THE POLICY & RESEARCH GROUP
STATE OPIOID RESPONSE GRANT

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) *State Opioid Response* (SOR) grant program was created to support states and territories in addressing the opioid overdose crisis. The purpose of the program is to increase access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and support prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery support services for opioid use disorder (OUD) and other co-occurring substance use disorders. The program's focus also encompasses the care continuum for stimulant misuse and use disorders, including for methamphetamine and cocaine. The overall goal of the SOR program is to reduce unmet treatment needs and opioid-related overdose fatalities nationwide.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR A SOR GRANT?

Eligible applicants include Single State Agencies (SSAs) and territories.

WHAT ARE THE DATA COLLECTION AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS?

Grant recipients must collect and report data in accordance with the GPRA Modernization Act of 2010. This involves reporting client-level data using the *CSAT GPRA Client Outcome Measures for Discretionary Programs Tool* (CSAT GPRA), a uniform tool provided by SAMHSA. Data are submitted through SAMHSA's Performance Accountability and Reporting System (SPARS). Recipients are expected to conduct CSAT GPRA interviews with all clients at intake, maintain an 80% six-month follow-up rate, and enter their data within 7 days after the CSAT GPRA interview is conducted. Collection of CSAT GPRA data at discharge is also highly encouraged.

WHAT SERVICES DOES PRG PROVIDE FOR SOR GRANTEES?

ONLINE DATA COLLECTION AND DATA MANAGEMENT

We have created electronic CSAT GPRA data entry tools that simplify required reporting, improve data accuracy and quality, and reduce the need for manual data entry. Additionally, we offer batch data upload services, allowing grantees to upload GPRA data to the SAMHSA SPARS system weekly. This process enhances efficiency and accuracy in data management and reporting.

DATA MONITORING AND CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

In response to clients' needs, we have developed *PRG Insight*, a real-time data monitoring system that allows organization and state administrators to continuously track and review the data they collect. SOR grantees using our system gain real-time access to a user-friendly data dashboard, which provides insights into total CSAT GPRA intakes and follow-up rates. This dashboard features filtering capabilities (e.g., by site, staff, or date range) and a client-tracking spreadsheet to monitor follow-up requirements. The system also leverages data collected with the CSAT GPRA to provide snapshots of client characteristics, behaviors, and outcomes, as well as services received while in the program, so that administrative staff can better understand program performance and client wellbeing.

TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Drawing from our extensive 20-year experience working with SAMHSA grantees, PRG helps organizations understand data collection instruments and requirements, as well as leverage the data they are required to collect**.** Grantee staff can access pre-recorded training videos covering GPRA data collection, online data entry tool usage, and dashboard navigation. Grantee staff can also reach out to the PRG help desk via email for timely assistance with any questions regarding GPRA data collection or the data tools.

For more information about the SOR program, see the [State Opioid Response](#) page on SAMHSA's website.

THE POLICY & RESEARCH GROUP
STATE OPIOID RESPONSE GRANT

The Policy & Research Group (PRG), established in 2004, is a small business conducting research and evaluation studies. PRG has conducted federally funded evaluations in a variety of settings, including at the state- and local-level and in urban, rural, and tribal communities. We have conducted evaluations of SAMHSA funded projects in 32 states and the District of Columbia.

PRG's EXPERIENCE WITH SAMHSA-FUNDED GRANTS RELATED TO OPIOID RESPONSE AND TREATMENT

STATE OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM (SOR)

- *Minnesota Department of Human Services (2023–24):* PRG created a system for electronic CSAT GPRA data collection, management, and SPARS submission to improve the efficiency and accuracy of data collection across SOR-funded sites. In addition, PRG developed the *PRG Insight* data dashboard system to empower state administrators to leverage their data to inform programming and service delivery. *PRG Insight* allows grantees to track data collection targets in real time and access continuously updated snapshots of client characteristics, wellbeing, outcomes, and services received from SOR-funded sites.

TARGETED CAPACITY EXPANSION: MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT – PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND OPIOID ADDICTION (MAT-PDOA) PROGRAM

- *Minnesota Department of Human Services (2017–20):* PRG conducted an implementation and outcome evaluation of the MAT-PDOA program, which aimed to expand medication-assisted OUD treatment services for American Indians living in the White Earth and Red Lake Nation areas and African Americans living in the Twin Cities area of Minnesota. In addition, PRG provided technical assistance related to CSAT GPRA data collection and submission.

TARGETED CAPACITY EXPANSION: SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR RACIAL/ETHNIC MINORITY POPULATIONS AT HIGH-RISK FOR HIV/AIDS (TCE-HIV) PROGRAM

- *South Texas Substance Abuse Recovery Services (2017–2022):* PRG conducted an implementation and outcome evaluation of *Project Humanity,* which aimed to provide case management, outpatient substance use treatment, and medication-assisted OUD treatment to individuals living with or at high risk for HIV/AIDS in and around Nueces County, Texas. In addition, PRG provided technical assistance related to CSAT GPRA data collection and submission.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO OVERDOSE TREATMENT PROGRAM

- *Odyssey House Louisiana (2017–22):* PRG evaluated the *Revive. Survive. OverDose Prevention Program,* which aimed to develop a best practice tool kit for prescribing overdose reversal drugs, conduct trainings in naloxone use and access, and provide naloxone kits or prescriptions.

MINORITY AIDS INITIATIVE (MAI) – SERVICE INTEGRATION PROGRAM

- *Odyssey House Louisiana (2022–2026):* PRG is conducting an implementation and outcome evaluation of *iPrevent MAI*, which aims to expand access to evidence-based treatment for racial/ethnic minorities at the intersection of HIV, Hepatitis, mental health, and substance use/opioid use disorders (SUD/OUDs). In addition, PRG provides technical assistance related to collecting, managing, and submitting Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) National Outcome Measures (NOMS) data.

PRG's RESEARCH AND EVALUATION EXPERTISE

- Research
- Evaluation
- Advanced data analysis methods
- Instrument development and design

- Quantitative and qualitative data collection methods
- Obtaining and managing third-party datasets

- In-depth knowledge of federal research evidence standards
- Ensuring data security and confidentiality

To learn more about partnering with PRG on a SOR grant, visit policyandresearch.com or contact us at info@policyandresearch.com.