

# RESPONSE TO OPIOID CRISIS

Overview of the Executive's Updated Directive and Approved Spend Plan

# HISTORY OF MULTIAGENCY COORDINATION

- Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 2017 - Joint Resolution 17-040 declares an opioids an epidemic in Snohomish County.
- Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> 2017, Snohomish County Emergency Management partially activates its Emergency Operations Center per executive order.
  - Various county departments and agencies
  - Focused on seven goals and SMART objectives
  - Established meeting cadence to maintain a coordinated approach
- March 2020 – Reprioritization of pandemic response.



**SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL  
SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXECUTIVE  
SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF  
SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH  
Snohomish County, Washington**

## **JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 17-040**

***A JOINT RESOLUTION AFFIRMING THE SNOHOMISH COUNTY EXECUTIVE, SNOHOMISH COUNTY COUNCIL, SNOHOMISH COUNTY SHERIFF, AND SNOHOMISH HEALTH DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH'S COMMITMENT TO ENDING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY***

*WHEREAS, Snohomish County is in the midst of a heroin and opioid epidemic; and*

*WHEREAS, substance use disorder is a condition in which the use of one or more substances leads to clinically significant impairment or distress; and*

*WHEREAS, substance use disorder impacts individuals, families, and communities of all races, religions, countries or origin, economic statuses, and social classes; and*

*WHEREAS, from 2012-2016, Snohomish County experienced 14.5% of all opioid-related deaths in Washington State and had the fourth highest rate of deaths per 100,000 population during that period; and*

*WHEREAS, during a seven-day survey period in July 2017, lead agencies throughout Snohomish County partnered to collect data and during that time, 37 overdoses were reported that appeared to involve opioids and three of the overdoses were fatal; and*

*WHEREAS, multiple agencies and governments in Snohomish County have partnered to form the Opioid Response Multi-agency Coordination (MAC) Group; and*

*WHEREAS, the members of the Opioid Response MAC Group are committed to increasing collaboration and creating a multiagency plan to reduce the negative impacts opioids have to life, safety, quality of life, and health on our community; and*

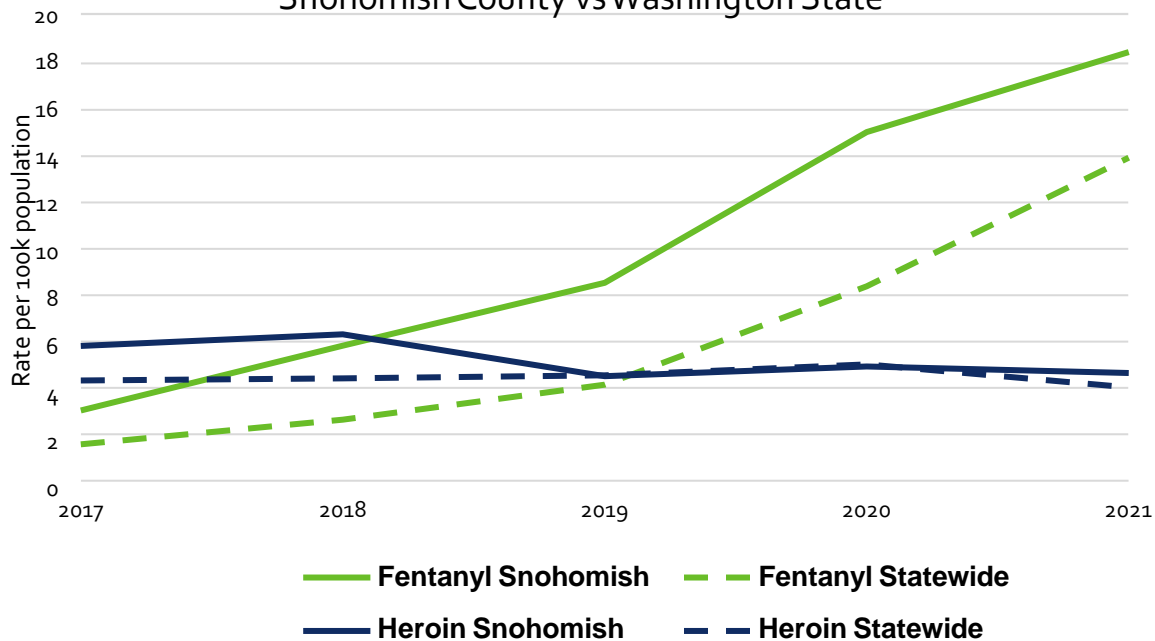
*WHEREAS, Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers has directed the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management to activate the Snohomish County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and partially activate the Emergency Coordination Center to support this effort;*

# ORIGINAL GOALS

- Reduce opioid misuse and abuse;
- Lessen the availability of opioids;
- Reduce criminal activity associated with opioids;
- Use data to detect, monitor, evaluate, and act;
- Reduce collateral damage to the communities;
- Provide information about the response in a timely and coordinated manner; and
- Ensure the availability of resources that efficiently and effectively support response efforts.

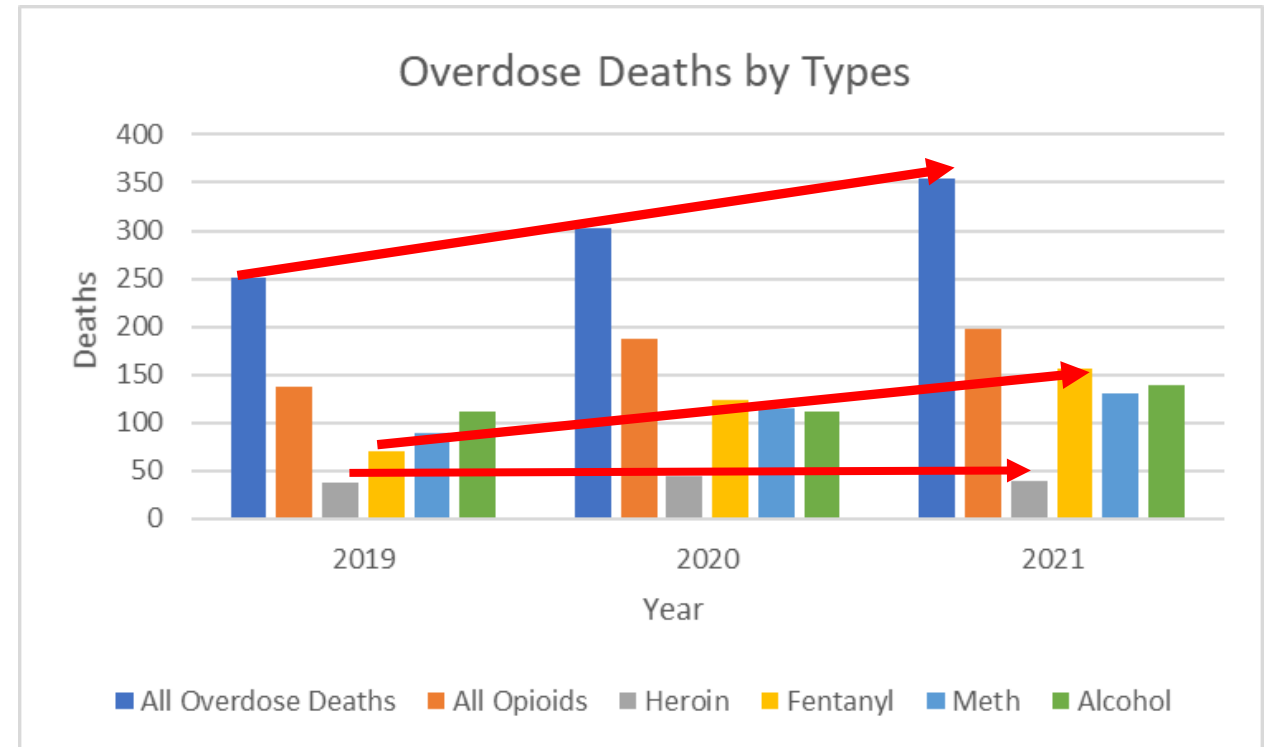
# What Changed– Prevalence of Fentanyl

**Fatal Overdoses by Drug of Attribution**  
Snohomish County vs Washington State



Source: Washington State Death Certificate Data.

**Overdose Deaths by Types**

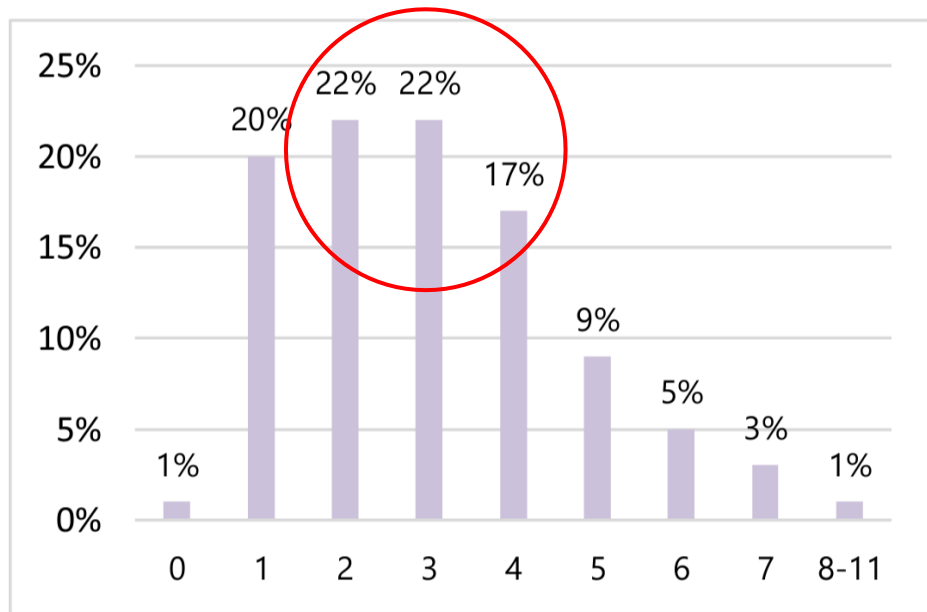


Source: Snohomish County Medical Examiners EDAP Dashboard

2022

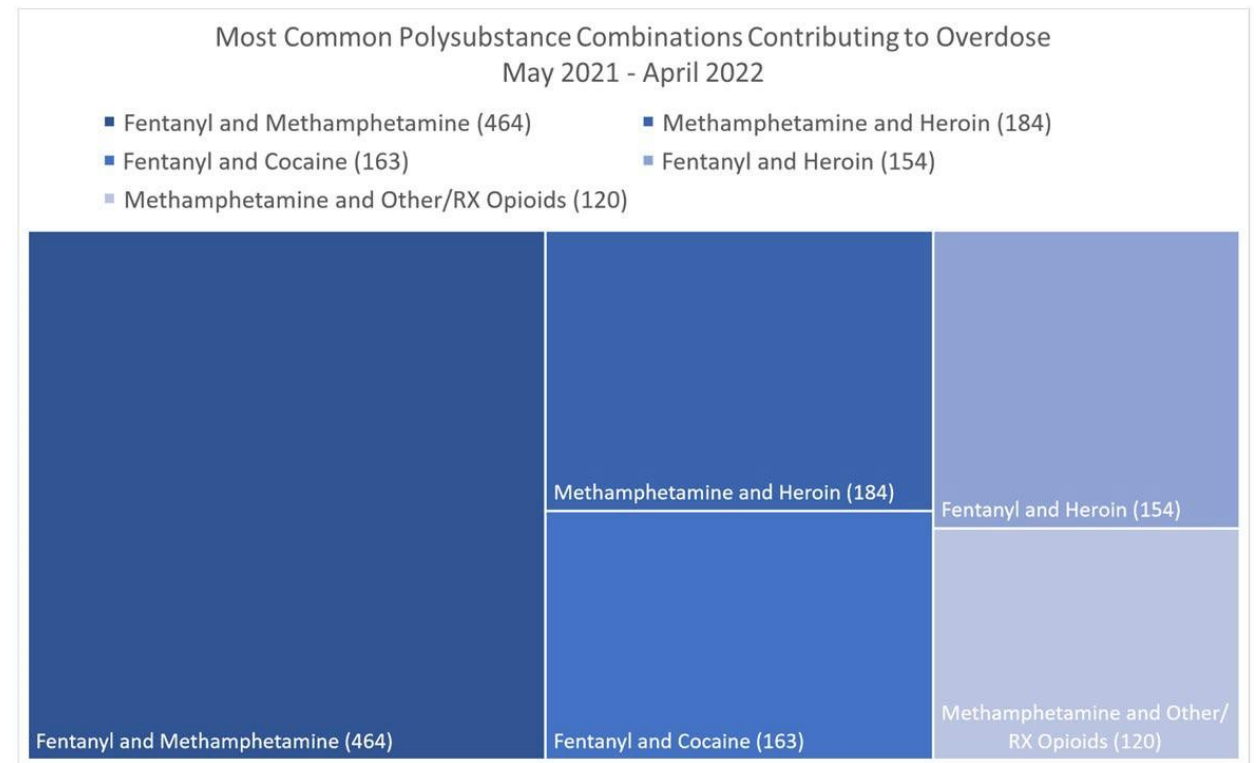
- At 284 total fatal overdoses – opioids as well as other drugs.
  - We lost more than five people per week on average in 2022
- In 2022, 11,700 patients at Providence Regional Medical Center Everett were experiencing substance use disorder.
  - That's a greater than the population of the City of Snohomish.
- Like the population of Snohomish County overall, the largest demographic who experience a fatal or non-fatal opioid overdose are non-Hispanic white.
  - Data shows that Native American and Black communities are disproportionately impacted by overdoses.
- ○ A positive change in recent years is the increased availability and use of naloxone, a nasal spray that reverses opioid overdose.
  - In 2022, local emergency departments reported 77 percent of overdose patients had received naloxone treatment prior to arriving at the hospital, up from 64 percent in 2020.

# What Changed – Increased Polysubstance Use



*Number of substances used in the past week* *n=955*

Results from the 2021 WA State Syringe Service Program Health Survey



Source: WA State Drug Overdose Surveillance Network Bulletin

# NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTIVE – MAY 18, 2023

- Within 30 days of receipt of this directive, provide a revised list of goals to the Disaster Policy Group for approval.
- Based on the approved list of goals, prioritize immediate short-term objectives and strategies that reduce the number of drug-related deaths and mitigate the impacts to property and public safety in the county. These shall be briefed to the Disaster Policy Group within 90 days.
- Based on the approved list of goals, develop and coordinate mid- to long-term objectives and strategies that reduce the number of individuals suffering from substance use disorder. These shall be briefed to the Disaster Policy Group within 180 days

# OPIOID ABATEMENT AND SPEND PLAN

- Snohomish County is part of an “Allocation Region” that includes Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Whatcom Counties.
- Snohomish County and qualifying cities (cities with a population over 10,000) will receive approximately \$24 million over the next 16 years as a result of the statewide settlement with several pharmaceutical distributors.
- The County’s portion of the settlement proceeds is around \$14 million; the remaining \$10 million is allocated to the qualifying cities based upon the national formula set out in the One Washington Agreement.
- First payment received in December of 2022.
- There is the potential for additional funds as other pharmaceutical defendants resolve pending lawsuits.



# INPUT TO THE PROPOSED PLAN

- Multiple dates, Fall of 2022 – Meetings with the Prosecuting Attorney
- November 30, 2022 – Meeting with Mayors and Tribal Leaders
- January 3, 2023 – Meeting with City of Marysville
- January 4, 2023 – Meeting with City of Everett
- January 6, 2023 – Meeting with City of Monroe
- January 10, 2023 – Meeting with City of Mukilteo
- January 31, 2023 – MAC-Group General Meeting
- February 22, 2023 – Meeting with the City of Mill Creek
- March 28, 2023 – MAC-Group General Meeting

# PHASE I

- Focus on support to existing programs and supporting community organizations
  - Program manager at DEM to support the coordination of the MAC Group
  - Epidemiologist for the Health Department to improve data quality
  - Support the 1<sup>st</sup> Responder Leave Behind Program
  - Add an additional data source to the MAC Group
  - Community support
  - Community impacts

# PHASE II – PROOF OF CONCEPT

- Primary prevention educator to provide school-based educational opportunities
- Mobile medications for opioid use disorder
  - Create a mobile resource that can provide medication assisted treatment and/or counseling closer to those in need

## WHAT'S NEXT?

- Reviewing RCW and working with Fire/EMS and the Health Department to ensure the proper mechanism exists to allow them to leave behind Narcan/Naloxone.
- Adding an epidemiologist through the 2024 budget process.
- Discussing mobile OTP with other jurisdictions and agencies already employing this.
- Beginning to negotiate contract for additional data.
- Looking to model the current Office of Social Justice community sponsorship program.



QUESTIONS