

UPDATE ON OPIOID RESPONSE

Substance Abuse Advisory Council

Columbia/Boone County Department of
Public Health and
Human Services

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Health Educator

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Opioid Crisis-How did we get here?



1970's & 1980's

NEW PAIN KILLERS COME ON THE MARKET

Percocet (oxycodone and acetaminophen)

Vicodin (hydrocodone and acetaminophen)

Both are short-acting pain relievers

1980s: OPIOIDS DEEMED “SAFE”

Two events indicate that opioids are safe to prescribe for chronic pain and not addictive.

- One is a letter, “Addiction Rare in Patients Treated with Narcotics,” published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* in 1980.
- Another is a study, “Chronic Use of Opioid Analgesics in Non-Malignant Pain: Report of 38 Cases,” published in 1986 in *Pain*.

Both stated: “MORE RESEACH NEEDED.”

1990's & 2000's

1996: OXYCONTIN DEBUTS

- OxyContin, a long-acting painkiller, hits the market.
- In an aggressive marketing campaign, the drug's manufacturer claims OxyContin is less addictive than its short-acting cousins, Percocet and Vicodin.

2016

Dramatic spike in substance use disorders related to prescription painkillers led to:

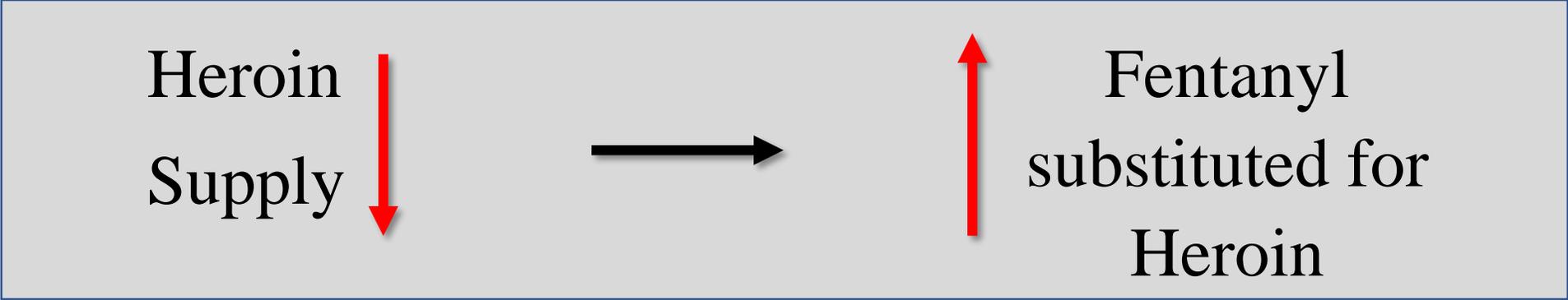
- Guidelines for prescribing opioids tightened
- Limited accessibility to opioids
- Those dependent on prescription opioids – begin turning to heroin

At the Same Time

Overdose deaths from synthetic opioids, like **fentanyl**, also increase.

Fentanyl is 50x stronger than heroin and 100x stronger than morphine.

Heroin dealers now turn to Fentanyl to solve supply issues.



Lethal dose of fentanyl ~10-15 grains of salt
(the weight of **ONE** snowflake)



Statistics – Opioid Overdose Deaths

Nationally:

Jan-Dec 2018 – 47,096

Jan-Dec 2019 – 50,178

Jan-Dec 2020 – 69,061

Missouri:

Jan-Dec 2018 – 1,153

Jan-Dec 2019 – 1,105

Jan-Dec 2020 – 1,411

Source:

CDC [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention]. (2021). *National Center for Health Statistics: 12 Month-ending provisional number of drug overdose deaths*. Retrieved on May 10, 2022 from <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>.

Columbia Police Dept. (CPD) Data

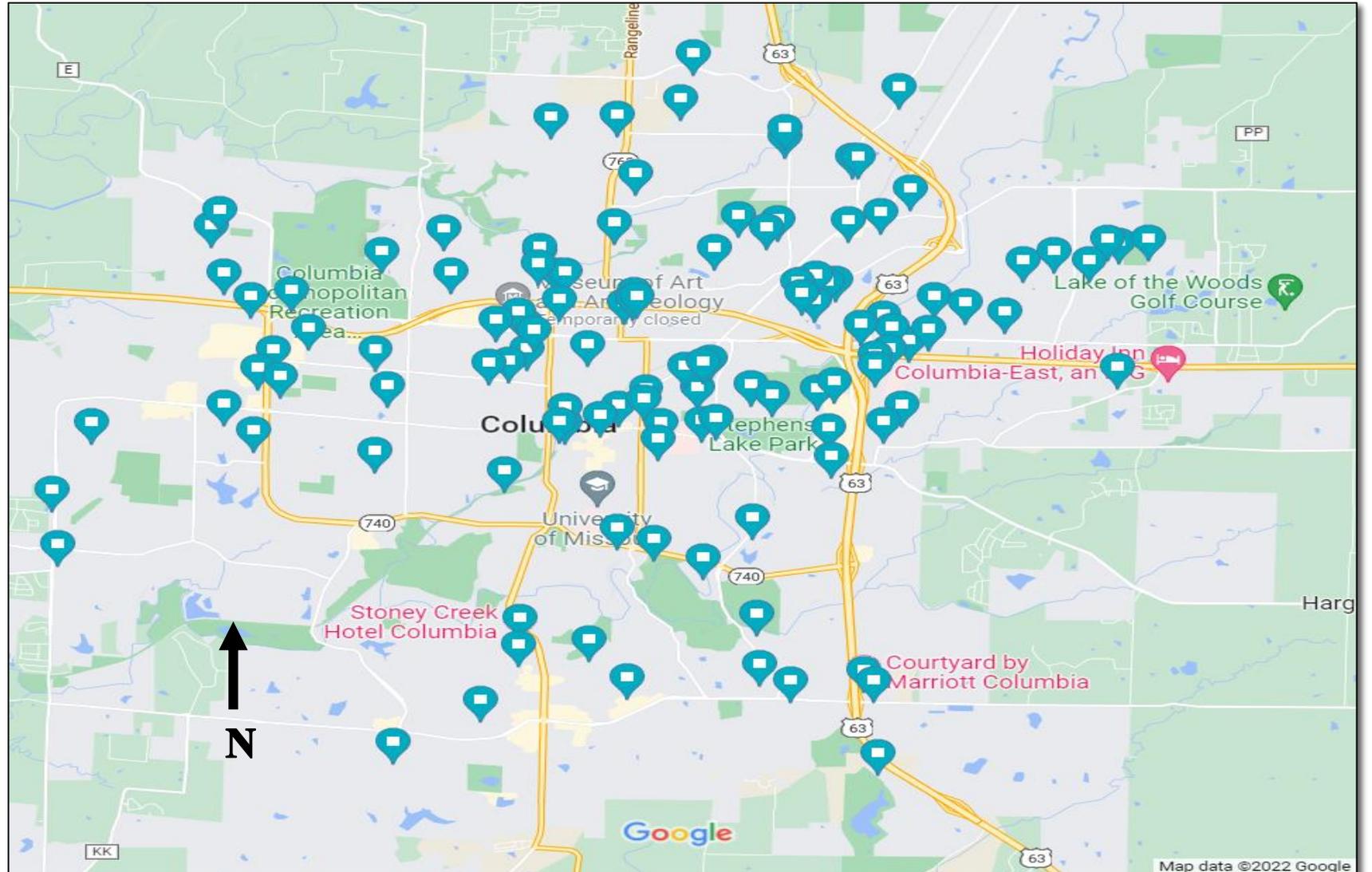
	January 2022	January – April 2022
Calls for service where an individual was reported to have been experiencing an opioid overdose.	21	89
Of those reported drug overdoses, documented individuals experiencing a opioid overdose.	19	48
Of those documented overdoses, deaths currently being investigated or confirmed as a opioid overdose.	3	16* *Med .Examiner has confirmed fentanyl related death

Where do Most of the Opioid Overdoses Occur in Our Community?

Where in our Community?

Reported Opioid-Related Overdoses
Boone County
May 2021-
April 2022

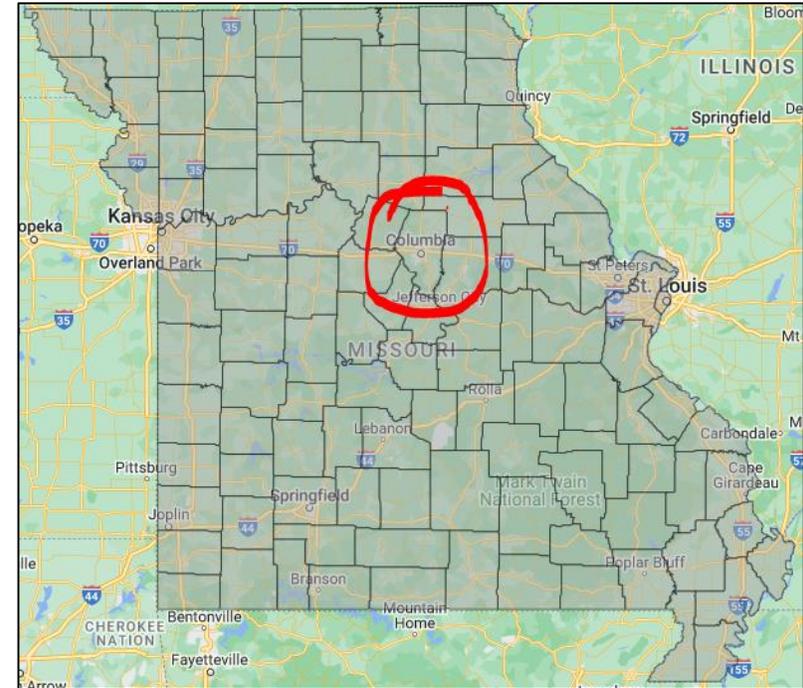
*Source: CPD 911
dispatch records &
police reports*



How are we responding in Boone County?

Overdose response is in crisis mode, especially regarding naloxone distribution.

Naloxone or Narcan® is a potentially lifesaving medication designed to help reverse the effects of an opioid overdose in minutes.



Our Response

- Fall of 2021, joined with CPD in formation of Overdose Response Task Force
- Task Force is focused on 1) more Naloxone in the community and 2) better education for the community



Work Group of Task Force – OPIOID KIT Demo Project:

- 5 kits
- Normalize as safety response
- Fuels education efforts via training & QR code



Ongoing Challenges

- Timely, strategic data
- Sustainable funding for Naloxone distribution
- Community
 - Limited awareness
 - Lack of buy-in for harm reduction

This is truly a community problem.....

.....deserving of a community solution.

What Questions Can I Help You With?

Thank You!

Dave Zellmer, MPH

Health Educator

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“000 000 000!
Me!
Me! Me!”

