



Working to Reduce the Number  
of Opioid Prescriptions in Kentucky  
by One-Third by 2025

August 2021

## KY SOS Links

- [About KY SOS](#)
- [Events & Education](#)
- [Standards](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Contact Us](#)



KENTUCKY  
Cabinet for Health and  
Family Services



HealthCare



## Kentucky Statewide Opioid Stewardship (KY SOS) August Newsletter

### 2021 Kentucky Harm Reduction Summit

Registration for the 2021 KY Harm Reduction Summit scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> is NOW OPEN at <http://www.cecentral.com/HRS> - see the attached "Register Now" flyer for this online, live stream conference.

- *Please note that "Exclusive items will be mailed to the first 500 registered participants."*

We have a very exciting agenda and are looking forward to meeting with you virtually via Zoom in August! Continuing Education Credits will be offered for the following:

- Attorneys (CLE)
- Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselors (CADC)
- Certified Health Education Specialists (CHES)
- Community Health Workers (CHW)
- Emergency Medical Services Workers (EMS)
- Nurses (ANCC)
- Pharmacists (ACPE)
- Physicians (AMA)
- Registered Environmental Health Specialists/Registered Sanitarians (REHS/RS)
- Social Workers (ASWB ACE)

Contact Kyndall Raburn, Public Health Associate, at (502) 892-8022 or at [kyndall.raburn@ky.gov](mailto:kyndall.raburn@ky.gov) if you have any questions. *Note: There is no charge for attending this two-day, virtual conference.*

### KY SOS is Hiring!

KY SOS is hiring an Inpatient Pharmacy Consultant to provide support to KY SOS as the program continues to grow! This is a part-time contract position with responsibilities that include, but not limited to, promoting hospital participation, hosting educational webinars and providing technical assistance as requested by hospitals. A full job description can be found [here](#).

### Hospital Quality Improvement Contract (HQIC) Webinar

Topic: Improving Opioid Stewardship across the Surgical Continuum  
Dr. Thomas Mark, anesthesiologist with Summa Health in Ohio, will provide details as to the results achieved through aggressive opioid stewardship efforts. Strategies to eliminate the need for opioids in every phase of surgery in addition to pain management treatment have been successful while maintaining patient satisfaction, achieving shorter lengths of stay and reducing readmissions.

Following Dr. Mark, Christine Bailey, MSN, RN, CSSGB, Executive Director with Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG) HQIC will provide insights as to how their quality improvement efforts have been influenced by this outstanding approach to foster improvements in opioid management in their supported hospitals.

We anticipate an engaging discussion with the speakers following the presentations.

**Date:** Thursday, Aug. 12, 2021

**Time:** 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. ET

**Registration Required:** [Register here.](#)

## September is National Recovery Month

National Recovery Month is an observance held every September to celebrate people in all forms of recovery and those who serve them. KORE is teaming up with representatives from Recovery Community Organizations, Department for Behavioral Health, Department of Corrections, Office of Drug Control Policy, Kentucky Hospital Association, and public health to promote this year's theme, Recovery is for Everybody: Every person. Every Family. Every Community. This message reminds us all that no one is alone in the journey through remission and recovery. Everyone's journey is different, every Kentuckians deserves recovery, and we are all in this together.

Events and social media promotional materials will be released later this month. To stay up to date on events and messaging, like us on Facebook, @KYOpioidResponse or email [Beth.Fisher@Ky.gov](mailto:Beth.Fisher@Ky.gov). We encourage all organizations to celebrate Recovery Month in their communities as well. If you are looking for ways to celebrate recovery, here a few tips;

Use person first language like 'person in long-term recovery' and avoid stigmatizing terms like 'addict' or 'clean'.

Collect recovery stories of hope and healing and share them via social media or at community events.

Promote community resources. This can be done via social media or in person via flyers, pamphlets, and or other promotional materials.

Host a panel discussion to talk about recovery, including recovery testimonials as well as programs and services in your area. This can be done virtually using platforms such as Zoom or Microsoft Teams, or via social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram Live.

Host a public event, such as a "Recovery Rally" or a "Walk for Recovery" featuring speakers and entertainment.

Create a social media hashtag specific to your community and/or organization. Encourage members of your organization to join in by creating their own Recovery Month posts or testimonials.

Remember recovery is for everyone – individuals, families, and communities. Don't be afraid to reach out to schools, community-based organizations, and faith-based groups. They are key members of the community and can play a significant role in your Recovery Month promotion as well.

For more information and free resources including suggested social media templates and logos, check out the [Recovery Month 2021 Toolkit](#).

## International Overdose Awareness Day

International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on August 31 each year and aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death. It also acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have died or had a permanent injury as a result of drug overdose.

International Overdose Awareness Day spreads the message that the tragedy of overdose death is preventable.

Share with your patients and your communities all about naloxone, how to use it, and where to find it in your community. The KY Office of Drug Control Policy website has general naloxone education and a location finder for the entire state. Check it out! <https://odcp.ky.gov/stop-overdoses>

## Additional Resources on KY SOS Website

Find Help Now KY is a website used to assist individuals in the community find an addiction treatment facility. For more information, visit the website at [www.findhelpnowky.org](http://www.findhelpnowky.org)

Kentucky Opioid Response Effort (KORE) has funded access to treatment and recovery for individuals who have a functional hearing loss and need effective communication. The guidelines can be found on the KY SOS website or click the link to be directed: <http://www.kentuckysos.com/Portals/2/Documents/KOREGuidelinesDeafHardofHearingAccessdoc>

All other KY SOS resources can be found at <http://www.kentuckysos.com/Resources>

## Data Update

KY SOS continues to encourage all facilities to submit their monthly data into KY Quality Counts (KQC). Please continue to report **monthly** data on both the process and outcomes measures. Education and the future of the program are based in part on the data reported. Areas of improvement and areas of success will be highlighted and emphasized as KY SOS continues. If you need assistance with data input or navigation of the KQC data collection system, please contact **Emily Henderson** ([ehenderson@kyha.com](mailto:ehenderson@kyha.com)) or **Melanie Moch** ([mmoch@kyha.com](mailto:mmoch@kyha.com)).

## The Happenings

### *Upcoming Events/Webinars*

**KY SOS August Webinar** – Jessica Johnson, PharmD, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist with

ley Rex VA Medical Center, will present *More than Opioid Stewardship: The Overdose Crisis and Health System Care for People Who Use Drugs* on August 18, 11:00 AM EST – 12:00 PM EST. Calendar invites have been sent to all KY SOS participants.

*Zoom Information:* <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89452437180?pwd=VkhSMTZjRkxNTzY0c0hJeklQMTN4dz09>

Meeting ID: 894 5243 7180

Passcode: 2501

**KY SOS September Webinar** – Mercy Health Marcum & Wallace Memorial Hospital will present on their peer support specialist program in the emergency department on September 2 at 12:30 – 1:30 PM EST. Calendar invites will be sent closer to date.

*Zoom Information:* <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88261801473?pwd=ZUI0S3RVVmdhZnZQeDQreFI3a2M0dz09>

Meeting ID: 882 6180 1473

Passcode: 2501

**KY SOS September Webinar** – Dr. Adam Berrones, Epidemiologist at the Office of Inspector General, will present on the 2020 Drug Overdose Report and KASPER Reporting on September 28 from 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM EST. Calendar invites will be sent closer to date.

*Zoom Information:* <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85647518189?pwd=Uy9MK2l6ZHFPQ0NjWFVmeHVHZUIUdz09>

Meeting ID: 856 4751 8189

Passcode: 2501

**For more information, please visit [www.kentuckysos.com](http://www.kentuckysos.com) or contact a KHA staff member to assist.**

Emily Henderson for program and pharmacy-related questions–  
[ehenderson@kyha.com](mailto:ehenderson@kyha.com)

Melanie Moch for data-related questions – [mmoch@kyha.com](mailto:mmoch@kyha.com)

-  
Claire Arant for administrative assistance – [carant@kyha.com](mailto:carant@kyha.com)

*Missed a webinar? All presentations are recorded and can be found under the events & education link.*