



Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)

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- Responsible for overseeing addiction-fighting efforts across the Department of Law and Public Safety (DL&PS).
- Creating relationships and partnerships with other agencies and groups committed to identifying and implementing solutions to the opioid crisis and drug addiction.

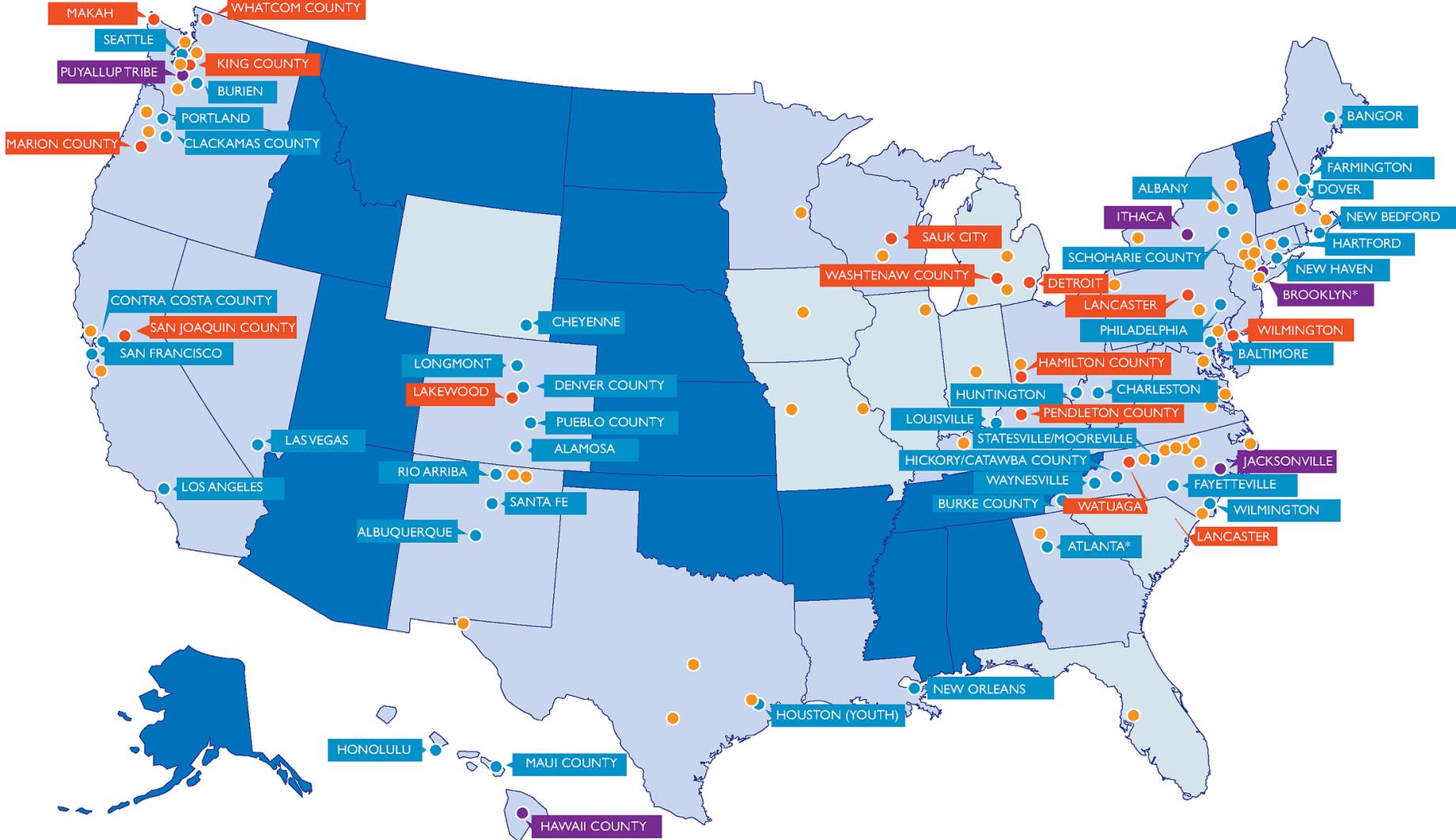
In December 2021, the DL&PS was awarded \$6,000,000 under the FFY21 Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program: Category 2 Grant to establish LEAD programs in pilot six sites in NJ.

- DL&PS will use a data-driven approach to identify six areas in NJ where LEAD would best be implemented.
- DL&PS to announce the availability of six grants for public-health oriented entities to apply to plan and implement LEAD.
 - This may include but not be limited to: non-profits or community-based treatment providers that provide substance use and/or mental health treatment to their communities.

What is Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD):

- gives law enforcement officers discretion to divert individuals who commit low-level offenses that are driven by substance use, mental illness, and/or homelessness directly to long-term, community-based, harm reduction case management for individuals with repeated contact with law enforcement whose low-level criminal conduct is driven by unmet behavioral needs.
 - In a LEAD warm handoff to community-based case management, rather than making an arrest, a police officer calls the LEAD case management, which comes to the scene or the police station to meet the individual, explain LEAD, and invite the person to opt into LEAD.
 - Once the person has accepted the referral, the officer is free to return to duties on the street, but is invited to the ongoing working group to follow the progress of individuals that are diverted from an arrest, through an ongoing law enforcement collaboration. Engagement is dependent on the individual participant's needs and access to resources.
 - Individuals can also be referred to LEAD through community-based referrals and referrals from law enforcement interactions that do not involve unlawful conduct.

National Scope of LEAD



Q&A

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