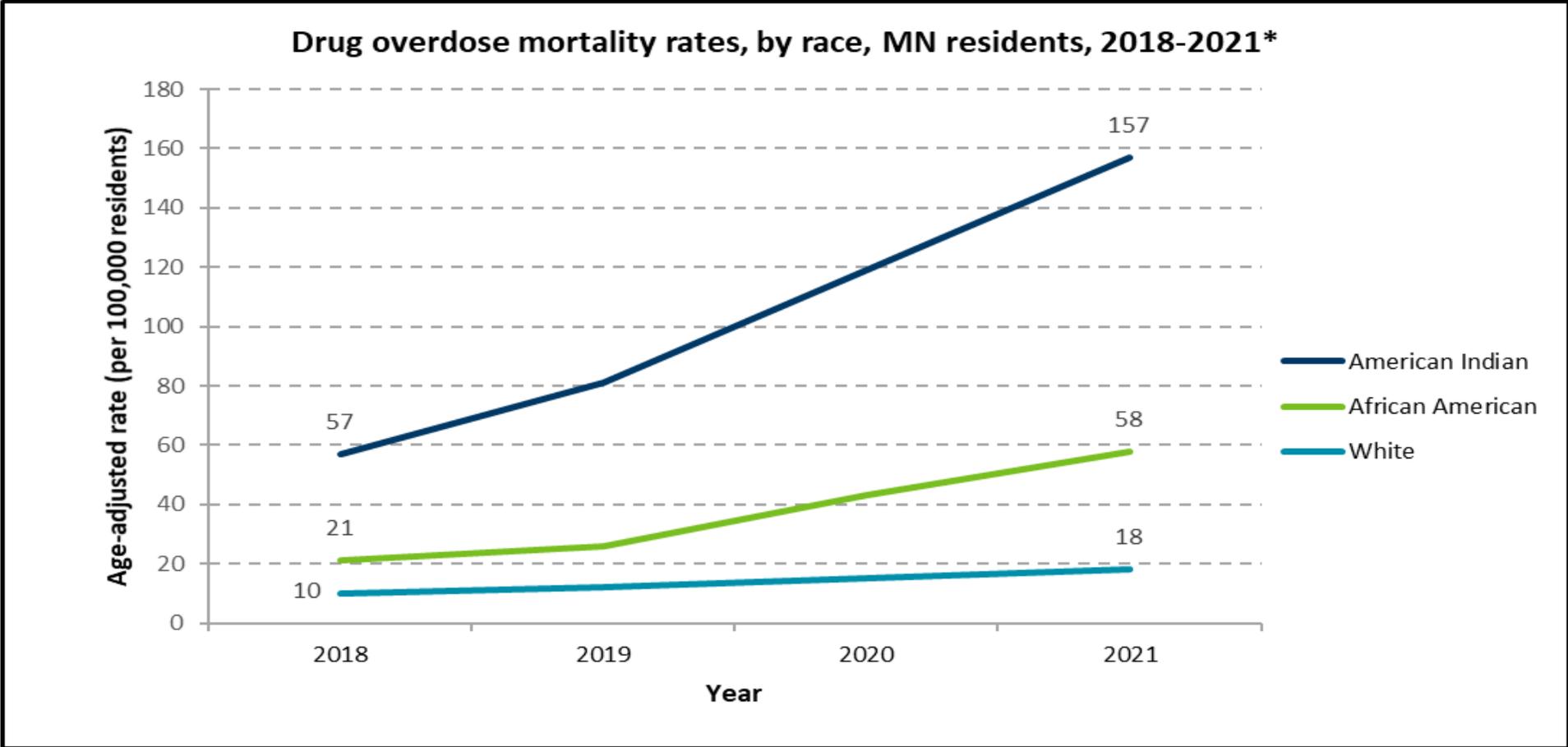




House Human Services Policy Committee Addressing the Opioid Epidemic | DHS Governor's Proposals

Kristy Graume | Legislative Director, Behavioral Health, Housing, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, & Disability Services

Minnesota: worst opioid overdose disparities in the NATION



SOURCE: Minnesota death certificates, Injury and Violence Prevention Section, Minnesota Department of Health, 2018-2021

*NOTE: 2021 data are preliminary and likely to change when finalized.

Continuum of Care & Policy Interventions



Prevention: improve outcomes and prevent addiction for children, youth, and families

- Increase funding for School-Linked Behavioral Health (SLBH) grants
- Establish a public awareness campaign to prevent misuse and abuse
- Reduce barriers for family SUD treatment options



Reduce Harm: Leverage evidence-based harm reduction strategies by increasing access to life-saving care

- Withdrawal management start-up & capacity-building funding
- Overdose prevention grants into ongoing, base funding
- Establish funding for a new project ECHO hub focused on supporting high quality care in OTPs

Connect to Care: improve access to high-quality and culturally-specific treatment services

- Allow hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), and Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) to provide comprehensive assessments without a treatment program license.
- Ongoing base funding for an online platform (such as “FastTracker”) to expand capability and sustainability, ensuring people and families can find program openings across the service continuum.
- 1115 study for Medical Assistance behavioral health services in jails/prisons

Connect to Care: Quality

- Integrate ASAM standard of care levels, referral agreement, evidence-based practices, and outreach plans for all MA SUD treatment programs
 - Remove residential hourly requirements (high, medium, low intensity)
 - Simplify assessments to better address holistic, individualized needs
 - Remove required components from individual treatment plan and enhance person-centered and culturally responsive planning
 - Modify treatment plan review frequency



Connect to Care: Culturally Specific & Responsive Services

- Increase Cultural and Ethnic Minority Infrastructure Grants (CEMIG) & Provider Supervision grants
- 1115 study for MA traditional healing
- Modify membership for the Opiate Epidemic Response Advisory Council (OERAC) to ensure Tribal Nations, urban American Indian/Indigenous populations, and African American/Black communities are better represented.
- OERAC grant making requirements that dedicate resources to disproportionately impacted communities- minimum of 50% for culturally-specific or culturally responsive programs
- Add Traditional Healing into ongoing, base funding

Recovery Supports

- Codify best practices for Recovery Community Organizations (RCOs)
- Expand MA vendor eligibility for peer recovery services to counties.
- Integrate standards, training, and testing for SUD recovery peers and mental health peers to relieve workforce pressures and increase access.
- Increase funding for recovery, mental health, and family peer training
- Extend ongoing base funding for RCO grants
- Establish culturally-specific RCO start-up and capacity building grants.



Evaluation & addressing social determinants of health

- Data & evaluation team
- Opioid Treatment Program outcome tracking
- Deep poverty- increases General Assistance (GA) and removes mandatory drug testing for people with felonies
- Housing Stabilization Services inflationary updates
- Housing Support countable income modifications
- Housing Support presumptive eligibility for people existing correctional facilities
- Expand eligibility for Housing with Support for Adults with Serious Mental Illness (HSASMI) and the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) Grants to include people with SUDs and increase funding.

Governor's Budget Recommendations

[DHS opioid and related budget proposals](#)

- Addressing Deep Poverty– Page 45
- Improving Access to Behavioral Health Services– page 268
- Improving Quality of SUD Treatment & Alleviating Administrative Burdens– page 298
- Addressing the Opioid Epidemic– page 285
- Reforming Behavioral Health Peer Support Benefits– page 312
- Sober Housing Program Regulation and Consumer Protections– page 321
- Medical Assistance Substance Use Disorder Continuum– page 325
- Advancing Independence & Housing Stability– page 333
- Strengthening Adult Income Supports– page 338
- Reducing Recidivism through Evidence -Based Community Housing Interventions– page 343

Thank You!