

POLICY PRIORITIES

2026

Program Overview

The Overdose Prevention Initiatives policy priorities advance practical federal policy that promotes SUD service access, protects coverage continuity, removes barriers to care, and strengthens the workforce while supporting overdose preparedness for a variety of settings and populations.

Priorities

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Service Access	Coverage	Workforce (Healthcare and Labor)	Vulnerable Populations	Data and Transparency
				

Policy Goal:
Promote access and remove barriers for prevention, treatment and recovery.

Policy Goal:
Stronger coverage through Medicaid, Medicare and other federal programs.

Policy Goal:
1. Expand the behavioral health and SUD workforce.
2. Support recovery-ready workplaces, overdose preparedness and reentry benefits that reduce barriers to work.

Policy Goal:
Promote initiatives for impacted populations:

- Seniors
- Youth
- Military and veterans
- Rural
- Tribal
- Pregnant and postpartum

Policy Goal:
Strengthen federal reporting and oversight to guide resource allocation.

Policy Objectives:

-  **Stabilize federal financing for treatment and recovery supports.**
-  **Equip workplaces with overdose reversal medications and annual training.**
-  **Prevent coverage loss during pretrial and before release from incarceration.**
-  **Increase recovery-ready workplaces that reduce barriers to work.**
-  **Increase access to treatment through telehealth services, specifically rural and hard to reach populations.**
-  **Expand peer support roles and workforce pathways to increase capacity.**
- **Reduce utilization management barriers for FDA-approved MOUD in Medicaid.**
- **Enhance data reporting for effective resource allocation and increased impact.**