

The HHS budget contains **more than \$1.5 billion in cuts** to mental health and substance use programs.

Overdose Prevention Initiative

The federal government supports states and communities in addressing mental health and substance use challenges—including the overdose epidemic—through complementary funding streams. In addition to the block grants provided to states, the Department of Health and Human Services also directly funds programs in areas of particular importance and need; these are often referred to as Programs of Regional or National Significance through an authority granted by Congress.

The proposed budget for the Department of Health and Human Services would eliminate the vast majority of these programs as part of over \$1.5 billion in cuts to federal funding for mental health and substance use programs. These programs save lives. Estimates range from \$4-\$7 dollars return on every \$1 invested on evidence based substance use care via reduced healthcare, criminal justice and social costs.

Examples of substance use prevention and treatment grants that would end include:



First Responder Training **\$56 million in FY 2024**

Provides resources and training to first responders and other frontline workers, including how to use naloxone; focuses on communities with high rates of opioid overdose and rural communities.

In 2023, FR-CARA trained more than 70,000 first responders and community members and purchased more than 100,000 doses of overdose reversal agents.



Criminal Justice Activities **\$94 million in FY 2024**

Supports several programs assisting individuals with carceral system involvement, including diversion or other alternatives to incarceration, drug courts (including drug courts for families), and reentry programming.

Drug courts funded through this program served more than 7,000 people in 2023, while the adult reentry program reached more than 2,000 people.



Children and Families **\$30 million in FY 2024**

Supports evidence-based, family-friendly treatment programs for youth with substance use disorders.

More than 2,700 people received services from the program in 2023.



Treatment, Recovery and Workforce Support **\$12 million in FY 2024**

Supports individuals in substance use disorder treatment and recovery in living independently and working.

More than 2,000 people received services in 2023.



Pregnant and Postpartum Women **\$38 million in FY 2024**

Funds comprehensive substance use disorder treatment, care management, prevention, and other social support services for pregnant and postpartum women.

In 2023, nearly 1,400 pregnant and postpartum women received services in residential facilities and almost 900 in outpatient settings.



Strategic Prevention Framework **\$135 million in FY 2024**

Funds evidence-based community-driven substance use prevention and mental health promotion services, with a particular focus on those disproportionately affected by substance misuse (such as children in the foster care system) and those caring for people affected by substance misuse.

More than 7 million people received evidence-based services in FY 2024.

Cutting these programs may **reverse** the recent decline in overdose deaths and will **harm communities** affected by the overdose crisis.