



**City of Dallas**

# Opioid Strike Force & Interdepartmental Strategies Update

Quality of Life, Arts, and Culture Committee  
March 26, 2024

Carrie Rogers  
Director of Government Affairs

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Deputy Chief Devon Palk  
Dallas Police Department

Deputy Chief Scott Clumpner  
Dallas Fire Rescue

# Overview



- Formation of Opioid Response Strikeforce
- Budget and Funding
- Policy and Legislation
- Enforcement – DPD
- Harm Reduction – DFR
- Supportive Services – IPS
- Education and Resources
- Next Steps



# Partners



**Government Affairs**  
**City of Dallas**



**DALLAS**  
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

**LIVEGY**



City of Dallas

Office of  
**Homeless Solutions**



**DALLAS**  
**COLLEGE**

**RecoveryResource**  
COUNCIL



**Dallas Public**  
**LIBRARY**



Parkland

**UT Southwestern**  
Medical Center®



City of Dallas

Office of  
**Community Care**



**DCHHS**  
Dallas County Health and Human Services  
Healthy People Healthy Communities  
Health and Social Equity



# Strike Force Formed 2022



- November 2022, City Council leadership formed the strike force after becoming aware of the alarming epidemic
- Goal includes breaking down barriers to resources for the highest need communities
- Several efforts underway operating concurrently yet independently of one another
- Outstanding partners across the city engaged; work plan developed
- Of immediate importance was addressing a legislative barrier that prevented the city from sharing overdose data to better understand and respond to the crisis
- First big win with Senate Bill 1319
- The partners have focused considerable efforts on harm reduction, communication, outreach and education

# Budget and Funding



- **City of Dallas Opioid Settlement Funds(\$941k)**
- Dallas County Opioid Settlement Funds (\$12m)
- Dallas County CDC Grant Funds (\$25m)



# Budget and Funding

City of Dallas  
Opioid  
Settlement  
Funds

**\$941,732**

- NARCAN for use by the OHS Outreach Team
- Fentanyl Awareness Campaign
- Enhancements to Drug Court
- NARCAN to partners
- Overdose Response Team Vehicles
- DFR Outreach Materials
- Enhancement to DFR Overdose Response Team
- NARCAN for DPD use
- Training on the administration of NARCAN
- Harm Reduction Program – partner support



# Policy and Legislation

Pursue legislation  
to combat the  
opioid epidemic,  
decriminalize  
fentanyl testing  
strips

National/peer city  
engagement on  
best practices

Legislative letters  
of support and  
testimony during  
the 88<sup>th</sup> Texas  
Legislature

## State Legislation

- **SB 1319 (Huffman):** Relating to the reporting of certain overdose information and the mapping of overdoses for public safety purposes.
- **SB 629 (Menendez):** Relating to the maintenance, administration, and disposal of opioid antagonists on public and private school campuses and to the permissible uses of money appropriated to a state agency from the opioid abatement account.
- **HB 6 (Goldman):** Relating to the designation of fentanyl poisoning or fentanyl toxicity for purposes of the death certificate and to the criminal penalties for certain controlled substance offenses; increasing a criminal penalty.
- **HB 3908 (Wilson):** Relating to fentanyl abuse prevention and drug poisoning awareness education in public schools.



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## Federal Legislation

- **SB2569 (Sen. Cornyn) / HR 3563 (Rep. Crockett):** companion bills filed that aim to decriminalize fentanyl testing strips. While the bills have garnered widespread support, the bills are currently awaiting further action in Congressional committees.
- The City of Dallas has provided **letters of support** for these bills and lobbied members of Congress in support of this legislation.
- **Senator Cornyn hosted a roundtable** in September 2023 with local leaders, including the City of Dallas / DFR, to discuss ways to combat the fentanyl crisis in North Texas and to raise awareness of federal legislation related to fentanyl.



## Enforcement

## Dallas Police Department

- **Special Investigations Division**
  - ❑ Overdose Investigation Squad
  - ❑ State/Federal Partnerships
- **Legislative Change**
  - ❑ HB 6, "Fentanyl Murder"
- **Outreach**
  - ❑ Office of Community Affairs, "Let's Talk: Fentanyl Awareness"
  - ❑ Outreach with External Partners
- **Training and Equipment**
  - ❑ Overdose Investigations
  - ❑ Clandestine Lab Training and Equipment
  - ❑ Purchase of (2) Raman Spectrometers
  - ❑ Purchase of Narcan

# Harm Reduction

## Dallas Fire Rescue



- **Overdose Response Team**

- ☐ Contact patients within 48-72 hours of an opioid overdose
- ☐ Minimum of 225 client contacts per year
- ☐ Long term success is measured by a reduction in the occurrence of overdoses and overdose deaths per year.

- **2023**

- ☐ Attempted 562 client contacts
- ☐ Contacted 459 potential clients
- ☐ Enrolled 65 people in treatment programs
- ☐ Provided 250 Narcan kits



## Supportive Resources

## Integrated Public Safety Solutions

- **Crisis Intervention Services**

- ☐ RIGHT Care Program
- ☐ Crisis Intervention Team
- ☐ Credible Messengers – Urban Specialists, Inc.

- **Treatment Access**

- ☐ Existing contract with Metrocare Services of Dallas

- **Community Outreach and Education**

- ☐ Crime Prevention Unit – dangers of opioid abuse, proper disposal, treatment and support service linkages

- **Data Analysis & Measurements**

- ☐ Existing contract with NYU School of Law and Child Poverty Action Lab (C-PAL)



## Education and Resources

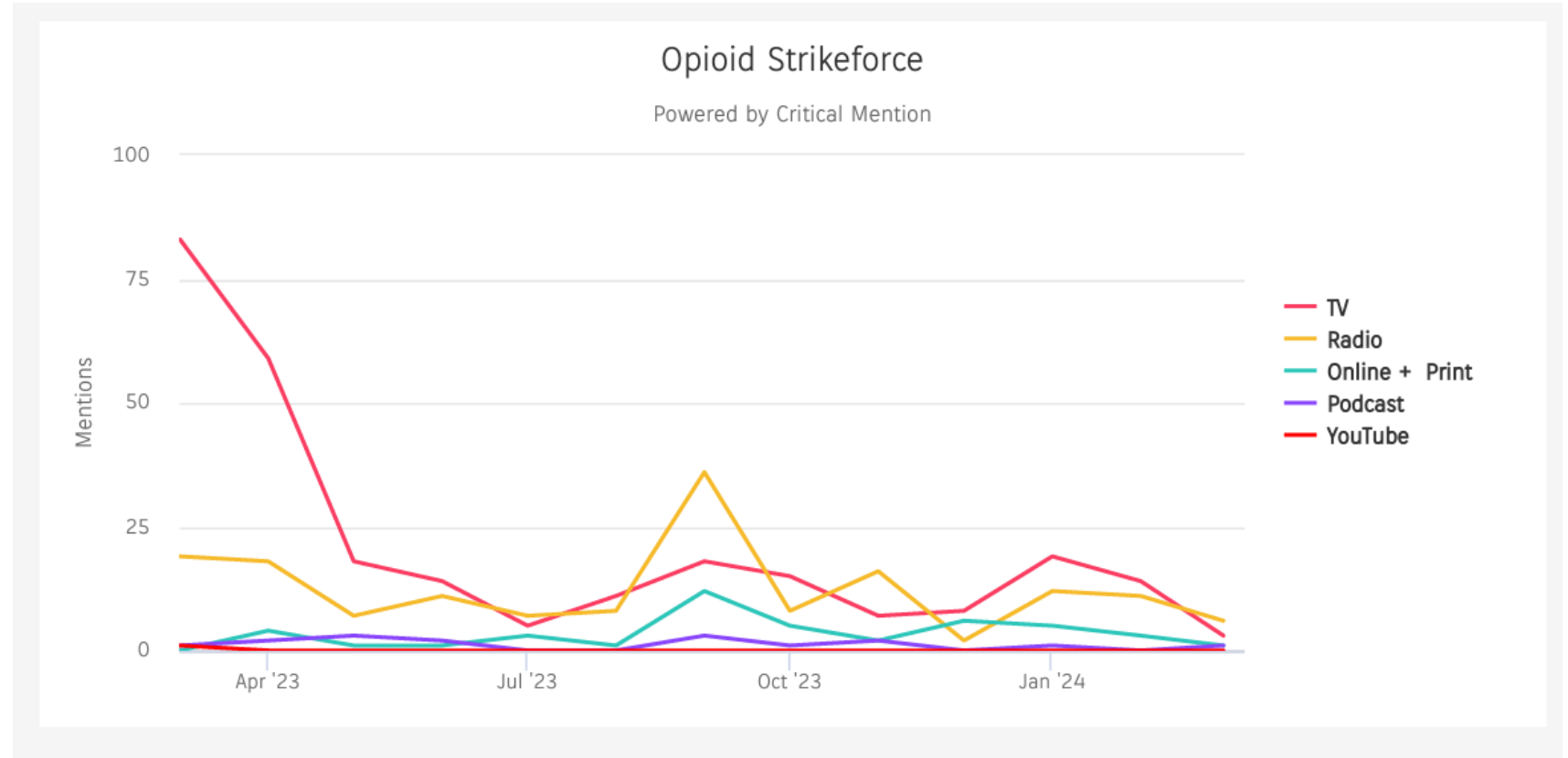
- Developed City of **Dallas bilingual communications** and education campaign
- Established **online services** portal
- Implemented **NARCAN availability** in city facilities
- DFR developed a **training** video for city employees
- Dallas ISD amended rules to allow **administration of NARCAN** on secondary education campuses
- Invited to serve on **national peer group** task force in New York City; next summit to be held in Dallas in May



# Education and Resources

COM Media  
Campaign

\$100,000



**Media Mentions**  
**March 2023 to March 2024 = 453**

**Audience** 27,538,112 **Publicity** \$2,116,914

# Next Steps



- Transition department lead and build out year 2 work plan
  - ❑ Increase state funding for medically assisted treatments (MATs)
  - ❑ Streamline funding for MATs
  - ❑ Transition opioid response team to a mobile MAT
- Continued coordination with stakeholders to ensure there is no duplication of services
- Fentanyl policy summit to be hosted by Dallas in May





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**He believed the pill  
he got from his friend  
was safe.**



**[dallas.gov/opioid-response](https://dallas.gov/opioid-response)**



**Lethal doses of Fentanyl have been found  
in counterfeit medication, meth,  
cocaine, heroin, and marijuana.**

**Si no la recetó  
un médico,  
no CONFÍES.**



**[dallas.gov/opioid-response](https://dallas.gov/opioid-response)**

Se han encontrado dosis letales de fentanilo en medicamentos falsos, metanfetamina, cocaína, heroína y marihuana.