



**NOT ONE  
MORE**

**OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**

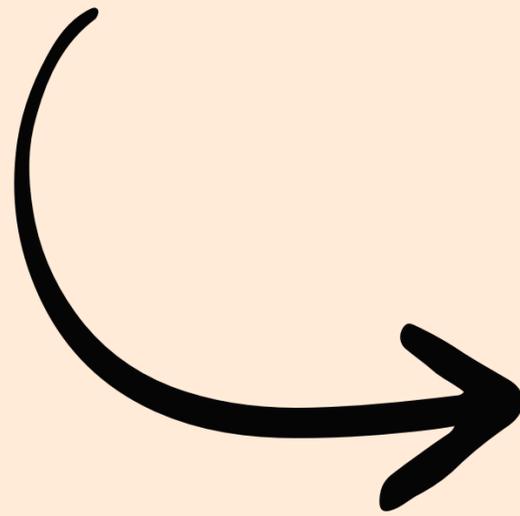
August 27th, 2023

WHO WE ARE

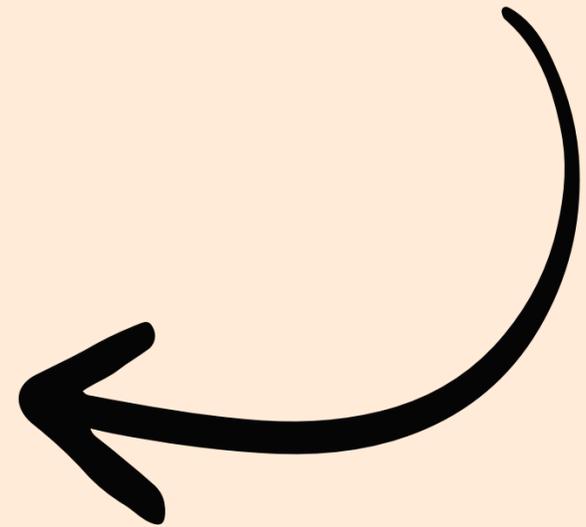
NJOP

NJ RP

Sea Change  
Recovery Community Organization



NOT ONE  
MORE



# WHAT WE'RE DOING

- Increasing access and affordability of MAT, especially for those on Medicaid and without insurance
- Increasing transparency, accountability & oversight of where federal and state funding to end the overdose crisis is really going - and fighting to make sure people like us with lived experience of SUD & recovery are at the table
- Bringing in more directly impacted folks to build the people power we need to win these solutions

**WHAT BROUGHT YOU HERE TODAY?**

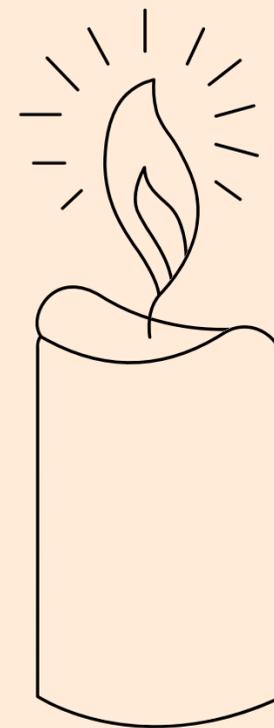
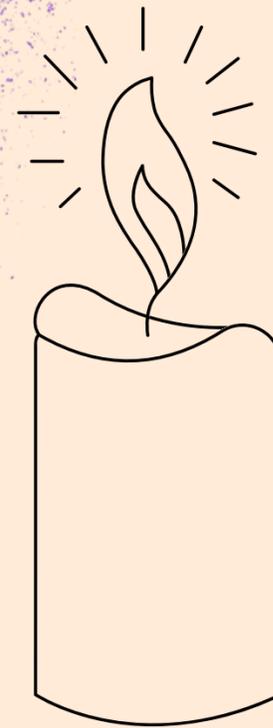
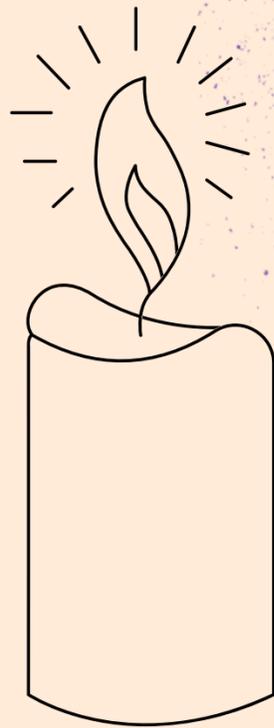
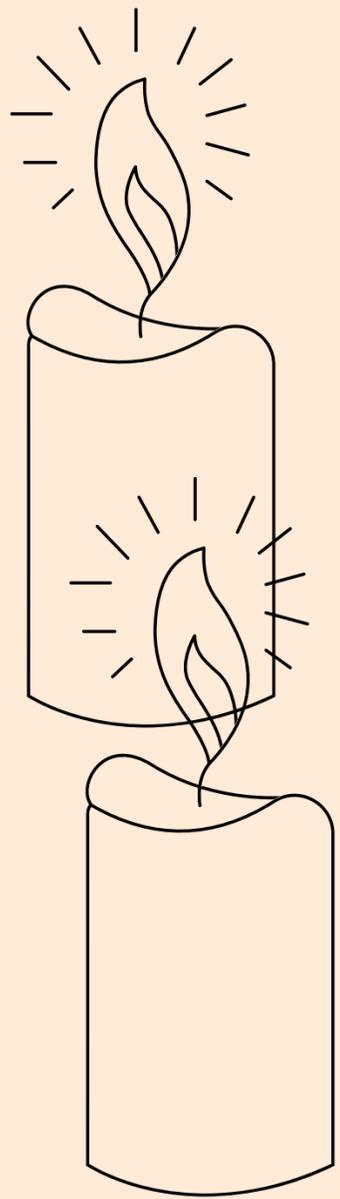
**2 MINUTES EACH**

**NOT ONE MORE**

# Today's Agenda:

1. Welcome and Introduction - (12 mins)
2. Candlelight Vigil - (15 mins)
3. Community Outreach (15 mins)
4. Break (5 mins)
5. Opioid Advisory Settlement Councils (15 mins)
6. Harm Reduction 101 - (20 mins)
7. Ways to Take Action - (10 mins)
8. Pizza & Fellowship - (1hr 20 mins)





# WHERE IS THE PROBLEM?

IN ORDER TO BUILD ENOUGH POWER TO MAKE CHANGE, WE NEED TO  
TALK TO OUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT ENDING THE OVERDOSE CRISIS.

BUT WHERE TO START?

# WHERE IS THE PROBLEM?

We partnered with 39 North Labs to identify overdose hotspots in Ocean & Monmouth Counties.

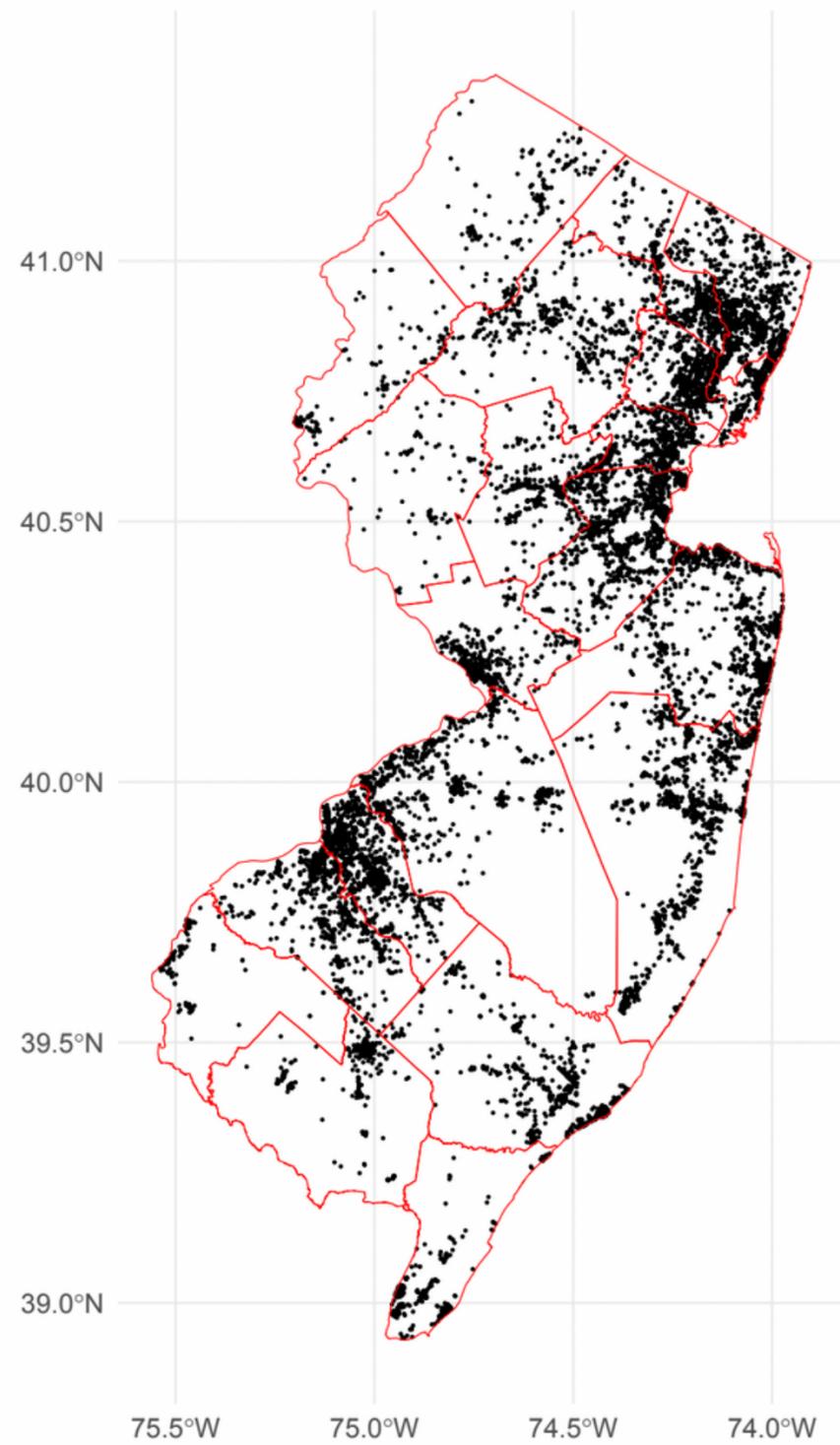
Methodology: Number of law enforcement naloxone deployments per 1000 people within each municipality from 2019-2021, accounting for differences in population density across urban and rural communities using Census Block Group data.

**WHERE IS THE PROBLEM?**

**WHERE DO YOU THINK ARE THE MOST  
HEAVILY IMPACTED AREAS IN NJ?**

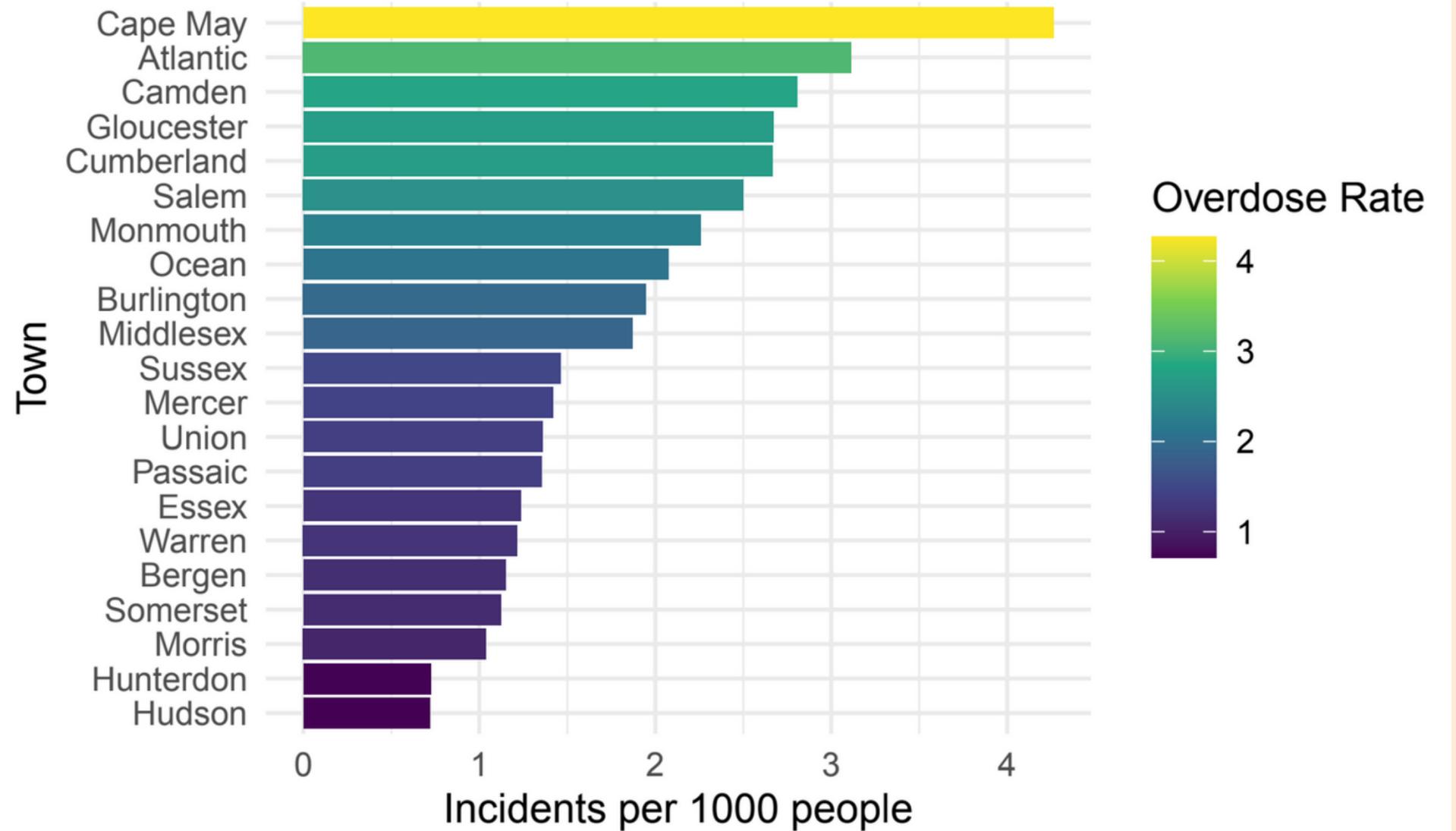
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All Law Enforcement Naloxone Deployments (201

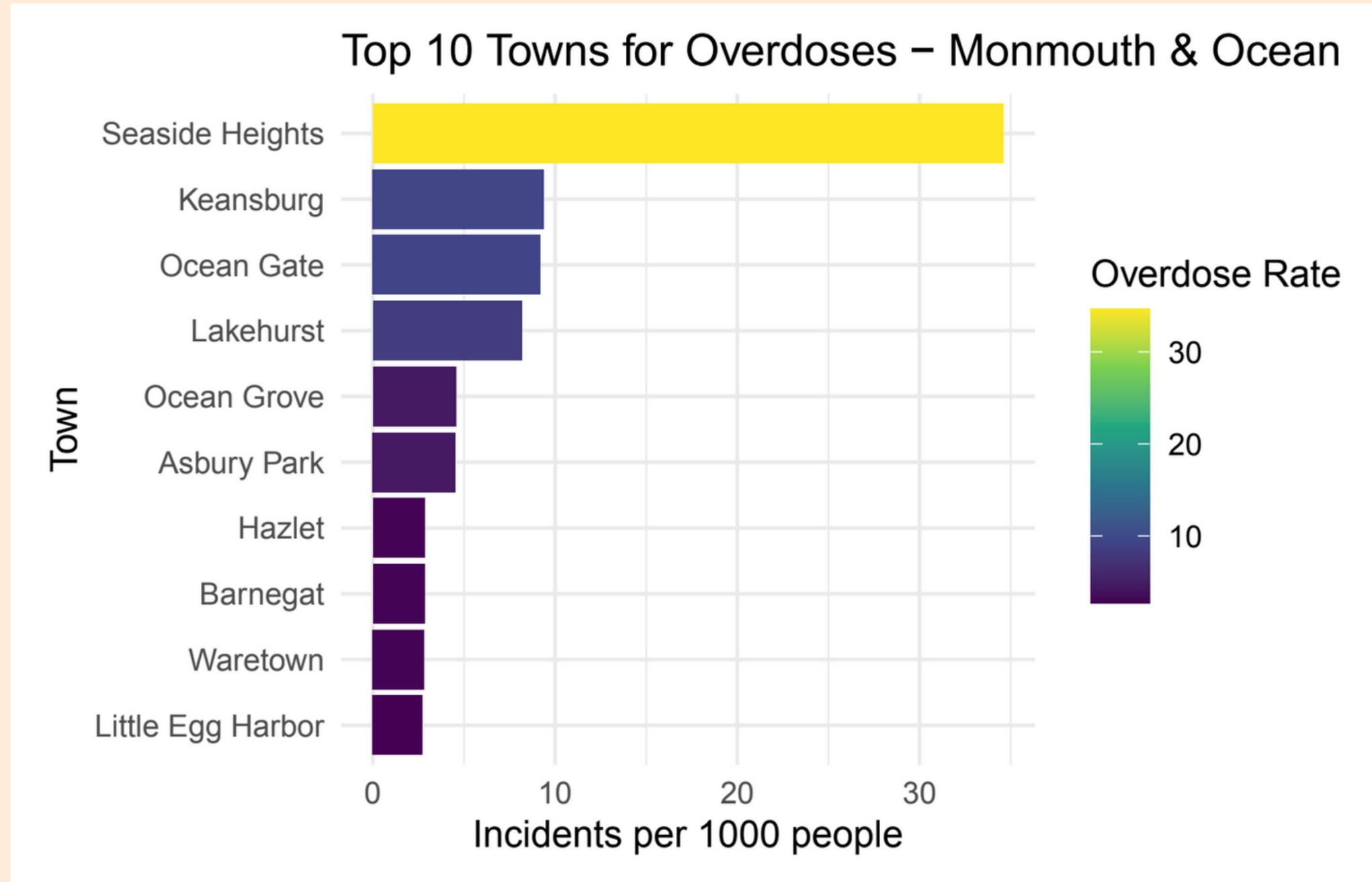


# MOST HEAVILY IMPACTED COUNTIES

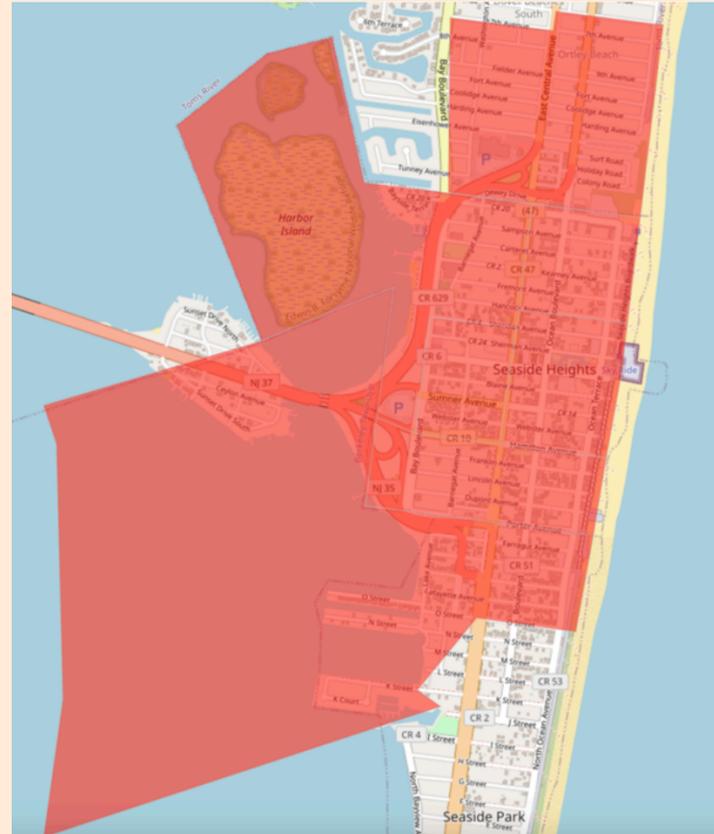
Overdose Rates by New Jersey County



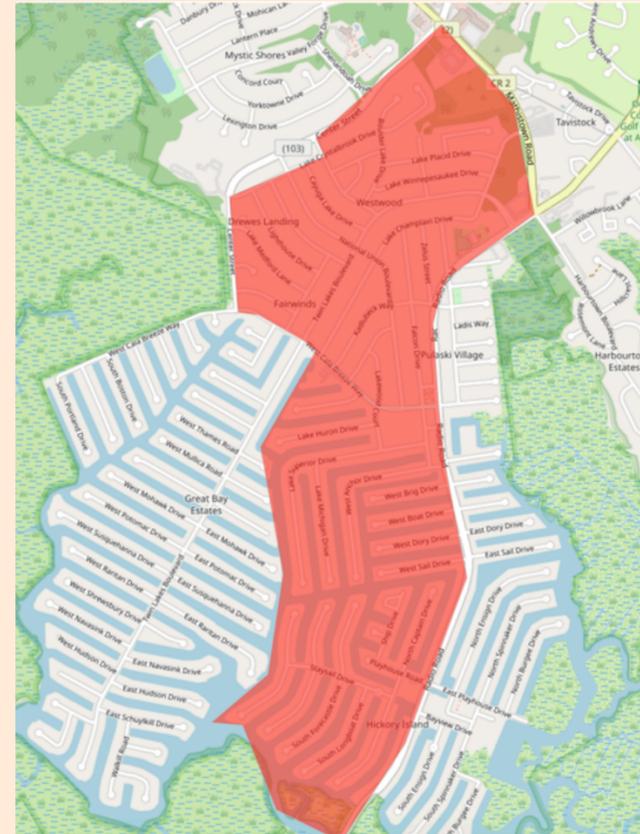
# MOST HEAVILY IMPACTED TOWNS



# OCEAN COUNTY HOTSPOTS



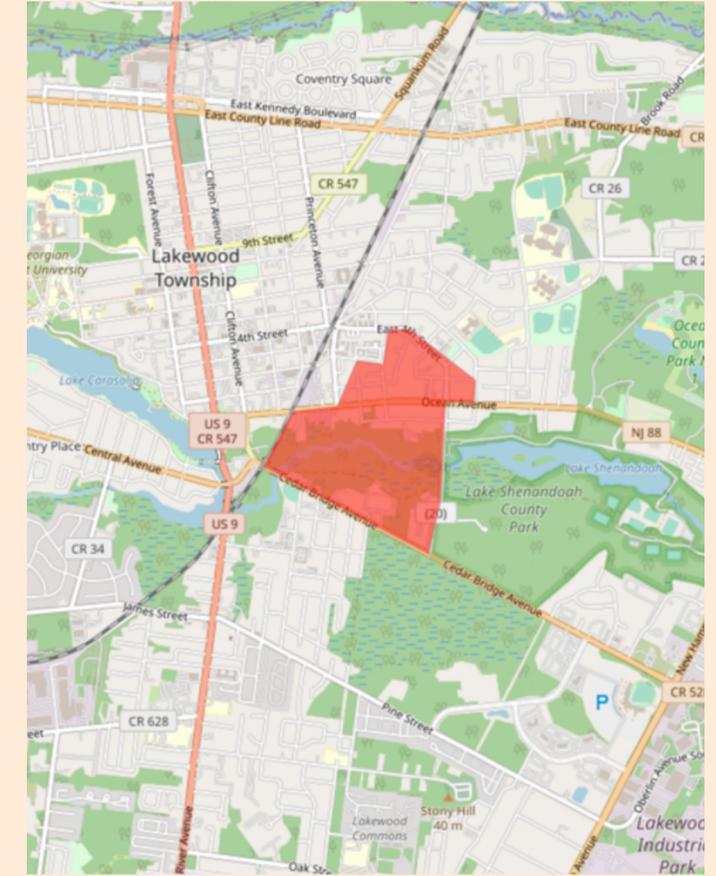
Seaside Heights



Little Egg Harbor

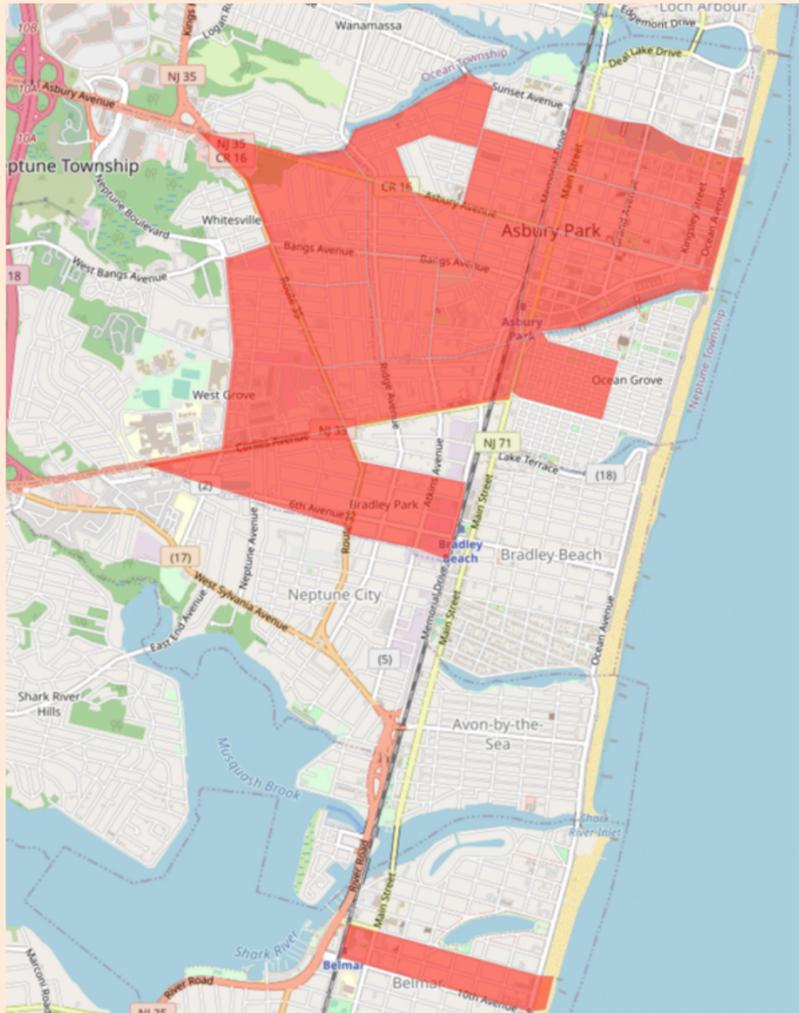


Point Pleasant Beach

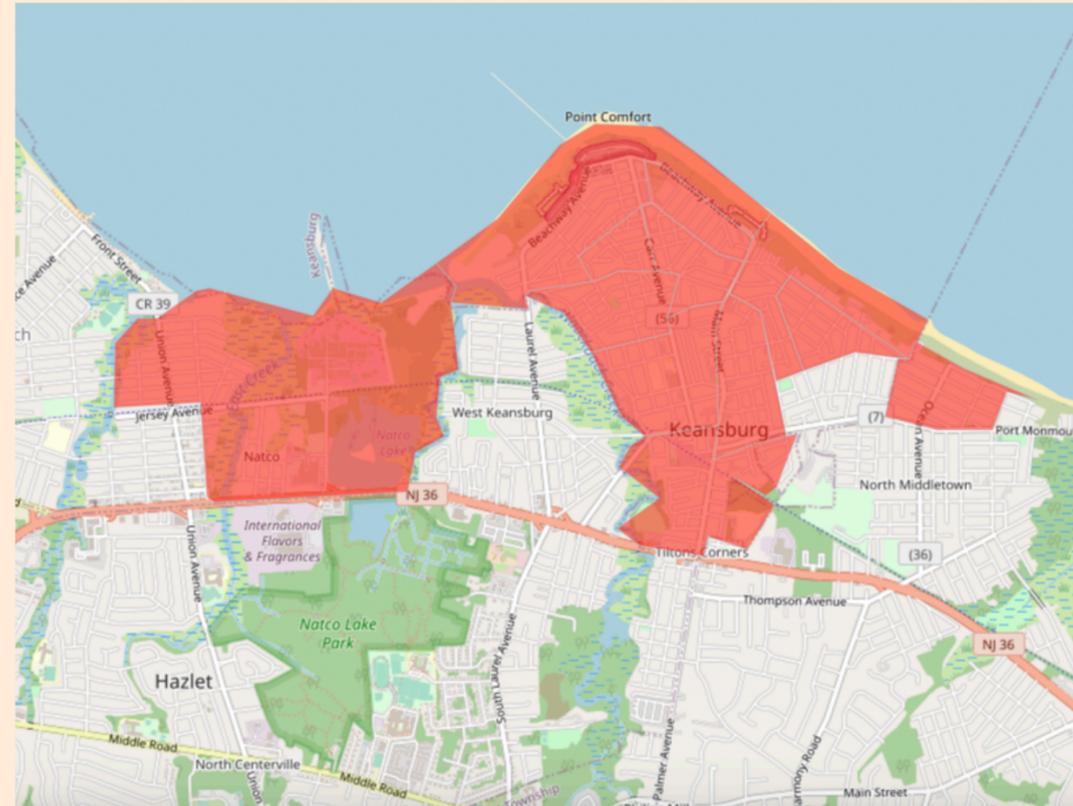


Lakewood

# MONMOUTH COUNTY HOTSPOTS



Asbury Park



Keansburg



Red Bank

# CONNECTING WITH COMMUNITY

## STORYTELLING, HARM REDUCTION, POWER BUILDING

- Deep Canvassing - vulnerable conversations with community members about experiences, hopes, fears & solutions based in compassionate curiosity & deep listening to reach across differences & build connections and trust.
- Why do we do it? To understand the experiences & needs of our community, crush the stigma, & build power in highly impacted areas

- In Spring 2023, we've had:
- 176 phone conversations
  - 88 door conversations
  - 123 new NoM members



**BOOTS ON THE GROUND CAMPAIGN TO HELP ADDRESS OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN OCEAN & MONMOUTH COUNTIES**



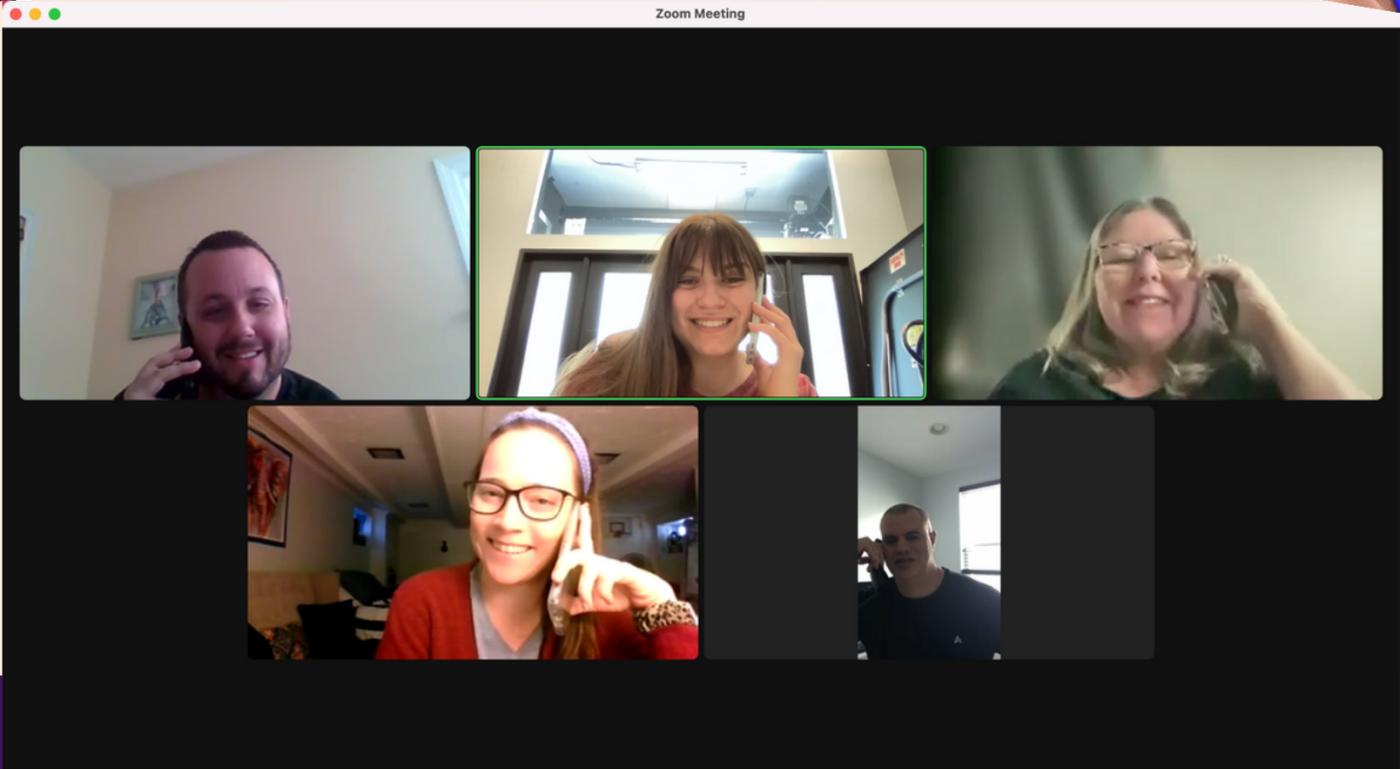
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# COMMUNITY NEEDS

## THE RESULTS

Common themes among conversations:

- Lots of people had lost a loved one to overdose, but didn't have support
- Rehabs and traditional treatment often didn't work
- MAT and mental health support is hard to access
- Many people started the conversation saying they weren't impacted, but then had a story to tell when canvassers opened up
- People were worried about how the crisis is affecting children and older folks
- Even if people weren't directly impacted, most could relate to difficulty accessing health care



**NOT ONE MORE**

# DEEP CANVASS GET IN ON THE ACTION!

- Sign up to canvass with NoM on Overdose Awareness Day on Thursday, August 31 from 5-8pm at an event hosted by Xodus Recover Community Center in Forked River



**THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN EVER**  
#IOAD2023  
International Overdose Awareness Day  
Help end overdose today

**Xodus Recovery Community Center Presents**

**International Overdose Awareness Day!**

**Thursday August 31st 6 ~ 9pm**

**Lacey Community Hall ~ 15 E. Lacey Rd Forked River NJ**

Evening To Include:  
Resource Tables  
Speakers  
Memory Board with Photos  
Candle Light Vigil

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US ON THIS NIGHT OF REMEMBRANCE.



**Mainstream Recovery**

**HOPE SHEDS LIGHT**

**NOT ONE MORE**



**NOT ONE  
MORE**

**OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**

August 27th, 2023

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## WHERE DID THEY COME FROM AND HOW MUCH DO WE GET?

In February 2022, NJ was awarded \$641 million over the next 18 years from Johnson & Johnson, McKesson, Cardinal Health, Amerisource Bergen for their role in fueling the overdose crisis.

The logo for Johnson & Johnson, featuring the company name in a red, cursive script font.The logo for McKesson, featuring the company name in a bold, blue, sans-serif font with a small orange square under the letter 'M'.The logo for Cardinal Health, featuring a stylized red graphic of three curved lines above the company name in a black, sans-serif font.The logo for AmerisourceBergen, featuring a blue stylized graphic of three curved lines above the company name in a black, sans-serif font.

**NOT ONE MORE**

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## WHERE DID THEY COME FROM AND HOW MUCH DO WE GET?

Even MORE money coming:

- \$30 million from Mallinckrodt
- A portion of \$450 million Endo settlement (not disbursed among states yet)
- A portion of \$508.1 million from CVS, Walgreens, Walmart, Teva, Allergan (not disbursed among states yet)



**NOT ONE MORE**

# APPROVED USES FOR SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## Funding must go towards:

- Treating opioid use disorder (OUD)
- Supporting people in treatment and recovery
- Providing connections to care
- Addressing the needs of justice involved persons
- Addressing the needs of pregnant or parenting people who use drugs and their families
- Preventing over-prescribing and ensuring the appropriate prescription of opioids by medical professional
- Preventing problematic use of opioids
- Preventing overdose deaths and harms through harm reduction strategies
- Other goals such as supporting first responders, training, and cross-system collaborative efforts, and/or research

<https://www.nj.gov/opioidfunds/>

**NOT ONE MORE**

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## HOW ARE THEY BEING DISTRIBUTED?

- In NJ, settlement funds are divided in half among the state and each of the counties, overseen by appointed Opioid Settlement Advisory Councils
  - State council makes recommendations to DHS
  - County councils make recommendations to committees who oversee county budgets
    - In Ocean and Monmouth Counties, that is the elected County Board of Commissioners

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

WHO DO YOU THINK IS ON THE STATE COUNCIL?

**NOT ONE MORE**

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## WHO ARE THE ADVISORS?

- Commissioner of Human Services (DHS)
- Commissioner of Health (DOH)
- Commissioner of Children and Families
- Attorney General
- 10 public members appointed by Governor Murphy
  - Public health & policy experts
  - 2 people with lived experience

## **Current members of New Jersey's council:**

**Sarah Adelman**, commissioner, New Jersey Department of Human Services

**Mavis Asiedu-Frimpong**, director of the Senator Walter Rand Institute for Public Affairs, Rutgers University-Camden

**Brenda "Bre" Azanedo**, harm reduction program manager, Black Lives Matter Paterson

**Christine Norbut Beyer**, commissioner, New Jersey Department of Children and Families

**Robert Detore**, CEO, Turning Point

**Jenna Mellor**, executive director, New Jersey Harm Reduction Coalition

**Solomon Middleton-Williams**, deputy director, Newark Community Street Team

**Amesika Nyaku**, assistant professor in the Division of Infectious Diseases, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

**Judith Persichilli**, commissioner, New Jersey Department of Health

**Matthew J. Platkin**, attorney general

**Shirla Simpson**, Human Services director, Burlington County

**Brian Thompson**, housing coordinator for the Care Management Initiatives team, Camden Coalition

**Morgan Thompson**, CEO, Prevention Links

**Debra Wentz**, president and CEO, New Jersey Association of Mental Health and Addiction Agencies

<https://kffhealthnews.org/opioid-settlements/>

# New Jersey

**Council name:** Opioid Recovery and Remediation Advisory Council

**Established by:** [Law](#)

Across the country, council members generally fall into seven categories, but the ratios in which they're represented differ greatly and offer clues about a state's values. Percentages shown here are based on current membership rather than the category designations some states set for their councils.

## Legend:

- Law enforcement and criminal justice
- Elected officials
- Government representatives
- Medical and social service providers
- Public health and human services
- Private health and human services
- Lived or shared experience
- Other

### New Jersey

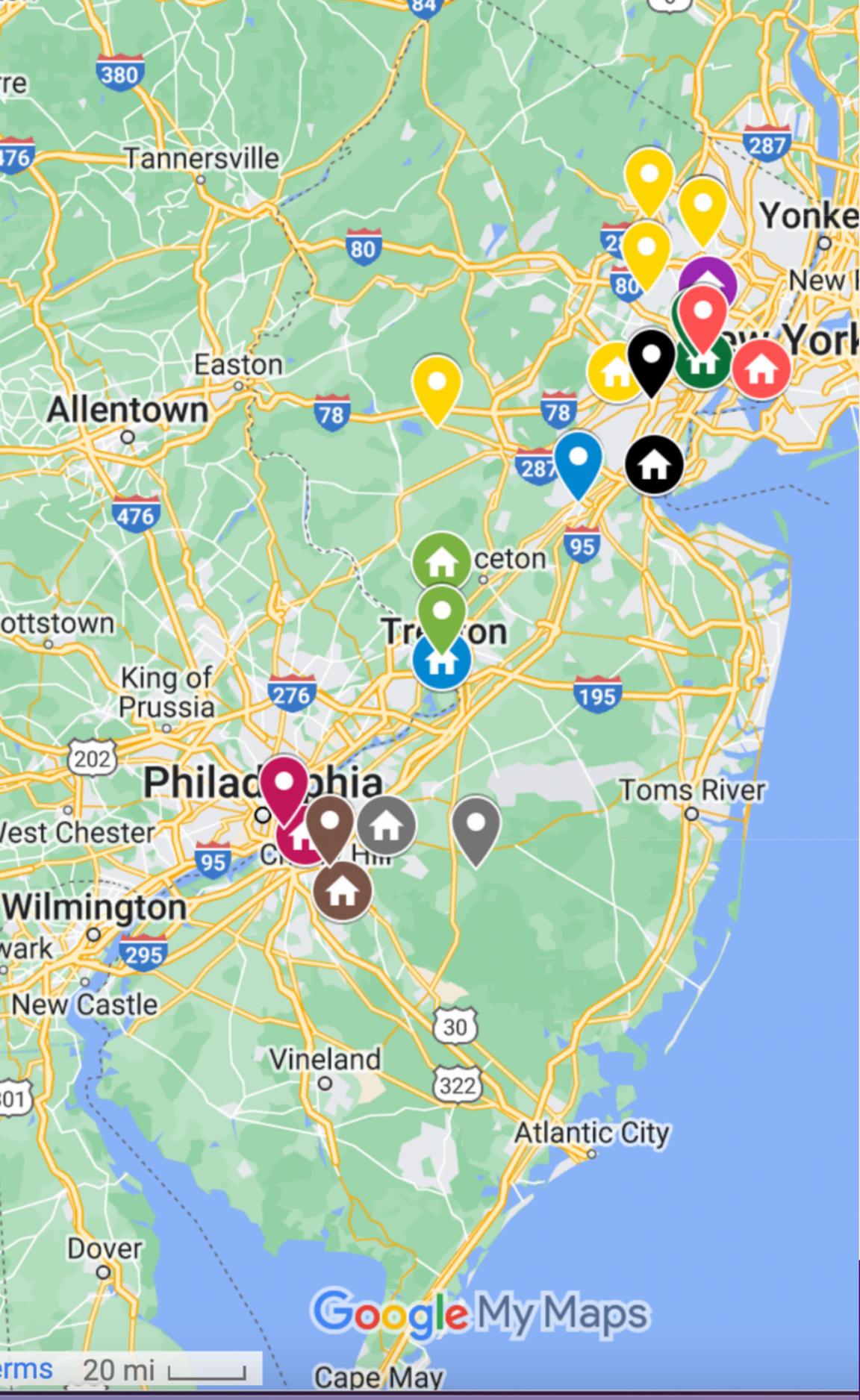


### Nationwide total



- Council members largely represent corporate hospitals, treatment institutions & state agencies.
  - Rutgers, Turning Point, Prevention Links
- Harm Reduction: NJ Harm Reduction Coalition, Camden Coalition, Newark Community Street Team, BLM Patterson

# WHERE ARE THE ADVISORS?



## Lives in

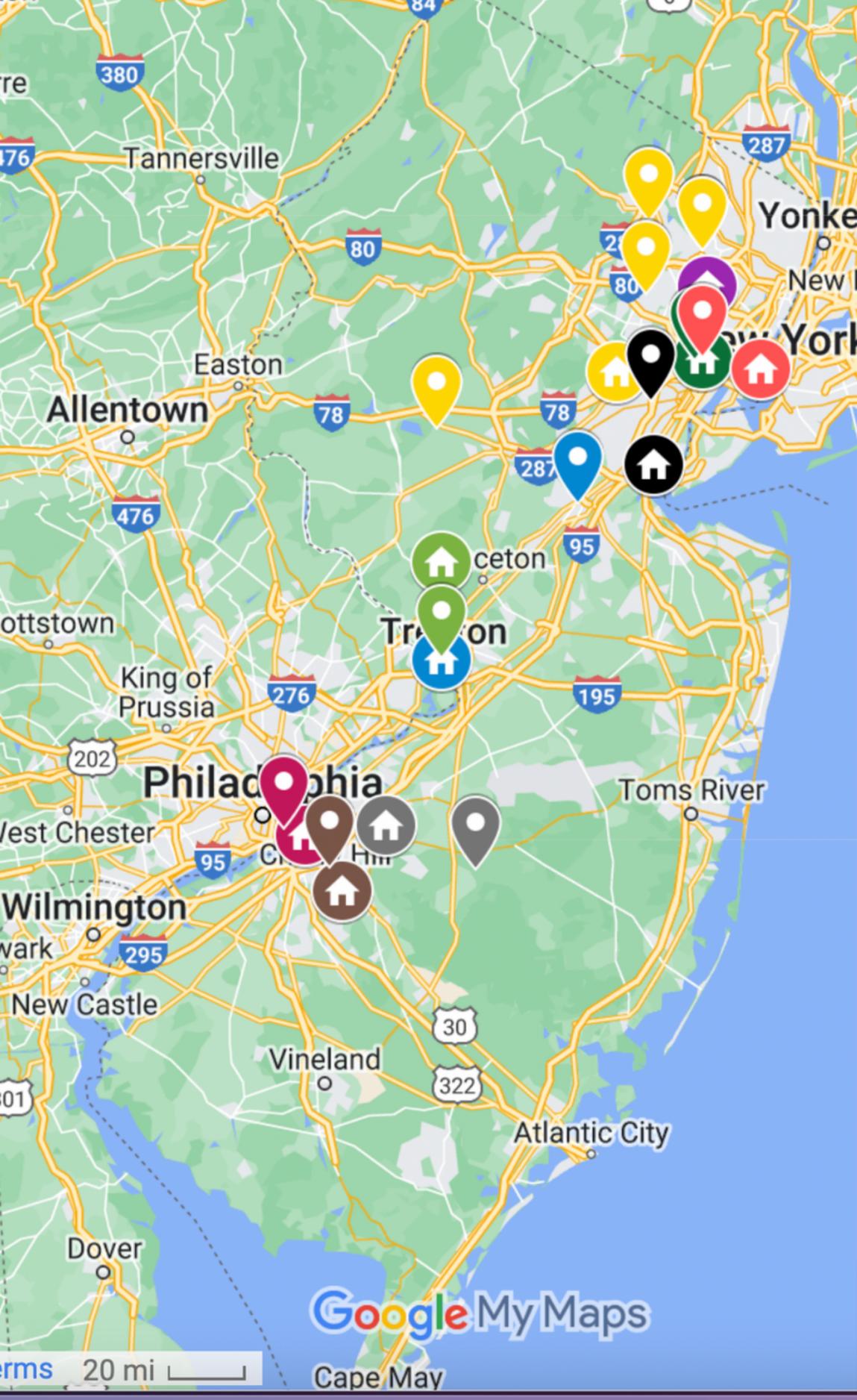
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- 🏠 Clifton - Azanedo, Brenda N.
- 🏠 Summit - Detore, Robert
- 🏠 Trenton: Mellor, Jenna
- 🏠 Newark: Middleton-Williams, Solomon
- 🏠 Jersey City: Dr. Nyaku, Amesika
- 🏠 Mount Laurel Township: Simpson, Shirla
- 🏠 Lindenwold: Thompson, Brian
- 🏠 Woodbridge Township, Thompson, Morgan
- 🏠 Hopewell: Dr. Wentz, Debra

## Works in

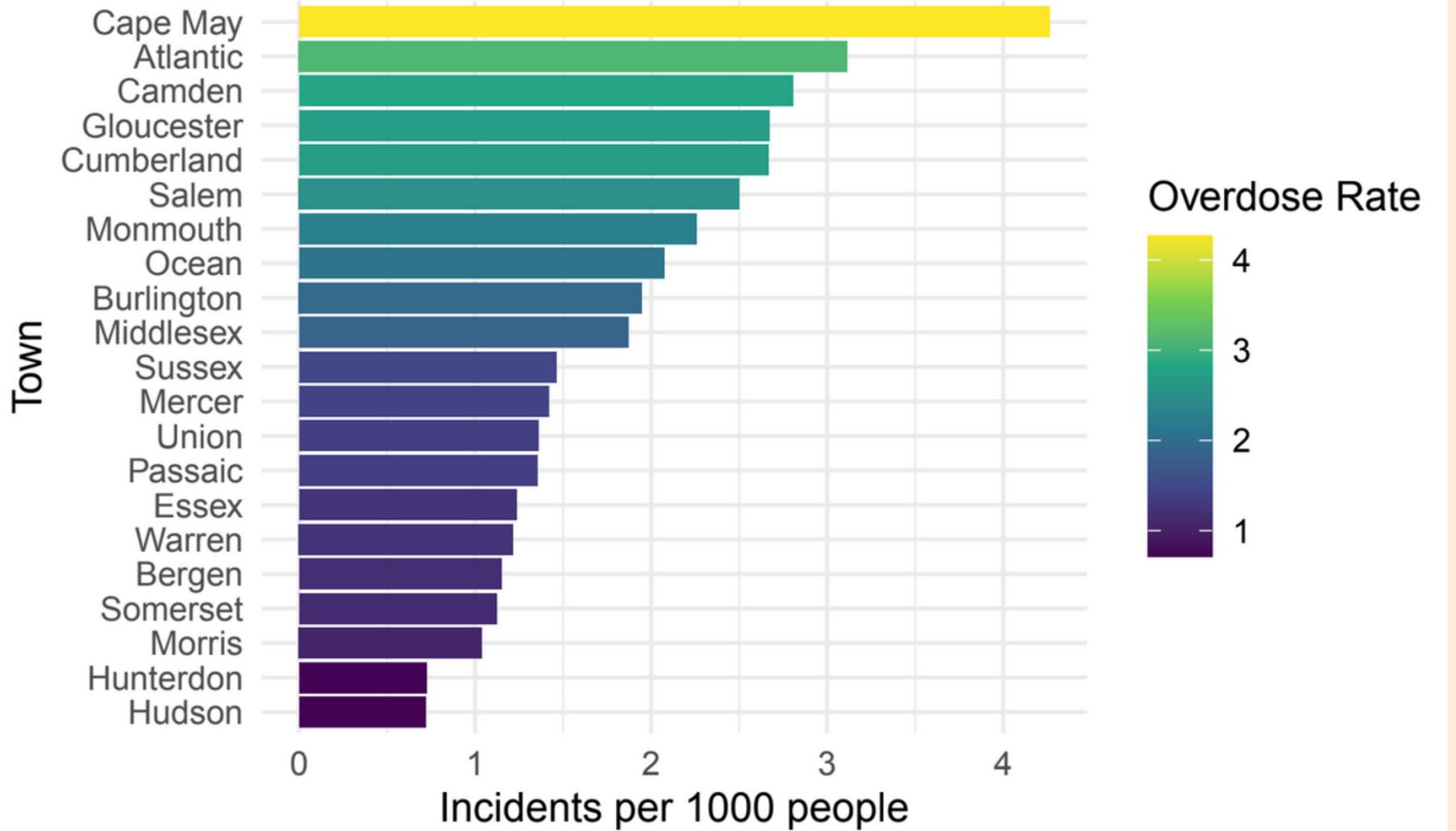
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- 📍 Paterson: Azanedo, Brenda N. - Passaic Cou...
- 📍 Paterson: Detore, Robert
- 📍 Whitehouse Station: Detore, Robert
- 📍 Pompton Plains: Detore, Robert
- 📍 West Caldwell: Detore, Robert
- 📍 New Brunswick: Mellor, Jenna
- 📍 Newark: Middleton-Williams, Solomon
- 📍 Newark: Dr. Nyaku Amesika
- 📍 Burlington County: Simpson, Shirla
- 📍 Camden County: Thompson, Brian
- 📍 Union County: Thompson, Morgan
- 📍 Trenton: Dr. Wentz, Debra

**NOT ONE MORE**

# WHERE ARE THE ADVISORS?



Overdose Rates by New Jersey County



**NOT ONE MORE**

# OUR CONCERNS

## THESE ADVISORS DON'T SEEM UNBIASED

- Mainly represent urban areas of NJ
  - They don't represent the needs of rural and suburban communities, like accessible transportation and MAT
- Conflicts of interest
  - Council members who run for-profit institutions may be inclined to recommend funds to their businesses or their friends' businesses
- Transparency, accountability, & oversight
  - NJ is one of few states that mandates reporting of ALL funds to the public annually - but after funds are already spent

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## OCEAN COUNTY COUNCIL

- Lead agency: Ocean County Division of Behavior Health, within DHS
  - 1 SUD expert
  - 1 SUD provider
  - 1 person with direct experience
  - County Alcohol & Drug Abuse Director
  - County Prosecutor
  - County Administrator
  - Director of Management and Budget

### Opioid Advisory Council members

Bradley D. Billhimer, County Prosecutor

Alternate: Renee White Esq., FNP-BC, PNHNP-BC, FN-CSA

Tara Chalakani, PsyD, LPC, RN, ACS, CEO of Preferred Behavioral Health Group

Alternate: Laura Messina, MSW, LCSW, LCADC, CCS

Tristin J. Collins, County Director of Management and Budget

Michael J. Fiure, County Administrator

Tracy Maksel, PhD, County Mental Health Administrator

Alternate: Lori Enquist-Schmidt, MA, LPC

Kimberly Reilly, MA, LPC, County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Director

Alternate: Daniel Regenye, MHA

Julie N. Tarrant, County Appropriation of Funds Officer

Kimberly Veith, MSW, MBA, LCSW, LCADC, CEO of Bright Harbor Healthcare

Stephen Willis, Esq., Co-Founder of Hope Sheds Light

Alternate: Pamela Capaci, CADC

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## OCEAN COUNTY COUNCIL



**NOT ONE MORE**

# OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUNDS

## SOLUTIONS WE'RE FIGHTING FOR

Priorities NoM has shared with settlement councils:

- Affordable, accessible, treatment & transportation
- Evidence-based, compassionate care
- Community level resources
- Transparency, Accountability & Oversight



**NOT ONE  
MORE**

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# CARE OVER CRIMINALIZATION

## WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FENTANYL RIGHT NOW?

NJ lawmakers are trying to increase already harsh penalties on fentanyl. Claiming to target "drug kingpins", A5649 will lower the amount needed to be charged with a felony for intent to distribute to just 5 grams - leaving it up to police and prosecutors to determine who is using and who is selling.

This will result in more of our loved ones going to jail instead of being offered support and treatment, and more people dying because they're afraid to reach out for help. We're fighting for solutions instead of more setbacks.

**NOT ONE MORE**



**NOT ONE  
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# OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH NOM



## *Sea Change*

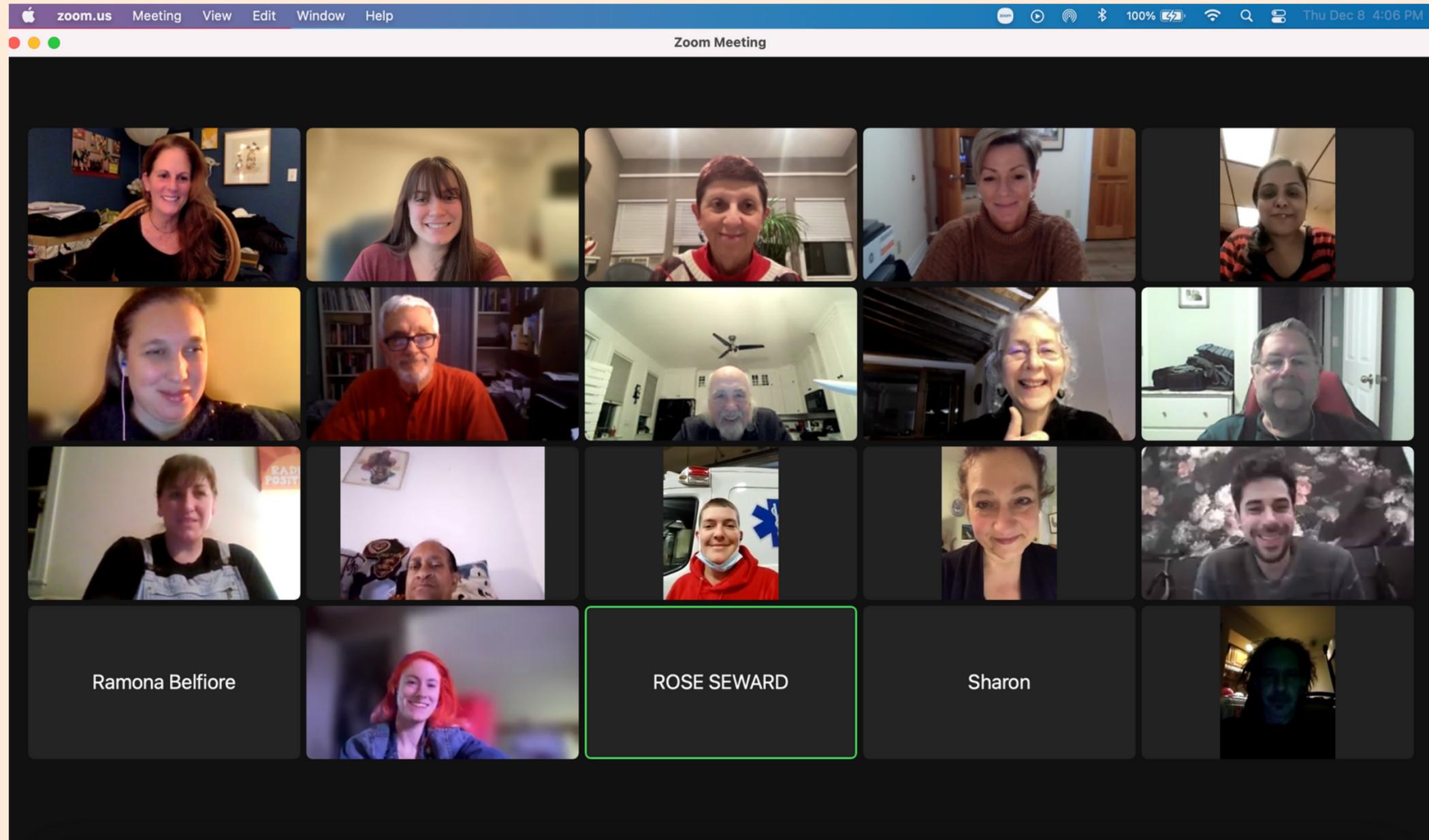
Recovery Community Organization

Join us at the 1st Annual Sea Change RCO Picnic on Sunday, September 9th! See Elizabeth for details



**NOT ONE MORE**

# OTHER WAYS TO GET INVOLVED WITH NOM



Join our monthly community zoom meeting on the second Thursday of each month from 6-7pm - the next one is on 9/14

# THE REST OF TODAY

- Eat pizza and salad & connect with one another
- Visit our tables around the room:
  - NoM t-shirt table - \$25
  - Art table - seashell messages of hope
  - Harm reduction table - take home supplies
  - NoM Take Action table
    - Sign up to attend the 8/31 table event canvass
    - Sign up to tell your story to make change
    - Schedule a 1-1 with an organizer



**NOT ONE  
MORE**

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