

The logo consists of a white circle on a dark blue background. Inside the circle, the words "OPIOID" and "ABATEMENT" are stacked vertically in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. Below these words, the text "Advisory Commission" is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font. A thin horizontal line is positioned below the text.

**OPIOID
ABATEMENT**

Advisory Commission

Opioid Abatement Advisory Commission Meeting

October 15, 2025

AGENDA

- I. Welcome**
- II. Call to Order**
- III. Quorum Declaration**
- IV. Approval of Minutes**
- V. Opioid Abatement Updates**
 - a. Opioid Abatement Fund**
 - b. FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives**
- VI. Subcommittee Updates**
 - a. Prevention Subcommittee**
 - b. Harm Reduction Subcommittee**
 - c. Treatment & Recovery Subcommittee**
- VII. Grantee Presentations**
 - a. Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)**
 - b. Young Women's Project**
 - c. Samaritan Inns**
- VIII. Public Comments**
- IX. Adjournment**



Office of Opioid Abatement Updates

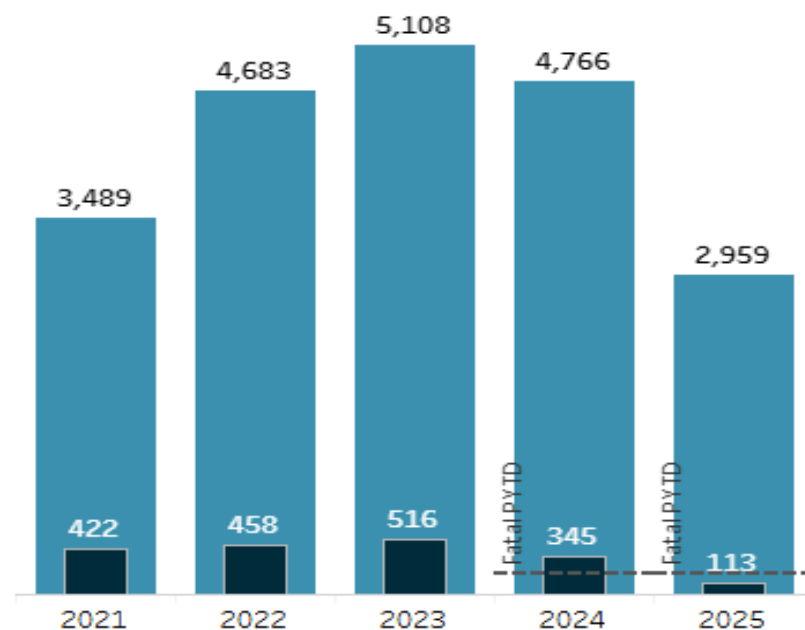
Fatal Opioid Overdose Continues Downward Trend

OPIOID-RELATED OVERDOSE COUNTS AND RATES

Annual Opioid Overdose Trend Counts

● Non-fatal ● Fatal | Including partial years*

A total of 113 fatal opioid overdoses occurred year-to-date, January - June 2025 (data through Jun '25). This figure represents a -42% decrease from the prior year-to-date. Non-fatal overdoses increased 32% from the prior year-to-date to 2,959 overdoses.



Past 12 Months Opioid Overdose Summary

Select fatal or non-fatal

Recent Fatal Opioid Overdose Trends

Past 12 Months Fatal

262

-43.2%

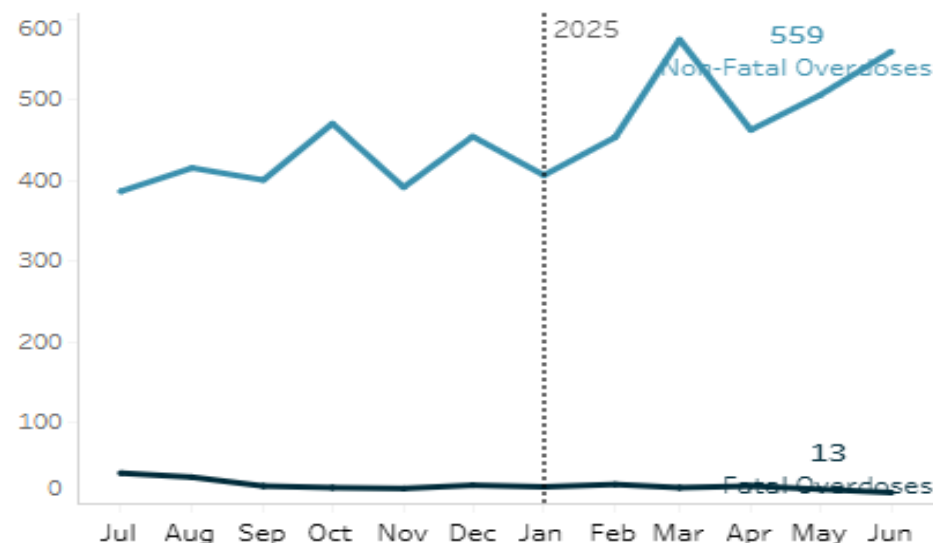
vs. prior 12 months (461)

Past Month Fatal

13

-23.5%

vs. prior month (17)



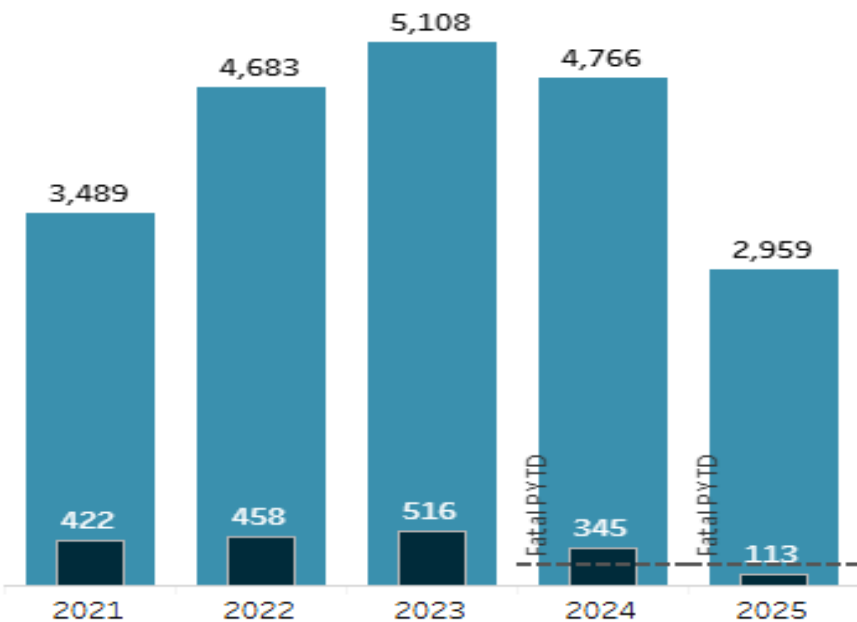
Non-Fatal Opioid Overdose Continues Upward Trend

OPIOID-RELATED OVERDOSE COUNTS AND RATES

Annual Opioid Overdose Trend Counts

● Non-fatal ● Fatal | Including partial years*

A total of 113 fatal opioid overdoses occurred year-to-date, January - June 2025 (data through Jun '25). This figure represents a -42% decrease from the prior year-to-date. Non-fatal overdoses increased 32% from the prior year-to-date to 2,959 overdoses.



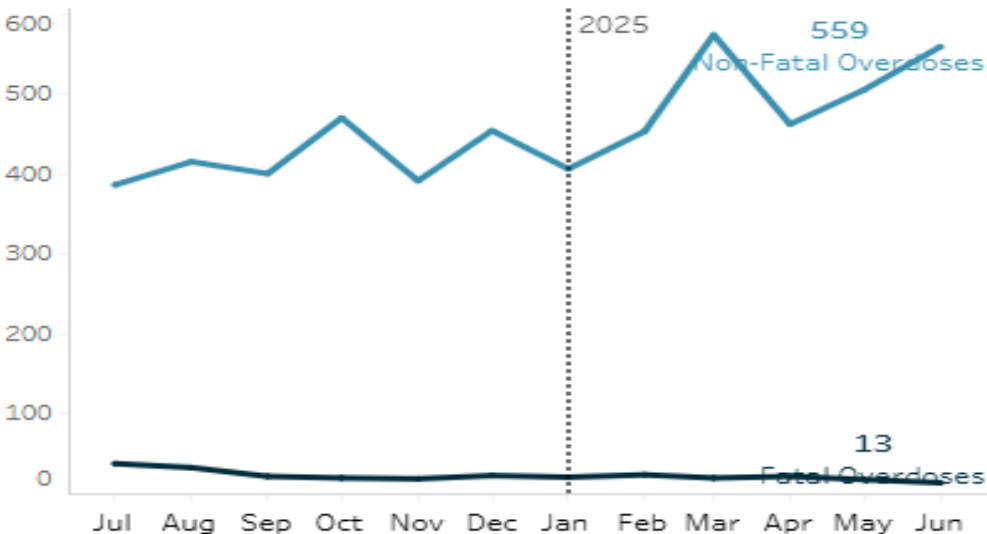
Past 12 Months Opioid Overdose Summary

Select fatal or non-fatal

Recent Non-Fatal Opioid Overdose Trends

Past 12 Months Non-Fatal
5,475
+17.8%
vs. prior 12 months (4,647)

Past Month Non-Fatal
559
+10.7%
vs. prior month (505)



Opioid Abatement Fund

- Total Deposited by OAG: \$32,418,137
- Expenditures: \$14,435,563
- Available Funds: \$17,982,574
 - + Committed: \$13,267,502
 - + Uncommitted: \$4,715,071 (includes \$2,420,826 awarded but yet not certified by OCFO for spending)

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

- In Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26), there will be an assortment of new, extended, or continued initiatives that will be implemented through interagency agreements, contracts, and grants.
- The interagency agreements, new contracts, grant continuations and new grants starting in FY26 account for the total **Committed Funds** in FY26 (\$13,267,502).
- Interagency Agreements
 - ✚ There are currently 3 interagency agreements committed in FY26.
 - ✚ The participating government agencies are Department of Health (DC Health), Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), and Fire and Emergency Services (FEMS).
- Contracts
 - ✚ There are 3 contracts planned for FY26.
 - ✚ The prevention media campaign contract (Octane) has been extended into February 2026, to complete project deliverables with unspent funds obligated in FY25.
 - ✚ The Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center feasibility study is currently in development and has not yet been released.

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

- Grants

- + No-Cost Extensions

- These are grants that were assigned a 12-month period of performance that started in FY25 but were scheduled to end in FY26
 - There are 10 no-cost extension grants that with unspent funds obligated in FY25.

- + Continuations

- These are grants represent initiatives that are being continued for another 12 months in FY26.
 - There are 9 continuation grants.

- + Opioid Abatement Strategic Impact Grant 2.0

- This was a solicitation released in the fourth quarter of FY25 for new initiatives to begin implementation in FY26 for a 12-month period of performance.
 - The grant applications are in the final review process.

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

Interagency Agreements		
Initiative	Organization	Amount Awarded
Opioid Surveillance Data Infrastructure (Data Lakehouse)	DC Health	\$400,000
Forensic Toxicology Testing	OCME	\$400,000
Mobile Integrated Health Team	FEMS	\$516,255

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

Contracts		
Initiative	Organization	Amount Awarded
Prevention Media Campaign	Octane Public Relations	\$126,875*
Mental Health Court Urgent Care Clinic	Pathways To Housing DC	\$907,000
Behavioral Health Urgent Care Center Feasibility Study	TBD	\$100,000

*Award amount is extended from previous fiscal year obligation.

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

Grants—No Cost Extensions (NCE)*	
Initiative	Organization
Peer Training	A Little More Support
Community Risk Reduction Outreach	Community Bridges, Inc
	Holy Comforter-St. Cyprian-CAG
Virtual Drop-in Center (Digital Application)	Marigold Health
Treatment	MedStar Health Research Institute
Drop-in Center with Peer Support Services	SOME, Inc. - Able Program
Transitional Housing	Reynolds & Associates
	Samaritan Inns
	SOME, Inc.
	The Nehemiah Project, Inc.

*NCE award amounts are currently not finalized.

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

Grants—Continuations		
Initiative	Organization	Amount Awarded
Expansion of Youth Treatment Services	Children's National Medical Center	\$446,050
District of Columbia Prevention Center Youth Prevention Leadership Corps Expansion	Bridging Resources and Communities	\$125,000
	Latin American Youth Center	\$125,000
	National Capital Coalition to Prevent Underage Drinking	\$125,000
	Sasha Bruce	\$125,000
Transformers (East of the River Opioid Abatement Initiative)	Anacostia Coordinating Council	\$800,000
Targeted Outreach	HIPS	\$200,000
	Us Helping Us	\$200,000
	Family Medical Counseling Services	\$400,000

FY26 Opioid Abatement Initiatives

- Opioid Abatement Strategic Impact Grant 2.0
 - 36 grant applications were submitted.
 - 15 grant reviewers were recruited.
 - There are 5 panels each with 3 unique grant reviewers.
 - Grant review process is currently underway.
 - Award Funding Available= \$8,000,000
 - Announcements will be released to the Commission grant applicants by November 1, 2026.



Opioid Abatement Subcommittee Updates



Opioid Abatement Presentations from Grantees:

1. **Office of Chief Medical Examiner (OCME)**
2. **Young Women's Project**
3. **Samaritan Inns**

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

Samantha S. Tolliver, PhD
Chief Toxicologist





EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

- Drug testing as a therapeutic tool
 - Is recommended as a part of evidence-based addiction treatment
 - Results should be used to explore denial, motivation, and substance use behaviors
 - If the results contradict the self-report, therapeutic discussions should happen
 - Testing should be presented as motivation and reinforcement of abstinence for the patient
 - Providers should educate patients of the therapeutic purpose of testing.
 - Not “us vs them”

EVIDENCE-INFORMED
PRACTICE

Scientific Evidence

+

Best practice guides

+

Clinical (& forensic) Experience

+

Adaptable testing methods

Forensic Toxicology Division (OCME)

**EVIDENCE-INFORMED
PRACTICE**

Scientific Evidence

+

Best practice guides

+

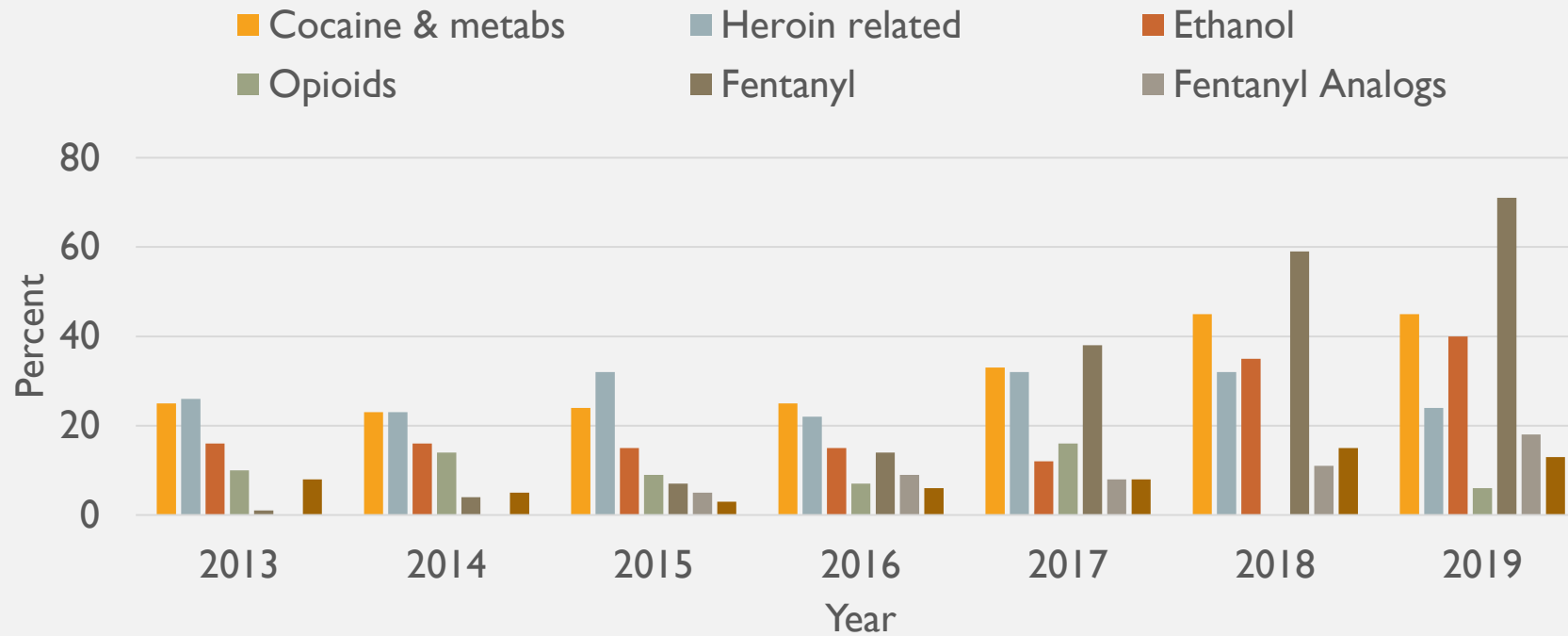
Clinical (& forensic) Experience

+

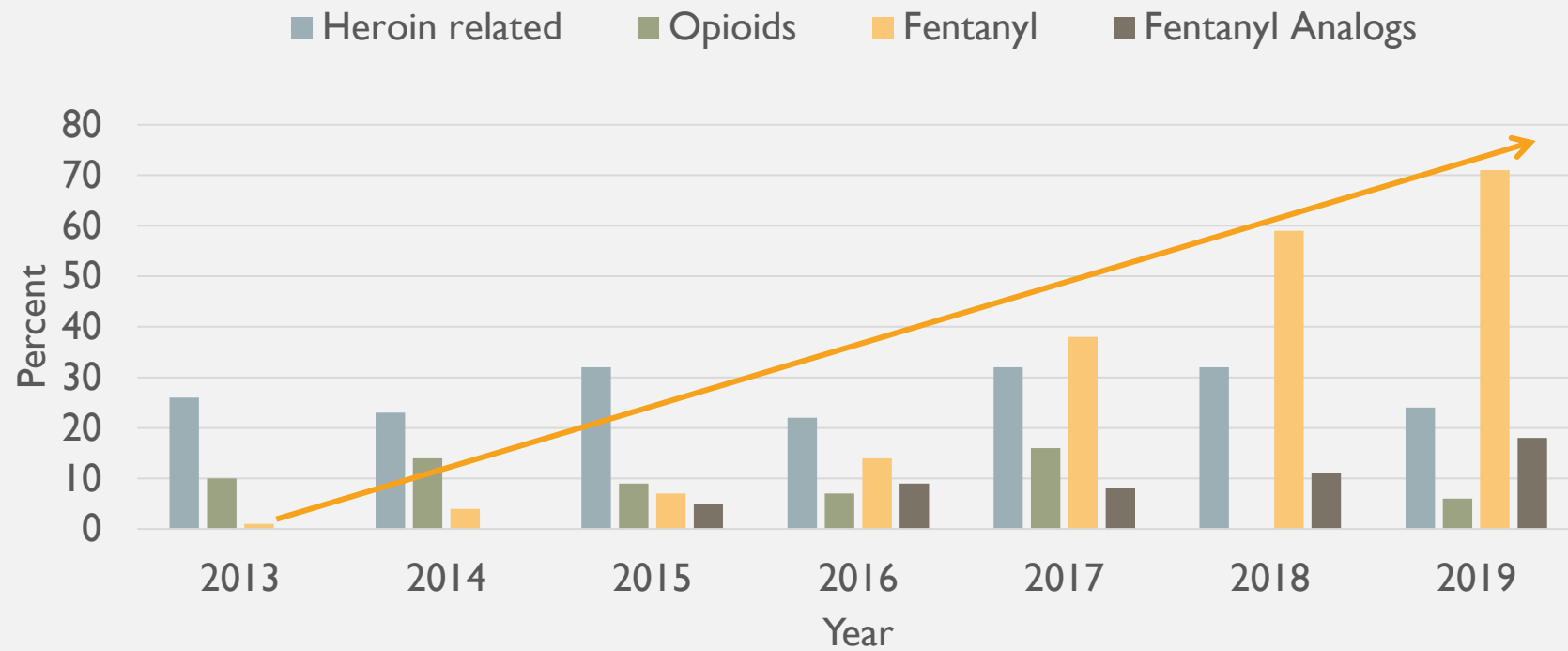
Adaptable testing methods

Forensic Toxicology Division (OCME)

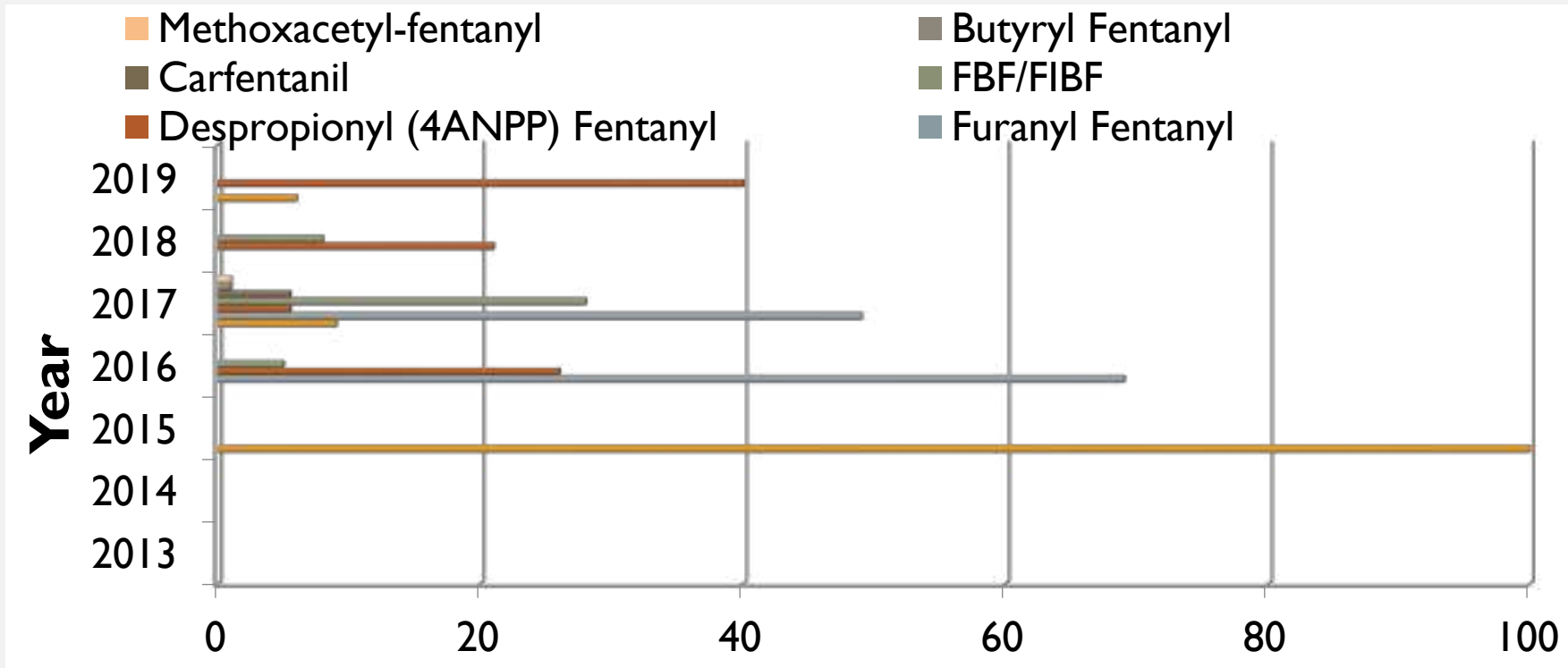
SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE- DATA, DATA & MORE DATA



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**EVIDENCE-INFORMED
PRACTICE**

Scientific Evidence

+

Best practice guides

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Clinical (& forensic) Experience

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Adaptable testing methods

Forensic Toxicology Division (OCME)



BEST PRACTICES IN FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY



ANSI/ASB Standard 036, First Edition
2019

Standard Practices for Method Validation
in Forensic Toxicology

ANSI/ASB Standard 113, First Edition
2023

Standard for Identification Criteria in Forensic
Toxicology

ANSI/ASB Standard 054, First Edition
2021

Standard for a Quality Control Program in Forensic
Toxicology Laboratories



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ANSI/ASB Standard 098, First Edition
2023

Standard for Mass Spectral Analysis in Forensic
Toxicology

**EVIDENCE-INFORMED
PRACTICE**

Scientific Evidence

+

Best practice guides

+

Clinical (& forensic) Experience

+

Adaptable testing methods

Forensic Toxicology Division (OCME)

CLINICAL (&FORENSIC) EXPERIENCE



DATA, DATA, & MORE DATA

**EVIDENCE-INFORMED
PRACTICE**

Scientific Evidence

+

Best practice guides

+

Clinical (& forensic) Experience

+

Adaptable testing methods

Forensic Toxicology Division (OCME)

ADAPTABLE TESTING METHODS – OPIOID ABATEMENT SUPPORT

- Forensic toxicology staff assistant
 - Assists Method Development and Validation Program
 - Objective: Identify, research, and plan necessary method updates that are in alignment with current drug trends
 - Recommend the procurement of new analytes
 - Purchases the analytes within an established budget, working with the QAQC program

ADAPTABLE TESTING METHODS – OPIOID ABATEMENT SUPPORT

- Forensic toxicology staff assistant, cont.
- Assists Method Development and Validation Program, cont.
 - Create a procedure to add selected analytes to the library screening profile GC/MS and QTOF
 - Monitor the detection results for the new analytes
 - Working with our instrument representatives to develop a data hub
 - Allows for the simultaneous processing of data from a single instrument
- Outcome: consistency with one dedicated employee, lack of competing goals

ADAPTABLE TESTING METHODS – OPIOID ABATEMENT SUPPORT

- Chromatographic instruments
 - State-of-the-art facility
 - Preventative maintenance, troubleshooting, and technical support
 - Outcome: decreases downtime/ turnaround time for results
- Reference laboratory support
 - Contract with an outside laboratory to fill in the gaps
 - Method overhaul (method offline)
 - Instrument offline for an extended period of time
 - Outcome: eliminates a delay in reporting



Thanks for your attention!

tox@dc.gov



From the Impossible, we see Miracles

SAMARITAN INNS

Combating Homelessness & Addictions. Rebuilding Lives.

Judy Ashburn

Senior Vice President
Behavioral Health
Integration & Therapeutic
Housing Development

October 2025

At-A-Glance

→ 40 years of faith-based services to D.C.'s most vulnerable

- Over 300 men and women served each year
- More than 16,000 citizens of D.C. since inception

→ Holistic services include:

- Evidence-based addiction treatment
- Housing
- Job readiness training
- Access to healthcare
- Opportunity and skills to rebuild

→ 40+ dedicated and skilled team members



Mission

To provide structured residential addiction treatment and recovery services, to homeless and at-risk men and women

Residential Treatment & Recovery Services Continuum of Care

Treatment

- Level of Care 3.5 – High-Intensity Residential Treatment (average 28 days): 35 beds
- Level of Care 3.1 – Low-Intensity Residential Transitional/Treatment (average 60 days): 35 beds
- Contracts – DBH, DHCF, Pretrial Services Agency (PSA), MCOs (Amerihealth, Medstar, Wellpoint)

Recovery - Therapeutic Housing for One Year (Abstinence-based Housing)

- Structured Therapeutic Housing Program – Opened January 29, 2025
- Funding – Opioid Abatement Strategic Impact Grant 1.0 for 19 beds
- Opioid Abatement Strategic Impact Grant 2.0 – submitted for an additional 30 beds

3
6

Structured Therapeutic Housing

- Increases Accountability, Responsibility, Stability
- Substance Use Disorder (SUD) – 12 step meetings, Intensive Outpatient, Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD), Drug/Alcohol Testing
- Mental Health – Individual Therapy for Trauma, PTSD, Grief & Loss; Eye Movement Desensitization Reprocessing (EMDR)
- Employment/Skills Training, Computer and Life Skills Classes
- Transition to Permanent Housing

3
7

Outcomes

→ Total Admissions: 31

- Current Census 22
- Employed 73%
- Discharges 11
- Attended Weekly Therapy 50%

→ Celebrations:

- 1Year Clean 5
- Completed Pretrial Drug Program 1
- Received Housing Vouchers 2
- Mental Health Housing 2
- Home Purchase Assistance (HPAP) 1
- DC Central Kitchen Training 1
- Enrolled at DC Central Kitchen 2

8

Vision



From The Impossible, We See Miracles

At Samaritan Inns, we envision a world where every individual facing the challenges of substance addiction finds hope, healing, and a renewed sense of purpose. We are dedicated to creating a nurturing environment that embraces holistic treatment, empowering our clients to reclaim their lives and thrive in a supportive community. Together, we celebrate each step towards recovery, fostering resilience, connection, and joy as we transform lives and inspire brighter futures for all.



PUBLIC COMMENTS