



Pennsylvania's Opioid Response: 2015-2018 Timeline

2015

- February 9 – Expand Medicaid allowing more than 125,000 people to receive treatment for SUD/OD
- September 9 – Commonwealth receives \$900,000 CDC grant to combat prescription drug overdose epidemic
- September 18 – Governor Wolf encourages school districts to have naloxone available in all PA schools
- October 28 – Then Physician General Dr. Rachel Levine signs a standing order for naloxone

2016

- January – Department of Drug and Alcohol programs mandates execution of Single County Authority warm hand-off program in treatment providers manual
- April 21 – Gov. Wolf begins a series of more than 90 opioid roundtables across Pennsylvania
- June – DDAP partners with PennDOT and Turnpike to increase promotion of the PA Stop and drug take-back media campaign. Since the inception of the drug take-back program in 2014, more than 515,800 pounds of unwanted drug were collected and destroyed and 811 take-back boxes are available throughout the commonwealth and in all 67 counties
- July 14 – Gov. Wolf announces funding for 20 Centers of Excellence
- July 19 – Opioid Prescribing Guidelines for safe and effective use of opioids announced
- Aug. 29 – Additional 25 Centers of Excellence announced
- Nov. 2 – Gov. Wolf signs Prescription Drug Monitoring Program legislation requiring health professionals to register in the PDMP

- Nov. 2 – Gov. Wolf signs legislation to limit the number of opioids a patient can receive at emergency rooms to a seven-day supply with no refills limit the number of opioids a patient can receive at emergency rooms to a seven-day supply with no refills
- Nov 10 – Wolf Administration launches Get Help Now Helpline with solicited vender

2017

- January – Centers of Excellence begin operating. Since then, have seen more than 12,000 patients engage in treatment
- Jan. 31 – First proposed funding to equip first responders with life-saving naloxone
- Feb. 14 – DDAP and Health announce warm hand-off clinical pathway guidelines
- April 19– Received \$26.5 federal grant to fight opioid crisis
- July – State budget awards \$5 million to equip first responders with naloxone
- July 1 – As part of STR year-one funding, the administration provided \$2 million to Single County Authorities to expand specialty drug courts – a strategy that will divert offenders into programs that provide real treatment and recovery options
- Nov. 17 – Awarded \$4 million in grants for medication- assisted treatment programs in Pennsylvania
- Opioid roundtable discussions continue across the state

2018

- Jan. 10 – Governor Wolf signs 90-day Opioid Disaster Declaration
- Jan. 10 – Opioid Operational Command Center stood up at Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
- Jan. 10 – Naloxone leave-behind standing order signed by then Acting Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine
- Jan. 10 – Access to PDMP program granted to other commonwealth entities, others through a request process
- Jan. 16 -- First Unified Coordination Group Meeting held at PEMA
- Jan. 22 – Wernersville Community Corrections Center body scanner demonstration/press event

- Jan. 22 – Tracking tool to collect data from EMS agencies when naloxone was left behind introduced
- Jan. 23 – Birth certificates form fee-waive change
- Jan. 23 – Opioid prescribing and drug overdose interactive data available on PDMP website
- Feb. 7 – Face-to-face physician requirement for NTP admissions waived
- Feb. 8 – Information sent to hospitals and birthing centers on reporting neonatal abstinence syndrome cases, retroactively to Jan. 10, to the Department of Health
- Feb. 12 – 30-day accomplishments of disaster declaration highlights NAS being a reportable condition under the opioid disaster declaration
- Feb. 12 – DDAP Get Help Now radio media campaign begins
- Feb. 22 – Annual Licensing requirement for high performing drug and alcohol facilities waived
- Feb. 28 – 45-day press conference held for opioid disaster declaration
- March 1 – Governor Wolf announces Medicaid waiver for prior authorization requirements for evidence-based opioid use disorder treatments
- March 1 – Prohibition against NTPs establishing medication units waived through satellite Narcotic Treatment Programs bulletin signed
- March 2 – Bulletin approved allowing pharmacists to partner with other organizations to increase access to naloxone
- March 9 – Scheduling of Fentanyl derivatives as Schedule I drugs in the Pennsylvania bulletin
- March 12 – OUD patients initiated into NTP prior to receiving urinalysis screening results
- Week of March 12-16 – PA Overdose Information Network (ODIN) launched statewide
- March 14 – Opioid Data Dashboard unveiled to provide data to the public
- March 16 – Final order on fentanyl derivatives scheduled as Schedule I drugs posted
- March 19 – DDAP Get Help Now helpline public awareness campaign kicks off
- March 20 – Separate DDAP licensing requirements for hospitals and ERs to perform short-term MAT waived – 13th and final of original declaration initiatives
- March 27 – Public/Private partnership for Opioid dashboard 2.0 announced

- March 28 – Legislator and Stakeholder briefing on disaster declaration held at PEMA
- April - Department of Corrections purchased Scanner #1 (Southeast – Berks County)
- April 4 – Governor Wolf announces renewal of 90-Day Opioid Disaster Proclamation
- April 4 – Governor Wolf and Senator Jay Costa announce introduction of Public Health Emergency legislation
- April - Labor & Industry; Department of Military and Veterans Affairs; Office of the State Fire Commissioner; Department of Education join Unified Coordination Group
- April 10 – Governor Wolf Backs Bipartisan Bills to Help 'Grandfamilies' Affected by Opioid Crisis
- April 12 – Wolf Administration Holds Final Regional Summit on Warm Hand-Offs for Opioid Overdose Survivors
- April 25 – Governor Wolf Announces Second \$26.5 Million Federal Grant to Continue Fight Against Opioid and Heroin Crisis
- April 26 – Governor Wolf Announces Increased Use of Treatment Helpline in First Quarter 2018
- May 2 – Command Center on the Road, Washington County
- May 11 – Completion of survey of BLS agencies to determine who is carrying naloxone for utilization in the field, and if not, why
- May 25 – Support PittPERU in continued efforts project 18 completed
- June 7 – Command Center on the Road – Family First Health York (COE)
- June 15 – DOC, PCCD, DOH, & DDAP submitted application for the Bureau of Justice Assistance grant
- June 28 – Gov. Wolf renews Opioid Disaster Declaration
- June 30 – Conclusion of PCCD data collection for quarter 2 of 2018
- July 1 – PAC-Mat Centers brought on board: Temple, Wright Center, UPMC Pinnacle Health
- July 2 – Department of Corrections Purchased Scanner #2 (Northeast – Northumberland County)
- July 16 – Worker’s Compensation Prescribing Guidelines announced
- July 17 – Command Center on the Road - Temple University Hospital

- Sept. 24 – Gov. Wolf renews Opioid Disaster Declaration
- Oct. 10 – DHS announce recipients of 18-19 budget investment in evidence-based home visiting services for communities affected by opioid use disorder
- Oct. 12 – PID announces that commercial insurers agreed to lift prior authorization requirements for medication-assisted treatment to align with Medicaid
- Dec. 6 – Drug and Alcohol Referral Tool (DART) launched
- Dec. 10-14 – Stop Overdoses PA: Get Help Now week
- Dec. 21 – Gov. Wolf renews 90-day Opioid Disaster Declaration

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