Drug policies and Rural Children

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Scope

8.1 million children (17 and younger) live in households one parents with SUD

623,000 parents with OUD live with children

Opioid related mortality is highest among 24-44, parents of young children

2019 – 35% rise in opioid related overdose death (70630)

In 2019, self-reported data shown that 7% of women reported using prescription opioids during pregnancy

Opioid use disorder has gone up more than 4X among pregnant women

Approximately every 19 minutes one baby is born with neonatal abstinence syndrome or almost 80 newborns diagnosed every day
Population

- Substance-Exposed Infants
- Drug Endangered Children
- Pregnant Women in opioid addition
- Parents with opioid addiction
- ACE
Rural Community Opioid Response Program

Southern Illinois
RCORP Planning Grant
RCORP Implementation Grant
Healthy Tomorrows
Rural Health Network Grant
Consortium

- Federally Qualified Health Center
- Community Mental Health Providers
- Community Substance Use Providers
- Child Protective Services
- Maternal and Child Health Providers
- Pediatric Primary Care
- Law Enforcement
Policies

- Comprehensive Addiction Recovery Act 2016
- Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act 1974
- American Rescue Plan 2022
American Rescue Act 2022

- Expanding access
- Advancing racial equity
- Enhancing evidence-based harm reduction efforts
- Supporting evidence-based prevention efforts
- Reducing supply of illicit substances
- Advancing recovery ready workplaces and expanding the addiction workforce
- Expanding access to recovery support services
Focus

● Downstream issues
  ○ Limited Supply
  ○ Increasing access
  ○ Overdose
  ○ Child removals

● Focus
  ○ Persons in addiction and recovery

● Out of focus
  ○ Ripple effect families and children

● Making policies to fund “put out the fire” interventions
Parents with polysubstance addiction

- Systems aimed at single men
- Parental roles
- Family support
- Health system shortcoming and misalignments
- Additional stigma
- Leaving out early childhood and education settings
- Trauma-informed approaches
- Stigma Harm Reduction Interventions
- Non-homogeneity of parents who use drugs
- Time frame child reunification
- Ease of use and Medicaid dependence
Social Determinants of rural parental addiction

- Lack of family preservation and family support
- Workforce shortage long waiting list
- Economic recovery
- Decline and poor infrastructure
- Lack of knowledge
- In some communities receiving medication addition treatment automatically voids parental custody rights
The enigma of systems of care

- System coordination
- Consortium
- System linkage
- HIPPAA fears
- Too much focus on Deep End Systems
- Too less focus on Mainstream Systems
The Fentanyl Question

- Additional Risk
- Time to hit rock bottom philosophy
- Law enforcement and Drug Policy differ in philosophy
- Fentanyl testing kits
- Fentanyl awareness
Family Proofing Parental Drug Policy

- Environmental impact assessment
- Social and Equality Impact Assessment
- Family Impact Assessment
- Family Proofing
- Need focus change
- Family issues are explicit and constructs are quantifiable
Thank you

- Questions?