed" Counts



NKYODCP Turns 10! – Key Initiatives and

2015 to 2025: NKYODCP's Ten-Year Impact on Northern Kentucky

- Kenton County implements QRT (Quick Response Teams) and JSAP (Jail Substance Abuse Program).
- St. Elizabeth Healthcare launches the Baby Steps Program to target pregnant women and new mothers battling addiction during pregnancy.
- NKY Health Department opens the first Syringe Access Exchange Program in Grant County.
- Kenton County establishes the Multi-Disciplinary Recovery & Reentry Team (MRRT) diversion initiative in May 2015.
- NKY Health Departments begins Naloxone distribution.

2015-2016

2015

- In July 2015, the fiscal courts of Boone, Campbell, & Kenton Counties establish the Northern Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy and appoint Kim Moser as founding Director.
- St. Elizabeth Physicians opens Journey Recovery Center (JRC) as the first outpatient treatment center providing medication for opioid use disorder.
- The Kenton County Commonwealth Attorney's Office establishes the HEART Program- the first of its kind offering an opportunity for treatment before sentencing.

- In February 2018, SUN Behavioral Health opens a 197 bed facility, in partnership with St. Elizabeth Healthcare, to provide a comprehensive dual diagnosis facility with 24/7 access to immediate care for detox and mental health stabilization.
- The NKYODCP, along with Interact for Health and Alexandria Police Department, creates and funds Kentucky's first multijurisdictional Police Social Worker.
- NKY Health Department opens Syringe Access Exchange Programs in both Kenton and Campbell counties.

2018

2017

- Transitions, Inc. receives a Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) grant from the State of Kentucky, Department of Behavioral Health (DBHDID) to create 20 transitional housing beds for pregnant and parenting women with Opioid Use Disorders and their children. The grant provides mental health therapy as well as peer and case management services to women in the program.
- NKY Health Department develops an Overdose Dashboard and Alert System.

2018-2019

- The NKYODCP Board of Directors appoints Amanda Peters as the new Director in July 2018 and expands the Board to encompass public health, public safety, and public policy.
- Transitions, Inc. opens the Residential Treatment Center (RTC), a 180 bed facility, in December 2018, and ends the wait for residential treatment beds in the region.
- The NKYODCP relaunches the Northern Kentucky Addiction Helpline in March 2019 to operate internally within the NKYODCP.
- NKYODCP initiates the Uber Health program to provide transportation to individuals needing rides to appointments supportive of treatment and recovery.

2020

2021

- NKY Health Department purchases a mobile unit to increase access to harm reduction services including HIV/Hep C testing, overdose education, and naloxone distribution.
- Partners develop and implement a second Regional SUD Plan, creating Treatment on Demand and establishing NKY's Reentry Hub with Life Learning Center.

- St. Elizabeth begins the first year of the Lift Up Program with grant funds from SAHMSA. The goal of the program is to enhance connectivity to workforce development services for people with SUD. This initiative will create infrastructure for collaboration with the NKY Workforce Investment Board, NKY Career Center (Brighton Center), Life Learning Center, St. Elizabeth Physicians JRC, and St. Elizabeth Healthcare.
- Transitions, Inc. becomes one of the first NARR certified Recovery Housing Providers in Northern Kentucky.

2022

2022-2023

- NKY Health Department's Mail Order Naloxone Program launches in June 2022, allowing for naloxone to be shipped free of charge to individuals in Boone, Kenton, Campbell or Grant counties through grant funding.
- NorthKey introduces the regional 988 Call Center for NKY - in conjunction with nationwide efforts to establish a suicide and crisis lifeline in July 2022.

- The NKYODCP Board of Directors authors a memo to Regional Treatment Providers in December 2022 identifying gaps in service delivery.
- NKY Health Department's Mail Order Naloxone Program expands to the entire state of Kentucky in December 2022, allowing statewide naloxone access to Kentuckians free of charge through grant funding.
- The NKY Health Department places the first of three "Wellness Kiosks" throughout Northern Kentucky in November 2023. These kiosks provide free access to naloxone, resources, HIV testing kits, fentanyl test strips, and more.

2023-2024

2024-2025

- Northern Kentucky receives the Recovery Ready Communities designation in September 2023, the first in the state to accomplish a regional recognition.
- The NKYODCP receives a \$1M award from the KYOAAAC (Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission) for the CAREs initiative in November 2023.
- The tri-county region of Boone, Campbell, & Kenton counties sees a 45% decrease in overdose deaths in 2024.
- Boone County launches the Boone Expedited Access to Recovery (BEAR) diversion program in August 2024.

- NKYODCP consults with cities on leveraging local abatement dollars to fund regional Police Social Worker initiatives across the three counties.
- In February 2025, the NKYODCP receives a second \$1M award from the KYOAAAC (Kentucky Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission) for continuation and expansion of the CAREs initiative.
- In March 2024, the Northern Kentucky Recovery Housing Consortium begins meeting monthly.

High Employment Rate Among People with SUDs

- In 2022, an estimated **46 million Americans aged 18+** had some form of SUD. Of them, about **30.1 million were employed** (i.e., ~ 65% of people with SUD were in the workforce). CDC
- One in 12 employees (~ 8.3%) is projected to have an **untreated SUD**. NORC
- Among employed adults, about **8.7%** have an active alcohol or illicit drug use disorder. ProQuest
- Only about **1.2%** of the workforce receives treatment for SUD annually. ProQuest
- About **8.5%** of workers report being in recovery or having recovered from a substance use problem. ProQuest
- Total with SUD: **48.4 million people aged 12 or older** had an SUD in 2024. SAMHSA



Recovery + Workforce Development = Improved Health and Economic Outcomes



- Because a large percentage of people with SUD or mental health diagnoses **are working**, this is not a fringe issue; it's integral to workforce wellbeing and productivity.
- Supporting behavioral health is not just a health intervention; it is an investment in **human capital** and **economic performance**.
- Addressing **access to care, workplace accommodations, stigma reduction, and behavioral health workforce capacity** are all necessary levers.
- The **gap in treatment** (many who need care do not receive it) suggests workplace-based or employer-sponsored interventions could play a role.
- Even modest increases in employment among people with behavioral health concerns translate into **substantial economic gains**.
- Workplace culture and policies (mental health benefits, high-quality leave, flexible scheduling, training for supervisors) can reduce dropout, reduce absenteeism, and help retention.
- Given projected shortages in behavioral health professionals, prevention, early intervention, peer support, and integrated care models may help “stretch” capacity.

Risks and Funding Challenges in Treatment and Recovery

- **Two key requirements for long-term recovery: employment and housing.**
- **Individuals often need a 12 months of treatment within the continuum of care: crisis stabilization, residential, Recovery Housing / Intensive Out-Patient (IOP). Out-Patient, After-care with targeted case management (TCM).**

1. *Medicaid cuts would be detrimental to folks seeking treatment.*
2. *Medicaid adjustments to incentive recovery and covering after-care and targeted case management are needed.*
3. *Medicare: Aging population and folks cannot receive the level of care that is needed to seek recovery.*
4. *Treatment Vouchers for SUD and mental health services including crisis stabilization within acute hospital setting, residential, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) including alcohol use disorder.*
5. *Casey's Law Assessment Vouchers*
6. *Transportation assistance to support meetings, ancillary services, pre-employment services, training programs, and employment.*
7. *Justice involved Individuals and families: deflection, diversion, monitoring programs, family reunification / supervision support services are needed.*
8. *Creation of a Recovery Housing Continuum of Care: "Sober Living" – 6-12 months, Transitional Housing (12 months), rental units, home ownership.*
9. *KATR: Kentucky Access to Recovery dollars are needed for recovery housing.*
10. *KATR Reform is suggested to assist individuals for the first 1-2 months, and unused funds are returned to potentially help again if needed and end predatory practices with recovery housing.*
11. *Stigma is the NUMBER 1 barrier to treatment.*
12. *Access to Narcan is essential.*

NKYODCP Staff

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Regional Resource Specialist: Julie Hellmann, Julie.Hellmann@NKADD.org

THANK YOU!



www.NKYODCP.org



**Northern Kentucky Addiction
Helpline (859) 415-9280**



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