

Anchor **ED**

A Care and Treatment Approach to Opioid Addiction
Anchor Recovery Community Center & The Providence Center

The Need

AnchorED is an innovative initiative of Anchor Recovery Community Center, a program of The Providence Center, with funding from the Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities and Hospitals (BHDDH).

The cost of emergency department resources and loss of life due to opioid overdose have skyrocketed to epidemic proportions. In 2014, 232 lives were lost to drug overdose in Rhode Island, and 90% of the 231 screened cases involved at least one opioid drug and/or opioid medication, according to the Rhode Island Department of HEALTH (RI DOH Press Release 1/21/15 <http://www.ri.gov/press/view/23852>). The Centers for Disease and Control estimates that 114 lives are lost every day to drug overdose, and opioid overdose is the leading cause of accidental death for adults in the U.S.¹ A recent national study from Stanford University led by Michael Yokell, formerly a researcher at Miriam Hospital, identified 135,971 ED visits that were coded for opioid overdose in 2010 with a cost of \$2.3 billion for both inpatient and ED care.² With the onset of increased overdoses due to fentanyl-laced heroin, these numbers are certain to be significantly higher today. For example, 37% of Rhode Island's overdose cases screened for fentanyl (225) in 2014 tested positive.³

Background

AnchorED was launched in June 2014, with funding from the BHDDH, as part of the state's overall response to the rise opiate overdose deaths in order to provide peer-to-peer recovery supports to people with substance use disorders. In the first year of operation, there was 230 individuals who have met with a AnchorED Peer Recovery Specialist in Emergency Departments after surviving an opiate overdose.

AnchorED connects overdose patients in emergency departments with peer-to-peer recovery support. Prior to this, overdose survivors were medically stabilized and discharged. They were not routinely referred to treatment or recovery support services. AnchorED was created out of recognition this was a lost opportunity for intervention with a potentially profound impact.

¹"Opioid overdose: Cause for over two thirds of emergency department visits in 2010 in U.S." ScienceDaily, 10 November 2014 <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/11/141110124350.htm>

²"Prescription opioids involved in most overdoses seen in emergency departments."

ScienceDaily. www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2014/10/141027182807.htm (accessed December 3, 2014)

³ Health, R.I. (1-21-2015). "HEALTH Announces Updated Drug Overdose Numbers." <http://www.ri.gov/press/view/23852>

The AnchorED Approach

Under this initiative, Certified Peer Recovery Specialists are on call to select Emergency Departments 24 hours day, 7 days a week. The Certified Peer Recovery Specialists are called in when individuals are transported to a hospital ED having survived an opiate overdose. To date, there have been 558 individuals who have met with an AnchorED Peer Recovery Specialist in Emergency Departments after surviving an opiate overdose. Anchor ED started providing services 24 hours/7 days a week in September 2015.

As of the publication of this update, AnchorED has increased the number of hospitals participating to 9 hospitals. Fatima Hospital and Roger Williams Hospital was anticipated to start AnchorED services in the month of February

Hospitals Currently Participating
Hasbro Children Hospital
Kent County Hospital
Landmark Medical Center
Memorial Hospital
Miriam Hospital
Newport Hospital
Rhode Island Hospital
Women and Infants Hospital
South County Hospital

The Certified Peer Recovery Specialists:

- Meet with individuals who have survived opiate overdoses
- Meet with family members of individuals who have survived opiate overdoses
- Link individuals to treatment and recovery resources
- Provide education on overdose prevention, and the use of Naloxone
- Provide additional resources to patients and their family members
- Maintain contact after discharge for additional recovery support

Demographics

The following charts provide the reported gender and ethnicity information for those seen to date by AnchorED.

Gender		
Male	401	71.9%
Female	156	28.1%
Unknown	1	0.2%

African American	29
Latino/Hispanic	43
Multi-Racial	12
Other	3
Pacific Islander	1
Prefer Not to Answer	2
Unknown	1
White	461
TOTAL	558

Age Range of Survivors

Individuals seen by AnchorED Peer Recovery Specialists range in ages from 15 to 77. The highest rate of incidence is between the ages of 25 and 39.

Hospital Calls

AnchorED has been operating for different lengths of time in each hospital. The following chart indicates when the program was initiated at each hospital and how many times AnchorED has responded to calls from each hospital.

Hospital	# Of AnchorED Calls
Hasbro	1
Kent	77
Landmark	87
Memorial	17
Miriam	37
Newport	148
Rhode Island	159
South County	32
Women and Infants	0
TOTAL	558

Participation in Treatment

The majority of those seen by AnchorED have not been in a formal Treatment program during the twelve months prior to their overdose incident.

Participation in Treatment (12 Months Prior to Overdose Incident(s))		
In Treatment	142	25.4%
Not In Treatment	411	73.7%
unknown	5	0.9%
TOTAL	558	100%

Engagement of Services after Discharge

Post ED Recovery/Treatment Engagement		
Recovery Support Services/Treatment	454	81.4%
Admitted to Hospital	0	0%
Refused Services/Treatment After Discharge	100	17.9%
Unknown	4	0.7%
TOTAL	558	100%

Of the 558 survivors seen by recovery coaches **454 survivors, or 81.4%, have engaged in recovery supports after discharge from Emergency Department.** The majority of the survivors have been followed by the Anchor Recovery Community Center through multiple recovery supports. For example, through recovery coaching, telephone recovery support, treatment referral, and recovery housing. Only 16 survivors have declined recovery support services.

Insurance

INSURED		
Insured	500	90%
Not insured	50	9%
Unknown	8	1%

Recovery Support Paths

Some survivors have been followed by and maintained their connection with AnchorED through multiple recovery supports, including detox, treatment, and Medicated Assisted Treatment. The majority of the survivors have been followed by the Anchor Recovery Community Center through multiple recovery supports. For example, through recovery coaching, telephone recovery support, treatment referral, and recovery housing

AnchorED is a powerful intervention with a proven record of having a meaningful, positive impact as part of the state's overall overdose response strategy.

By connecting overdose survivors with specially trained Peer Recovery Specialists, individuals can be connected with treatment, support, and recovery services at a time when they can be particularly receptive to that message. Prior to the advent of this program, with BHDDH funding, there was no formal protocol for making these connections.

The connection initiated in the ED is further supplemented by extensive post-ED follow up by Peer Recovery Specialists. This post-ED follow up can help individuals navigate the early stages of seeking assistance, decrease emergency department visits and beginning a successful path toward recovery.