

Department of Public Health

Ordinance No. 626-2019

Executive Summary
"This is (Not) About Drugs"

Background/Purpose:

The legislation authorizes the Director of Public Health to apply for and accept a grant from the Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County for "This is (Not) About Drugs". Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into an agreement with Overdose Lifeline, Inc. for the license and training for "This is (Not) About Drugs" education program to reduce prescription opioid abuse, heroin use and overdose; and authority to enter into an agreement with Preventure for training for our Problem Identification and Referral Strategy.

Behavioral health encompassing both substance abuse disorders and violence is a strategic initiative of CDPH. The overall goal of this initiative is to create a comprehensive network that links substance abuse prevention education with trauma-informed care approaches to create resiliency in youth in the City of Cleveland.

The opioid epidemic has also disproportionately affected the City of Cleveland. According to the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner in 2016, 100 opiate deaths occurred in Cuyahoga County Council District 3, which includes City of Cleveland Wards 3 (partial), 11 (all), 12 (partial), 12 (partial), 14 (all), 15 (partial) and 16 (partial). This number is also significant because it represents the highest number of deaths in the entire county. The leading causes of death in the City of Cleveland from 2008 – 2017, for Hispanics and Caucasians ages 1-14 were accidents (which includes overdose). Accidents are the second leading cause of death for this age group among African Americans.

We are re-focusing our work to have a population health approach to reduce substance use disorders and overdose deaths. We are implementing an evidence-based education program called "This is (Not) About Drugs" (TINAD). TINAD is an opioid and heroin Prevention Program that raises awareness to the risks of misusing opioids. The experience encourages students to make good choices and provides alternatives to using substances to deal with life stressors. Youth will learn how to ask for help and gain support and the available information and resources for making good choices for their own body and health. Adults are also provided with support to help youth in need who are dealing with substance-related issues.

The target populations are youth in grades 6-12 in the City of Cleveland and the adults who work with them.

The prevention strategies used in the program include:

- a. Education
- b. Information dissemination
- c. Community-based process
- d. Problem identification and referral services

Goals:

CDPH will evaluate our use of TINAD through several measurement tools:

For Community-Based Process strategy, we will use the following:

- DARS (Devereux Adult Resilience Survey) will be used to measure outcomes for adults who work with youth.

For Problem Identification and Referral Services, we will use the following:

- Devereux Student Strength Assessment (DESSA Mini) to demonstrate a reduction in need and an increase in strengths among the youth receiving prevention education.
- SURPS (Substance Use Risk Profile Scale) to determine risk for substance use.

Grant Amount: \$67,500.00

Term: January 1, 2019 – December 31, 2019

Funding Source: Alcohol Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS)
Board of Cuyahoga County