

Below is a list of the counties awarded “Operation Helping Hand” grants and a description of some of the programs and projects being funded during the grant period:

- **Atlantic County** – Establish “Atlantic County Law Enforcement Advanced Diversion”, or “A.C.L.E.A.D” program, an arrest-based diversion program offering individuals arrested for certain crimes the chance to receive drug treatment and recovery services rather than prosecution. If an individual requests to enter the diversion program, the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office and the arresting agency will agree to hold the issuance of the criminal charges in abeyance for a period of no less than six months to assure the subject has sought, complied with, and completed all treatment recommendations. Charges will be dismissed against participants who successfully complete the program.
- **Burlington** – Establish non-arrest outreach program targeting individuals who have been revived by naloxone or interacted with police during calls for emergency services for overdoses. Law enforcement and a recovery coach will visit at-risk individuals to encourage them to seek treatment and to link them with treatment and recovery resources and services.
- **Cape May** – Establish “Hope One Van” mobile outreach program to bring addiction and recovery services to high-risk areas identified through law enforcement data and intelligence.
- **Gloucester** – Partner with local, county, state, and federal law enforcement agencies, public health agencies, and others to gather available overdose, naloxone administration, and arrest data to create a list of at-risk individuals to target and provide recovery services on an on-going basis. This list will include individuals who have been arrested on drug charges, suffered non-fatal overdoses, inmates released from jail, occupants of local hotels and motels, and defendants in Municipal and Superior court.
- **Hunterdon** – Establish a list of at-risk individuals based on historic and contemporaneous data on naloxone administrations and non-fatal overdose statistics and then execute preplanned "roundups" to connect these individuals with recovery resources. Work with county and municipal prosecutors to identify at-risk individuals currently in the criminal justice system for drug offenses and connect them with recovery resources and, on a case-by-case basis, consider dismissal of charges for individuals who are cooperative. Host "Open Houses" in an effort to bridge at risk individuals and/or their loved ones within the community with recovery coaches and specialists in a nonthreatening environment.
- **Mercer** – Expand Mercer County's “C.A.R.E. (Community Addiction Recovery Efforts)” program, which was launched by Robbinsville Police Department in 2016 and then expanded to all local police departments in the county; the

C.A.R.E. model activates recovery coaches when police arrest an individual for a low-level crime and assists law enforcement in linking individuals to treatment and/or recovery services. As part of the Operation Helping Hand program, the “C.A.R.E. Task Force” was formed to centralize the coordination of the C.A.R.E. program under the Mercer County Prosecutor's Office and expand existing and diversionary efforts and partnerships, including non-arrest outreach to those identified as having addiction issues prior to any involvement with law enforcement. Meeting monthly during the grant period, the “C.A.R.E. Task Force Steering Committee” was established to employ a multi-disciplinary approach to reviewing and addressing overdose "hot spots," and provide appropriate resources, response and intervention in those areas.

- **Middlesex** – Establish the “Blue Cares” program, to coordinate efforts between members of law enforcement and community partners to most effectively use all available resources to prevent and treat drug addiction. Police officers from responding municipalities cultivate an environment that fosters recovery, identifies those individuals who require intervention, and provides that individual and/or their families with information on recovery and treatment services available to assist them in the recovery process. Blue Cares has a 24-hour hotline (732) 596-4199, which is answered by Peer Recovery coaches who can assist callers with referrals or immediate services.
- **Salem** – Expand Salem County’s “Operation RESCUE (Recovery, Encouragement, Support, Community, Understanding, and Empowerment)” program, a community outreach initiative that started in early 2018 in Salem County, by implementing several new efforts in 2019 using grant funds, including: the presence of law enforcement and recovery coaches at municipal courts on a rotating schedule to connect individuals with substance abuse issues to treatment and recovery services; using law enforcement data to identify individuals with substance abuse issues and having law enforcement target them for addiction intervention services; operating a mobile response vehicle that will have set "roving" hours to connect individuals with substance abuse issues to services; and attending tabling events at Cowtown Flea Market, a popular year round, indoor and outdoor farmers market and flea market in Southern New Jersey.
- **Sussex** – Leverage partnerships and addiction resources established by Sussex County’s “C.L.E.A.R. (Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery)” program to launch the following efforts in the county: being present at municipal court hearings to meet with defendants charged with drug-related crimes on the court docket in an attempt to engage and offer them recovery services; visiting the last known residences of individuals that have been administered naloxone on repeated occasions to connect them to recovery services; engaging individuals arrested for drug offenses and offering them recovery services; and coordinating preplanned community engagements and “Open Houses” with at-risk individuals where law enforcement and recovery

specialists are available to link the individuals to care.

- **Warren** – Engage known drug users with previous law enforcement involvement in municipal courts or during home visits by conducting “knock and talks” to offer treatment and recovery services. Conduct surveillance on known drug users and locations where controlled dangerous substances are sold to identify targets, arrest individuals if applicable, and offer them the chance to be connected to treatment through recovery specialists.
- **Bergen, Camden, Cumberland, Morris, and Union** – Plan and execute enforcement operation(s) modeled after Bergen County’s Operation Helping Hand, an innovative program in which opioid-addicted individuals who are arrested for drug offenses are offered the opportunity to pursue treatment and/or recovery support services. The program involves a coordinated effort by law enforcement and healthcare partners to guide addicts from the street into recovery, over the course of weeklong initiatives during which participating agencies and providers dedicate additional resources to fighting opioid addiction. By concentrating the OHH program on a single week, coordinating with public and private healthcare partners in advance, and ensuring that everyone involved is fully committed to the program, law enforcement can ensure that all necessary treatment and recovery resources are lined up beforehand so that no one falls through the cracks. And the partnerships that OHH fosters continue long after the targeted weeklong operation. Through OHH, law enforcement officers gain the tools and a network of recovery specialists to call upon when users are encountered during routine law enforcement operations or patrol.

Grant awards are pending for two additional counties. Each county may receive approximately \$58,000 for the program.