

Intensive Training and Technical Assistance for Local Teams to Develop a Comprehensive and Multidisciplinary Approach to Opioid Use Disorder and Emerging Drug Threats

Applications due August 30, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., ET

Overview of Intensive Training and Technical Assistance Opportunity

The opioid crisis is an evolving drug epidemic that impacts the health of individuals and the safety of communities.

To respond effectively to this multifaceted challenge, local government and community partners, including public health, behavioral health, public safety, emergency departments, treatment providers, and other stakeholders, are increasingly relying on closer collaboration and coordination to strengthen their prevention, outreach, intervention, treatment, and enforcement initiatives. Erie County, New York, has been able to harness the collaborative efforts of local government and community stakeholders through its Opiate Epidemic Task Force to implement a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to combat the opioid crisis.

Erie County is the largest metropolitan county in upstate New York, with a population of 925,528 dispersed across 1,043 miles that include rural and suburban areas and two Native American reservations. The largest city in the county is Buffalo, with a population of 258,612. The Erie County Opiate Epidemic Task Force, established through executive order in 2016, provides a framework

to facilitate collaboration and information sharing. Under the task force, Erie County has implemented a number of innovative initiatives to address opiate overdoses across the criminal justice and public health continuum, to include the following:

- ◀ Erie County's focus on enhancing collaboration between public safety and public health stakeholders enables an effective post-overdose response. This initiative, facilitated by Erie County's implementation of the **Overdose Detection Mapping Application Program (ODMAP)**, allows for the identification of overdose victims and supports agencies in their efforts to offer them assistance, including assigning a peer recovery specialist.
- ◀ Erie County's **Probation Opioid Response Initiative** is focused on expanding services to individuals diverted to probation. The initiative uses a validated risk assessment tool to identify probationers who are at risk for opiate overdose and uses this information to inform their treatment plans. The program also designates a caseload specifically for opioid-affected individuals, which leads to more responsive and compassionate action for all probationers, including the assignment of dedicated peer navigators.

- ◀ The **Buffalo MATTERS Network** partners with community-based substance use treatment programs and local hospitals to increase access to medication-assisted treatment. It aims to aid patients in initiating and continuing successful opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment, reduce morbidity and mortality associated with OUD, provide for emergency department-initiated buprenorphine programs, and provide the same high level of care to patients suffering OUD that is provided for any other emergency medical condition.
- ◀ Buffalo's **Opiate Crisis Intervention Court** is designed to support engagement in treatment immediately following arrest. The court puts an individual's criminal proceedings on hold for an immediate drug intervention.

2. Over the course of the three-day site visit your team will observe various aspects of Erie County's comprehensive and multidisciplinary opioid response and have opportunities to interact with the leaders of these initiatives. Throughout the three days, time will be set aside for your team to meet to support local planning, as well as engage in peer networking and information exchange with teams from the other selected sites.
3. In the months following the three-day site visit to Erie County, New York, you will participate in virtual peer-to-peer exchanges, calls with subject-matter experts, and tailored training and technical assistance to support your community's efforts.

Intensive Training and Technical Assistance Details

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR) is releasing this opportunity on behalf of the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Program (COAP). BJA is partnering with the National Association of Counties (NACo) to support this eight-month intensive training and technical assistance initiative designed for current COAP grantees that seek to more strongly align existing opioid initiatives in their communities and develop comprehensive and multidisciplinary approaches to more effectively respond to OUD and other emerging drug threats. This opportunity is designed for existing local COAP grantees. If selected, your community will be required to participate as a multidisciplinary team that includes a minimum of four members and a maximum of eight members. Up to six current COAP grantees will be selected, and this initiative will enable selected sites to participate in the following:

1. A structured, three-day site visit to Erie County, New York, to meet with representatives from various components of Erie County's opioid response. You will participate in this site visit as a team. Sites that are selected will receive travel scholarships for three of the mandatory team members. You will be authorized to use your current COAP grant to fund up to three additional team members. Two additional team members may elect to self-fund their travel to attend the site visit. Because of space restrictions, the total number of team members cannot exceed eight.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this intensive training and technical assistance opportunity, your site must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Be a current COAP grantee in good standing with programmatic and financial reporting requirements. It is the expectation that the current COAP grantee recipient agency will serve as the lead agency for this application.
2. Be a unit of local government or a federally recognized Indian tribal government (as determined by the Secretary of the Interior).
3. Have an existing broad stakeholder group, such as a commission, task force, coordinating council, etc., that aligns substance abuse and criminal justice issues.

Benefits If Selected

Sites that are selected for the initiative will:

- ◀ Receive travel scholarships for three of the mandatory team members to participate in a three-day site visit to Erie County, New York, on November 12–14, 2019.
- ◀ Be authorized to use your current COAP grant to fund up to three additional team members to participate in a site visit to Erie County, New York, on November 12–14, 2019.
- ◀ Have a meaningful opportunity to learn from experts and from one another. Over the course of eight months, there will be virtual peer-to-peer exchanges, calls with subject-matter experts, and tailored training and technical assistance.

Application Requirements

If you are interested in this intensive training and technical assistance opportunity, please review the requirements carefully.

Your community must commit to the participation of a diverse group of stakeholders to be considered. The individuals identified must have decision-making authority within their respective agencies and the support of their home agencies to actively participate in this initiative. Applicants that do not demonstrate the commitment and participation of each mandatory team member will not be selected. **At a minimum, sites must commit to a team consisting of mandatory team members 1–4 (identified below), assuming that one of these four individuals is also designated as the project liaison. Because of space restrictions, the total number of team members cannot exceed eight.**

Mandatory Team Members*

1. An elected or appointed leader of the local government who has budgetary authority and convening power (e.g., county executive, county commissioner or supervisor, city councilmember, mayor).
2. A representative from the local public health department or agency.
3. A representative from the local behavioral health department or agency that oversees substance use treatment and recovery services.
4. A representative from the local police or sheriff's department, the commissioner of public safety, or another senior local law enforcement official.
5. A project liaison from one of the site's agencies to serve as the team's administrative and operational coordinator for the initiative. This person will act as a liaison among the local team, BJA and its partners, and training and technical assistance providers; cultivate and maintain effective partnerships with officials in key agencies and community stakeholders; coordinate and convene routine team and stakeholder meetings; and ensure follow-up on key action items.

*** If any of the mandatory team members (1–4) listed above will serve as your project liaison, there is no requirement for a fifth mandatory team member.**

Optional Team Members

Communities can identify additional team members from various disciplines to participate in the site visit to Erie County, New York, on November 12–14, 2019. **As previously mentioned, the total number of team members cannot exceed eight.**

The options below are not intended to be comprehensive, and communities may elect to send other representatives.

- ◀ A judicial officer with considerable decision-making authority within the court or court administration.
- ◀ A representative from the local community probation agency with responsibilities that include coordination of services for individuals with opioid use disorder.
- ◀ A representative involved in community-based harm-reduction initiatives.
- ◀ A representative involved in community-based substance use treatment programs designed to increase access to medication-assisted treatment.
- ◀ A representative from the local fire and/or EMS agency.

Selection Criteria

IIR will review the applications submitted by the published deadline (no later than 5:00 p.m., ET, on August 30, 2019) to ensure that all required materials are included. Incomplete applications will be removed from consideration. The review committee aims to select a diverse group of sites. In addition to these considerations, applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- ◀ **Demonstrated need and potential to benefit from this intensive training and technical assistance opportunity:** Priority consideration will be given to sites that provide supporting information and data that explain how this initiative will fill critical gaps associated with more strongly aligning existing opioid initiatives in their communities and developing comprehensive and multidisciplinary approaches to more effectively respond to OUD and other emerging drug threats.
- ◀ **Coordination with current COAP project:** Priority consideration will be given to sites that demonstrate how this initiative aligns with their current COAP project goals and objectives.

Applications will be reviewed by BJA, NACo, and IIR staff members. BJA will make the final decisions on site selection, and all decisions are final.

Signed Letters of Commitment

Upload a scanned, signed copy of a letter of commitment from each team member in the application. Letters of commitment should be addressed to the review committee (no address needed). The letter of commitment must, at a minimum:

- ◀ Include a statement indicating your agency's commitment to participate in the Erie County, New York, site visit and follow-up engagement.
- ◀ Indicate a willingness to work closely with BJA, NACo, IIR, and various training and technical assistance providers.

Post-Award Requirements

Selected sites must commit to:

- ◀ Participate in up to six team calls over the course of the eight-month period with BJA, its partners, and subject-matter experts. Two of the six calls will include all selected sites.
- ◀ Submit a plan 30 days prior to the project end date that describes (1) your community's progress to date to align existing and new initiatives and develop comprehensive and multidisciplinary approaches to more effectively respond to OUD and other emerging drug threats; and (2) what components of the Erie County site visit and follow-up engagements played a role in realizing this progress.

Application Process

Applications due: August 30, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., ET

Notification of selection: September 20, 2019

Application Checklist

- _____ Application for Intensive Training and Technical Assistance for Local Teams to Develop a Comprehensive and Multidisciplinary Approach to Opioid Use Disorder and Emerging Drug Threats
- _____ Letters of Support
- _____ Roster of multidisciplinary substance use disorder task force and/or criminal justice coordinating/planning group (optional)

All supporting documents and attachments should be emailed to COAP@iir.com.

Application for Intensive Training and Technical Assistance for Local Teams to Develop a Comprehensive and Multidisciplinary Approach to Opioid Use Disorder and Emerging Drug Threats

Applications for the Intensive Training and Technical Assistance for Local Teams to Develop a Comprehensive and Multidisciplinary Approach to Opioid Use Disorder and Emerging Drug Threats are due by 5:00 p.m., ET, on August 30, 2019. Please submit the application by completing this form. By using Adobe Acrobat Reader, you will be able to submit your application directly through a button on the form. A free download for Adobe Acrobat Reader can be found at <https://get.adobe.com/reader>. If using another PDF program, please complete the form and save your responses. Then email a copy of the completed form, along with any required documents or attachments, to COAP@iir.com.

Questions

Should you have any questions about the application process or issues with submission, please send an email to COAP@iir.com.

Applicant Information

Current COAP grantee recipient agency

Applicant jurisdiction (city/county or tribal government entity name)

Employer Identification Number

COAP Grant Award Number

Type of applicant

County government

City or township government

Indian/Native American Tribal government

Other (explain)

Population of area to be served under this application

Primary Contact for Matters Related to This Application

First name

Last name

Job title

Phone number

Email address

Street address

City

State

ZIP code

Related-Project Funding

Please indicate the amount of any funding you currently receive from each of the following sources that is relevant to supporting a continuum of care for opioid use disorder.

Federal funding

BJA grant funding

SAMHSA grant funding

CDC grant funding

State funding

Local funding

Philanthropic funding

Other funding

Please thoroughly answer the questions below. You may copy and paste your responses from other documents into the text boxes. There are no word limits for responses.

Application Questions

Question 1. Provide a description of the current opioid and other emerging drug threat initiatives in your community. Who are the partners in each of these initiatives, and when were they initiated?

Answer to Question 1:

Question 2. What specific challenges are motivating your community's interest in participating in this initiative? What makes now an opportune time to engage in this work as a system? If selected, what does your community hope to achieve?

Answer to Question 2:

Question 3. Please describe current activities/efforts that integrate criminal justice, public health, and behavioral health resources to address opioid use disorder and other emerging drug threats. What is working well, and what are your challenges?

Answer to Question 3:

Question 4. Please describe your community's multidisciplinary substance use disorder task force and/or criminal justice coordinating/planning group. Please describe the task force leadership and membership, committee structures, how often the group meets, current priorities, and the types of actions the group undertakes. How does your group interface with community stakeholders? (You may submit a roster of the members as an attachment to this application to COAP@iir.com.)

Answer to Question 4:

Question 5. One of the goals of this initiative is to support peer learning between the teams that are selected to participate. What could your team contribute to this peer learning opportunity?

Answer to Question 5:

Mandatory Team Members

Sites must commit to the participation of a diverse group of stakeholders to be considered for this intensive training and technical assistance opportunity. Applicants that do not demonstrate the commitment of each mandatory team member to participate in the Erie County, New York, site visit and follow-up engagement will not be selected. These individuals must have decision-making authority within their respective agencies and the support of their home agencies to actively participate in this initiative.

Sites that are selected will receive travel scholarships for three of the mandatory team members. You will be authorized to use your current COAP grant to fund up to three additional team members. Two additional team members may elect to self-fund their travel to attend the site visit.

At a minimum, sites must commit to a team consisting of mandatory team members 1 – 4 (as identified below), assuming one of these four individuals is also designated as the project liaison.

Because of space restrictions, the number of team members cannot exceed eight.

Mandatory Team Member 1:

An elected or appointed leader of the local government who has budgetary authority and convening power (e.g., county executive, county commissioner or supervisor, city council member, mayor).

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Mandatory Team Member 2:

A representative from the local public health department or agency.

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Mandatory Team Member 3:

A representative from the local behavioral health department or agency that oversees substance use treatment and recovery services.

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Mandatory Team Member 4:

A representative from the local police or sheriff's department, the commissioner of public safety, or another senior local law enforcement official.

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Mandatory* Team Member 5:

A project liaison from one of the site's agencies to serve as the team's administrative and operational coordinator for the initiative. This person will act as a liaison among the local team, BJA and its partners, and training and technical assistance providers; cultivate and maintain effective partnerships with officials in key agencies and community stakeholders; coordinate and convene routine team and stakeholder meetings; and ensure follow-up on key action items.

*If any of the mandatory team members (1 – 4) listed above will serve as your project liaison, there is no requirement for a fifth mandatory team member.

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Optional Team Members

Do you intend to self-fund travel for up to two optional team members?

Yes No We are not sure yet

Optional Team Member 1:

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Optional Team Member 2:

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Optional Team Member 3:

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Optional Team Member 4*:

*Only if you did NOT include a fifth mandatory team member to serve as the project liaison.

Agency Name	First and Last Name of the Representative	Title of Representative	Email Address
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Summary of Team Members

Please indicate in the appropriate column the source of funding for each team member

Team Member	First and Last Name of the Representative	Travel Scholarships (up to 3)	Current COAP Grant (up to 3)	Self-Funded (up to 2)
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				

Visit the COAP Resource Center at www.coapresources.org.

About BJA

BJA provides leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal law enforcement in achieving safer communities. To learn more about BJA, visit www.bja.gov and follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DOJBJA) and Twitter (twitter.com/DOJBJA). BJA is part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.