

Executive Directive – Opioid Epidemic

Goals and Long-Term Objectives

Goal: Reduce current and future abuse and misuse of opioids including fentanyl, and similar drugs.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- By the end of 2025, improve prevention and education efforts in all county school districts.
- By the end of 2025, reduce opioid overdose deaths by reviewing opioid overdose fatalities and investigating near fatalities to identify new potential prevention approaches.
- By the end of 2027, work with providers and health care organizations to assess and adjust prescribing and pain management practices.

Goal: Reduce negative health outcomes, including death, by expanding available resources for individuals who misuse or abuse drugs.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- By the end of the State legislative session in 2024, successfully advocate for changes to Ricky's Law that improve access to treatment by addressing definitions of "grave disability" and "involuntary detention".
- By the end of 2024, increase resilience, collaboration, and efficacy of community partners who serve people suffering from opioid use disorder and increase direct services for overdose and death prevention for people suffering from opioid use disorder.
- By the end of 2025, implement EMS-initiated buprenorphine treatment in EMS agencies in Snohomish County.
- By the end of 2027, reduce deaths from opioid overdose through increasing the distribution and administration of naloxone.

Goal: Pursue expansion of resources and continuity of care for individuals and families affected by drug misuse.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- By the end of 2025, explore legislative and programmatic options to address the continuum of recovery housing needs.
- By the end of 2026, begin increasing the number of Secure Withdrawal Management and Stabilization beds (secured detox) within Snohomish County.
- By the end of 2026, explore expanded transportation service or mobile service delivery to assist Snohomish County residents in accessing services.
- By the end of 2027, increase direct services for overdose and death prevention in people suffering from opioid use disorder.

Goal: Reduce and address damage and impacts of drug misuse on communities, residents, businesses, and visitors of Snohomish County.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- By the end of 2024, work collaboratively to create a template based on best practices on how best to address encampments and RV homelessness.

Goal: Provide information about the drug use crisis to the public and our partners in a timely and coordinated manner.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- By the end of 2024, incorporate qualitative methods (*i.e.*, lived experience) into our data gathering and analysis efforts.
- By the end of 2026, reduce stigma around people suffering from opioid use disorder.

Goal: Use data to detect, evaluate, monitor, and act.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- Continually monitor emerging practices and incorporate/support promising initiatives.

Goal: Create a comprehensive strategy to identify a sustainable model for ongoing collaboration.

Proposed Long-Term Objectives:

- By the end of 2024, determine the appropriate organization to host the long-term work.
- Continually develop further opportunities for partnership and collaboration with jurisdictions and organizations throughout the region.