## ARKANSAS RURAL OPIOID USE TEAM EDUCATION PROJECT

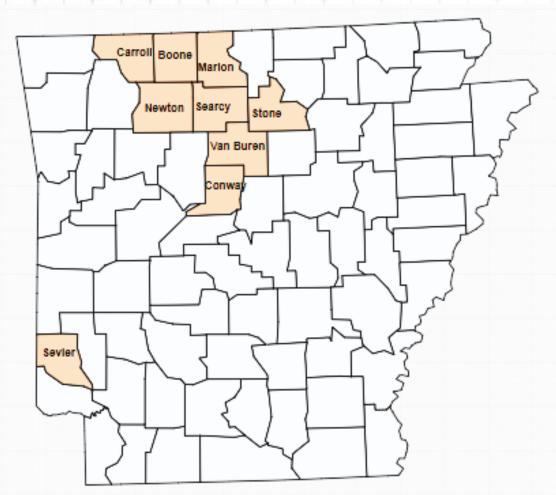
## LESSONS LEARNED DISCOVERING HARM REDUCTION TOGETHER

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## A-ROUTE STARTING CONSORTIUM AND TARGET AREA



#### **Starting Consortium**

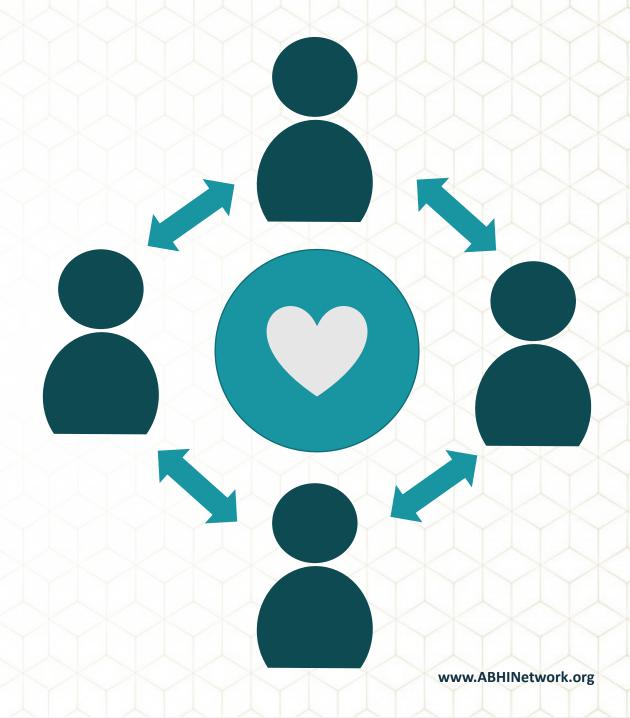
- Arkansas Behavioral Health Integration Network
- Lofton Family Clinic
- Boston Mountain Rural Health Centers
- North Hills Family Clinics



## WHAT DOES HARM REDUCTION MEAN TO YOU?



#### HOW WE HAVE APPROACHED HARM REDUCTION

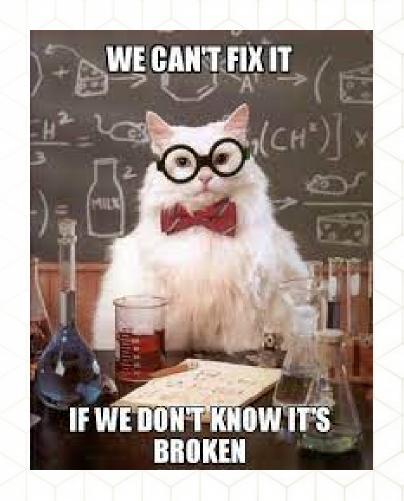




## HARM REDUCTION PROGRESS: FROM ZERO TO WELL ABOVE ZERO IN A YEAR

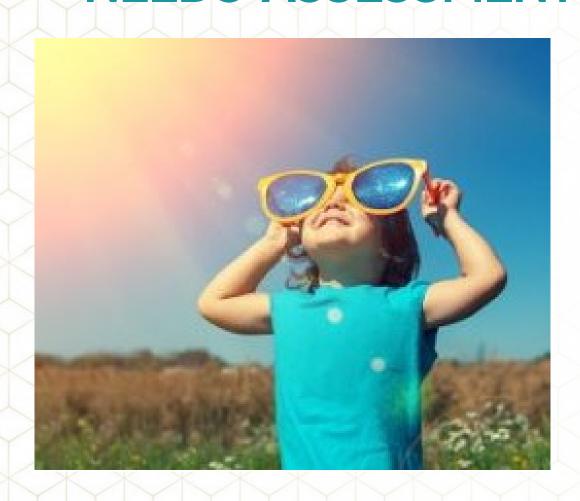
#### First Consortium Meeting

- What problem??
- "I don't even prescribe opioids, so what can I do beyond that?"
- "We only have one person in our MAT program."





## BREAKING THROUGH WITH A DETAILED NEEDS ASSESSMENT



**QUALITATIVE** DATA **HELPED CONSORTIUM MEMBERS SEE THINGS** IN A NEW LIGHT



## INTERVIEWS SURVEYS FOCUS GROUPS

- PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS
- PEOPLE IN RECOVERY
- FAMILY MEMBERS
- SOCIAL SERVICE PROVIDERS
- TREATMENT PROVIDERS
- PEER RECOVERY SUPPORT SPECIALISTS
- PREVENTION PROVIDERS
- EMT AND FIRST RESPONDERS
- HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
- PRIMARY CARE TEAMS



#### FOR EXAMPLE:

The STIGMA is pervasive and everywhere

"MAT doesn't really help clients. I have seen people who are on methadone for 11-12 years, and I think 'why are you even coming to see me."

- Substance Use Counselor



#### FOR EXAMPLE:

Extremely VULNERABLE POPULATIONS with few if any resources

"When they get out of jail, I usually tell them they would be better off just moving out of the county."

- Parole Officer



#### **NEEDS ASSESSMENT HELPED OUR** CONSORTIUM STRATEGICALLY EXPAND AND **DEEPENED CONSORTIUM MEMBERS' ENGAGMENT AND INTEREST** IN HARM REDUCTION



#### LESSONS LEARNED





### **CLINICS ARE NOW** MAKING STEPS TO **IMPROVE HARM** REDUCTION SERVICES AND BROADENING HORIZONS!!





# EDUCATION TO REDUCE STIGMA AMONG PCPS IS HARM REDUCTION





#### **CONNECTIONS WITH STATE AGENCIES HELP**

#### Office of the State Drug Director

- Connected with Drug Director during Needs Assessment
- Drug director included us in an email and asked that we share information about the naloxone co-prescribing bill when it was being debated by the legislature.
- State legislature approved naloxone co-prescribing law
- · We educated our clinics on it
- Drug Director is now part of the consortium



#### CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNITY ORGS HELP

#### **Arkansas Peers Achieving Recovery Together**

- Connected with Peer Recovery Support Specialists during Needs Assessment
- Brought in a PRSS to educate clinics
- Clinics now looking into ways PRSS can be shared regionally – clinics, law enforcement, hospitals, etc.
- Peer Recovery Specialist professional organization is now part of the consortium and helping us craft implementation activities



#### CONNECTIONS WITH COMMUNITY ORGS HELP

#### Speak Up About Drugs

- Connected with Speak Up About Drugs during needs assessment
- Brought Speak Up About Drugs in to speak at a consortium meeting
- Common interests in outdoor activities as harm reduction led SUAD and Dr. Lofton to collaborate on Ride For Recovery project
- Speak Up About Drugs is now part of the consortium



## MOVING FORWARD WITH MOMENTUM: MULTI-SECTOR CONSORTIUM

- OFFICE OF THE STATE DRUG DIRECTOR
- CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE
- CROWLEY'S RIDGE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
- SPEAK UP ABOUT DRUGS
- NORTH ARKANSAS PARTNERSHIP FOR HEALTH EDUCATION

- ABHIN
- ARKANSAS PEERS ACHIEVING RECOVERY TOGETHER
- LOFTON FAMILY CLINIC
- ACCESS MEDICAL CLINIC
- DR. ANDY'S FAMILY CLINIC
- BOSTON MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HEALTH CENTER



## THANK YOU FOR THE INCREDIBLE RESOURCES AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES **HRSA** JBS INTERNATIONAL, INC!

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