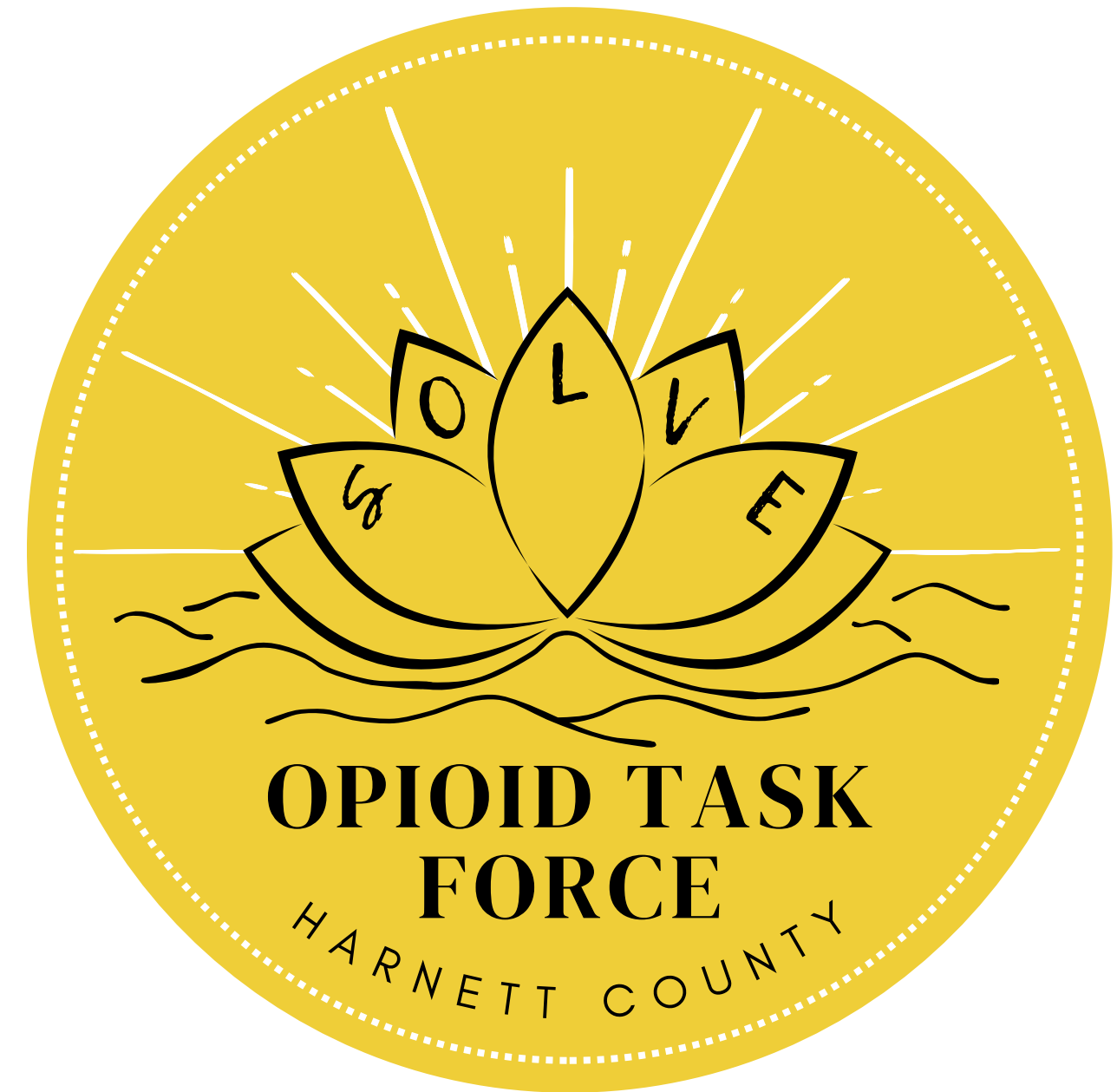


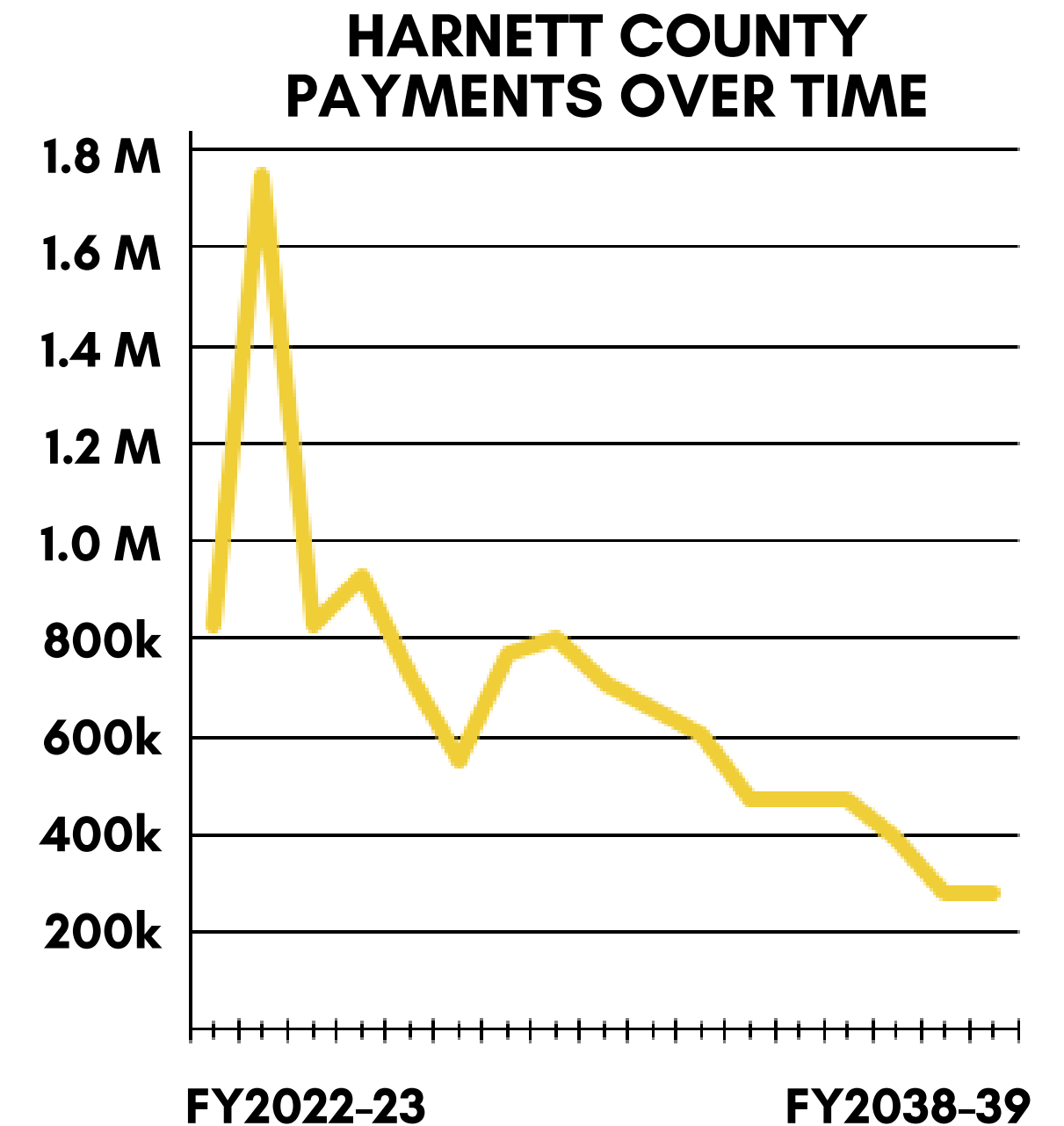
OPIOID TASK FORCE OVERVIEW

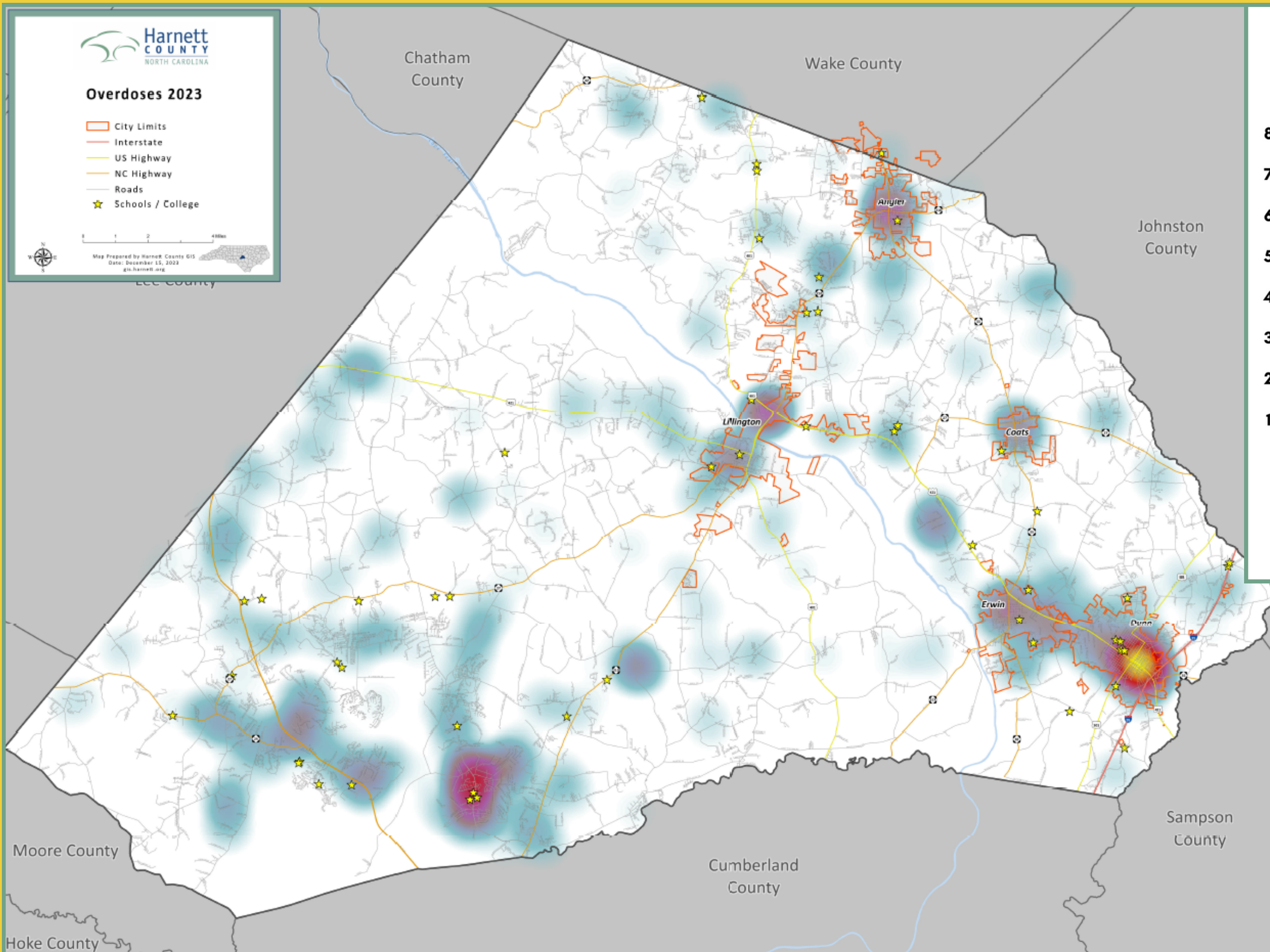
August 14, 2024



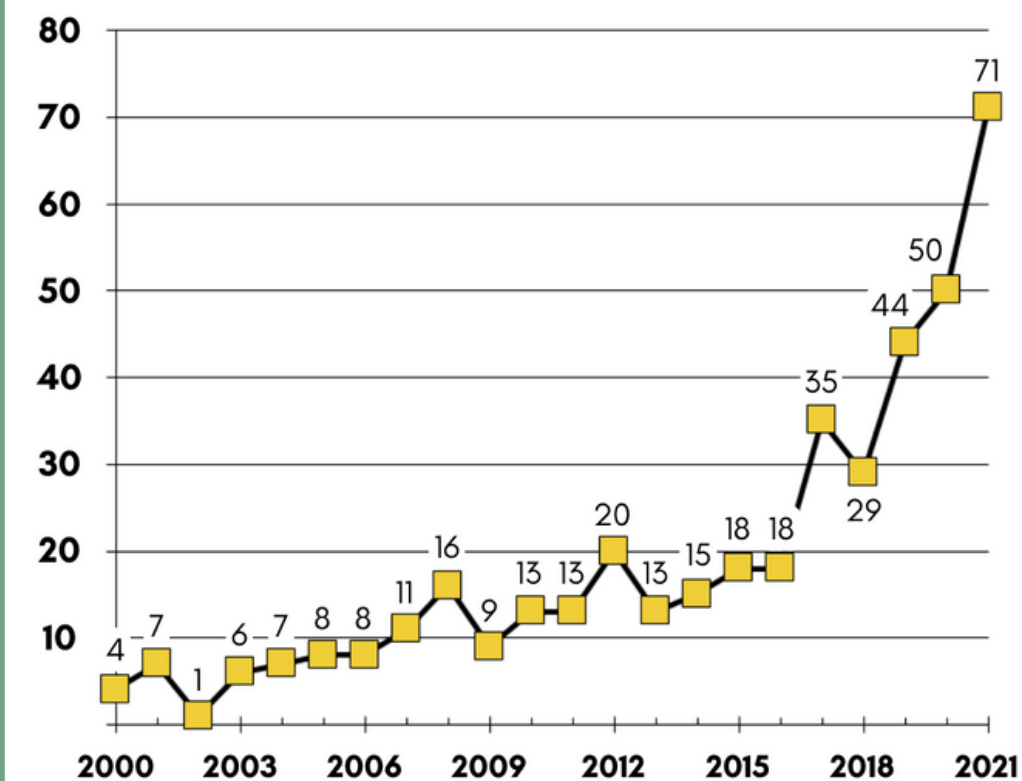
NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENTS

- The **national opioid settlements** resulted from lawsuit negotiations, requiring opioid manufacturers and distributors to pay back more than **\$50 billion** over a period of **18 years** to the American people **through state and local governments**
- **Harnett County** will receive upwards of **\$11,000,000** distributed over **18 years**, from Fiscal Year 2022-23 through Fiscal Year 2038-39, through a **Memorandum of Agreement with North Carolina**
- **\$215,000** has been allocated to the **Medication-Assisted Treatment/Medications for Opioid Use Disorder** (MAT/MOUD) program in the Harnett County Detention Center
- **\$20,000** has been allocated to the purchase of **Narcan for community distribution**, including the **School System**





DEATHS BY OVERDOSE IN HARNETT COUNTY, NC

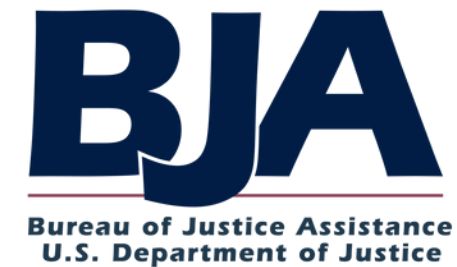


<https://ncopioidsettlement.org/data-dashboards/opioid-indicators/>

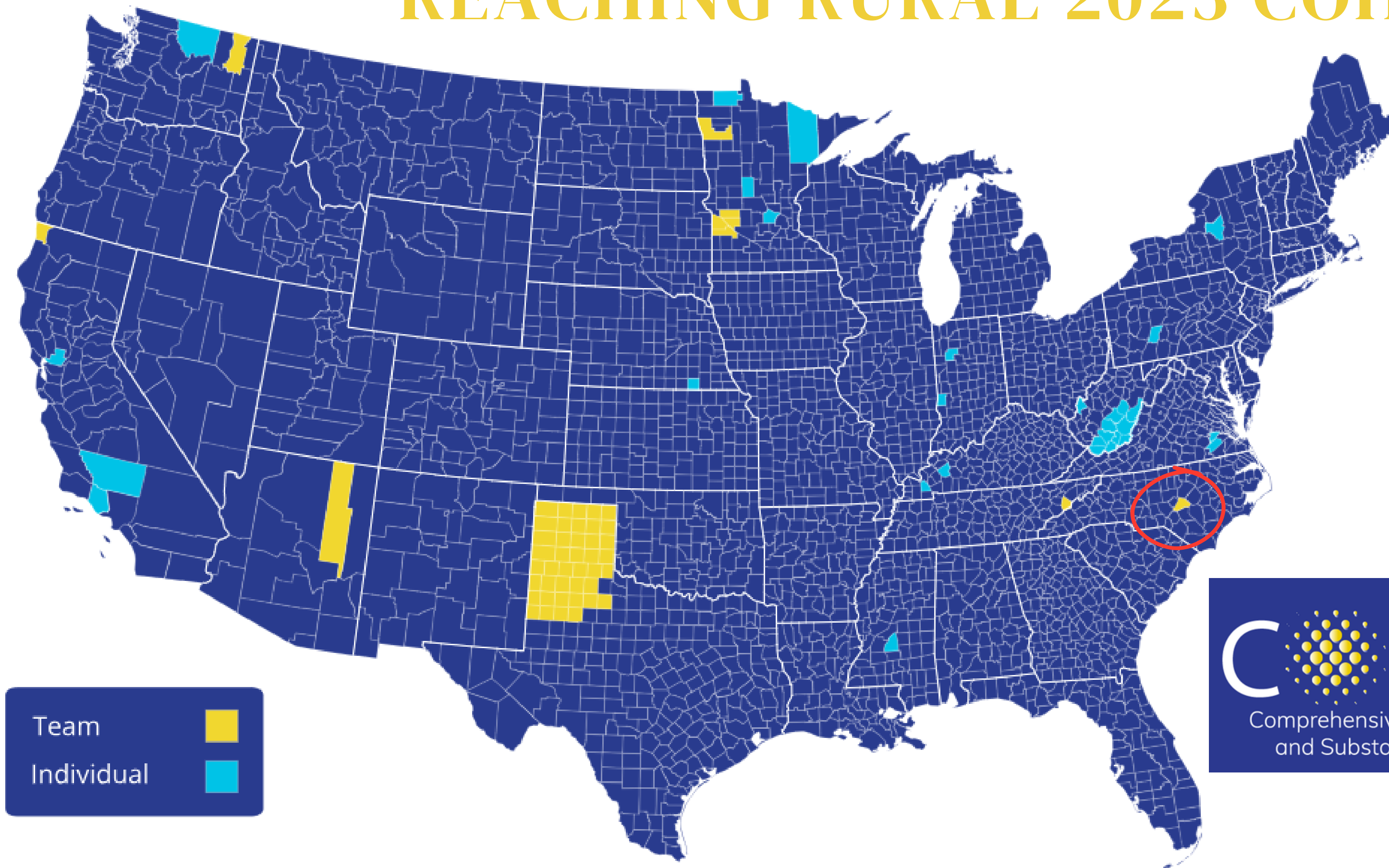
Due to our rural nature, the Harnett County Government has a responsibility to lead the battle against the opioid epidemic in our community.

TIMELINE

- **Apr 2022:** North Carolina Attorney General finalized the Memorandum between North Carolina and Harnett County
- **Summer 2022:** Senior Staff Attorney received settlement documents & discussed with Deputy County Manager
- **Summer 2022:** began engaging stakeholders including:
 - Sheriff's Office
 - EMS
 - Campbell University Faculty
 - Various community members
- **September 12, 2022:** first Opioid Task Force meeting
- **October 20, 2022:** Opioid Task Force meeting
- **December 2022:** Reaching Rural Initiative kick-off & monthly meetings with coaches began



REACHING RURAL 2023 COHORT



FORMATION OF CORE LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Our team was strategically chosen, comprising a vast array of representation across the county
- The Reaching Rural Initiative was the catalyst for building a strong leadership team to pull together our Opioid Task Force, create a strategic plan, and build momentum
- Including a K-12 school system representative on our team formed a crucial partnership



TIMELINE



- **February 9, 2023:** Opioid Task Force meeting – informational presentation by Dr. David Tillman & his students
- **February 2023:** Reaching Rural visit to Loudoun County, VA
- **March 27, 2023:** informational presentation by Dr. Robert Agnello
- **April 20, 2023:** Opioid Task Force meeting & prioritization exercise to gather input from Task Force members
- **Apr-May 2023:** Community Paramedic program expands to include post-overdose response
- **May 2023:** Reaching Rural visit to Franklin County, MA
- **May 15, 2023:** presentation of priorities identified by Opioid Task Force to Board of Commissioners & public input session

The Current State of the Opioid Problem in Harnett County



March 27 | 6:30 pm

Presenters:

Robert N. Agnello, DO, FACFP
Assistant Professor of Family Medicine
Campbell University School of Osteopathic Medicine

Master of Public Health students:

Elina Thomas
Kaung Sett
Juliet Fong
Cindy Fan



TIMELINE

- **May 31, 2023:** virtual site visit with Judge Elizabeth Heath of the 8th Judicial District
- **June 2023:** NCACC Summit on Reducing Overdose
- **June 2023:** Phase I of MOUD in Detention Center
- **June 15, 2023:** Opioid Task Force meeting
- **June 21, 2023:** toured Wayne County Sheriff's MOUD program
- **June - July 2023:** Community Paramedics follow up within hours after Opioid Overdose and leave-behind Narcan kit
- **July 24, 2023:** Jeff Armstrong & Chris Appel panel presentation at NACo conference in Texas, "The Opioid Epidemic in Rural America"



TIMELINE

- **August 17, 2023:** Opioid Task Force meeting
- **August 24, 2023:** attended meeting of Fayetteville PD's Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) team
- **September 5, 2023:** began Narcan distribution at Harnett County Health Department
- **September 2023:** Scripps article feature
- **September 2023:** EMS begins Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to provide Suboxone to patients with subsequent transfer to office-based treatment



TIMELINE

- **September 18, 2023:** public input on strategic plan
- **October 19, 2023:** Opioid Task Force meeting
- **October 2023:** Building Bridges Initiative kick-off
- **November 2023:** County Commissioners adopted strategic plan
- **December 2023:** graduation of Reaching Rural Initiative & announcement of \$98,000 for jail MAT/MOUD program
- **December 2023:** Jail Re-entry Navigator began
- **January 2024:** launched new leadership structure to initiate the implementation of strategic plan



We will

SOLVE

this together.

S **tigma is reduced.** We commit to addressing life-threatening community stigma that acts as a barrier to treatment & recovery.

O **wnership is shared.** We commit to addressing this epidemic collectively and using all of our resources and all of our systems to care for all of our people.

L **earning is continuous.** We commit to ongoing work to understand best practices, to learn from latest research, and to evaluate our own efforts.

V **alues are foundational.** We commit to cultivating responses rooted in the shared values of our community, including faith-based groups.

E **quity is centered.** We commit to comprehensive action that works to ensure the needs of all groups within our community are being addressed.

GOALS OUTLINED IN STRATEGIC PLAN

1

Prevent harmful substance use

- 1.1** Targeted support for at-risk youth and families
- 1.2** Leverage peer support networks and community advocacy
- 1.3** Engage faith communities in education and stigma reduction

2

Support treatment and recovery.

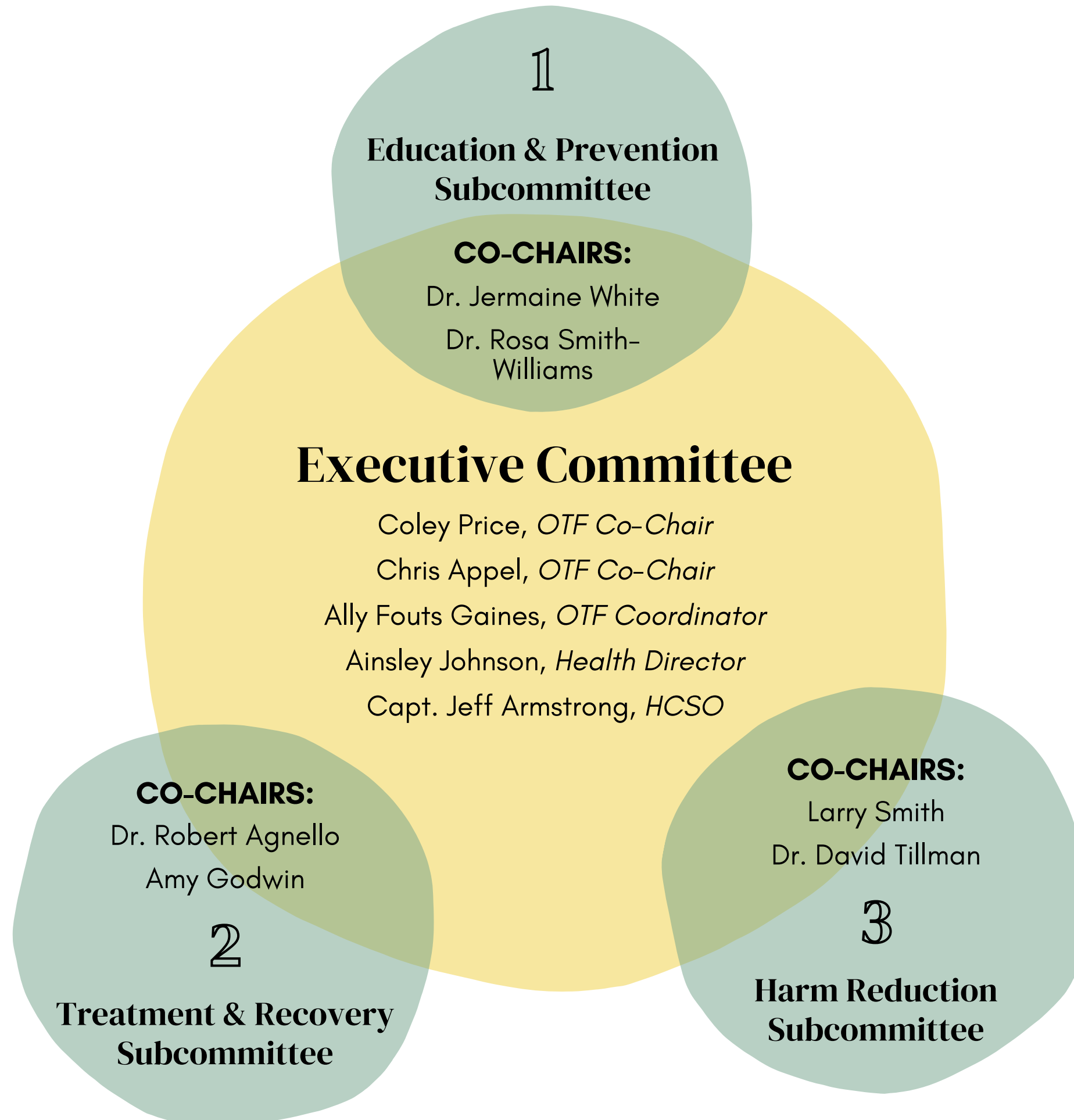
- 2.1** Adopt treatment models for justice-involved individuals
- 2.2** Enhance healthcare networks to improve continuum of care
- 2.3** Develop community supports for recovery

3

Reduce harm

- 3.1** Universal access to naloxone
- 3.2** Improve health and safety for people who use substances
- 3.3** Eliminate accidental exposures to drugs and paraphernalia

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



- The Executive Committee **reviews funding proposals** from subcommittees
- If Executive Committee votes to approve a funding proposal, it must then go **before the Opioid Task Force** for a vote
- If the Opioid Task Force approves, the Executive Committee shall propose the project to the **Harnett County Commissioners** for formal approval

TIMELINE

- **February 2024:** monthly subcommittee meetings began
- **March 7, 2024:** Recovering Hope Conference
- **April 11, 2024:** Executive Committee reviewed and unanimously approved naloxone funding proposal
- **April 18, 2024:** Opioid Task Force reviewed and unanimously approved naloxone funding proposal
- **May 1, 2024:** jail launched Phase II of MAT/MOUD
- **May 6, 2024:** County Commissioners adopted resolution to allocate \$20,000 settlement funds to community-based naloxone distribution
- **May 6, 2024:** County Commissioners voted to accept \$98,000 in Reaching Rural grant to fund Jail Re-entry Navigator
- **May 7, 2024:** community Narcan training provided by Health Department staff at Another Barbershop in Dunn



Narcan training provided by Health Department at barbershop

TIMELINE

- **June 3, 2024:** launched website, presented to County Commissioners and Harnett County School Board
- **July 1, 2024:** Health Department's Naloxone Distribution Policy effective
- **July 11, 2024:** Recovery Alive proposal tabled by Executive Committee
- **July 18, 2024:** Opioid Task Force meeting
- **July 19, 2024:** visit to Recovery Alive houses in Smithfield, North Carolina
- **July 24, 2024:** met with Judge Wood who is assigned to Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), District Attorney, and Director of VTC



MAIN ACCOMPLISHMENTS TO DATE

1

Prevent harmful substance use

- Harnett County Schools hired Clinical Social Worker to serve students
- Campbell University and local faith leaders led Recovering Hope Conference
- Continued collaboration with community- and faith-based organizations

2

Support treatment and recovery

- Sheriff's Office initiated Phase I of MAT/MOUD in jail (continuation of MAT/MOUD for existing patients)
- Sheriff's Office hired Jail Re-entry Navigator to provide critical support (\$215,000 settlement funding)
- Sheriff's Office initiated Phase II of MAT/MOUD in jail (inducting new patients onto MAT/MOUD treatment)
- Community Paramedicine program continues to expand to support individuals navigating substance use disorder

3

Reduce harm

- Harnett County Health Department distributes free naloxone to individuals and has policy allowing community organizations to receive naloxone in bulk for community-based distribution
- Harnett County Schools has equipped each campus with Narcan
- Harnett County Schools has trained over 100 staff members to administer Narcan and continues to train more
- Harnett County Schools is preparing to launch pilot program for Narcan kits on school buses
- Alliance Health (LME-MCO) has gifted free naloxone to the Health Department for distribution

CURRENT INITIATIVES

- Launching community-based naloxone distribution (new policy)
- Alliance Health (LME-MCO) + NC Harm Reduction Coalition
- Coordinating Peer Support services with Southlight
- By the beginning of the 2024-25 school year, Harnett County Schools intend to...
 - Train all HCS staff members to administer Narcan
 - Launch pilot program for Narcan kits on all school buses
- Collaborating with community members to support a parent advocacy group
- Expanding Post-Overdose Response Team
- Increasing publicity of OTF and promoting education
- Exploring Recovery Alive Housing

solveharnett.org



OPIOID TASK FORCE

Bringing together individuals with diverse specialties to address the opioid epidemic in our County with a compassionate and holistic view of the complex set of issues before us.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Comprehensive Strategic Plan for the Prevention of Harmful Substance Use and Overdose in Harnett County

DOWNLOAD 

Overview

Learn more about the Opioid Task Force

READ MORE >

Recent Updates

Meeting presentation from April 18, 2024

READ MORE >

Resource Booklet

Opioid Use Disorder information and resources

READ MORE >



Coley Price

*Deputy County Manager,
Opioid Task Force Co-Chair*

cprice@harnett.org



Chris Appel

*Senior Staff Attorney,
Opioid Task Force Co-Chair*

cappel@harnett.org

