DAVID S. CASTLEMAN CHIEF OF RESCUE Office (904) 255-3302

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515 N. Julia Street Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Jacksonville, FL 32202

# CITY OF JACKSONVILLE • PROJECT SAVE LIVES STATUS REPORT

Through July 2021

#### PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM

ORGANIZATION	AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY	
Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department	Contract Administration	
Gateway Community Services	Program Medical Director	
St. Vincent's / Ascension Health	Chief Clinical Officer	
Gateway Community Services	Lead Care Coordinator	
Gateway Community Services	Peer Coordinator	
Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department	Data & Reporting	
UF College of Medicine – Jacksonville	Research and Analysis	
	Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department Gateway Community Services St. Vincent's / Ascension Health Gateway Community Services Gateway Community Services Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department	

## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The purpose of the Opioid Epidemic Project dubbed "Project Save Lives" is to establish a program within Duval County that provides specialized, coordinated, and seamless services for the treatment of drug addiction and substance misuse, thereby reducing dependence on drugs and alcohol and reducing drug-related deaths. The targeted services are provided by healthcare providers and include but are not limited to stabilization and treatment for withdrawal, connection to a Peer Specialist, medication assisted treatment and seamless transfer to detox/recovery services. Program services are currently provided through a partnership with the City of Jacksonville, Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department, Gateway Community Services, St. Vincent's/Ascension Health, Memorial Hospital, Orange Park Medical Center, Baptist Health and UF Health.

#### **PROJECT OPERATIONS**

When overdose patients arrive at a participating hospital emergency department (ED), lifesaving stabilization is the priority. Once stabilized, patients are met by a Peer Specialist who is housed in the ED. The Peer Specialist establishes a rapport with the patient and works as part of the multidisciplinary healthcare team to aid in the early recognition and treatment of withdrawal symptoms. The Peer Specialist also offers recovery services as appropriate. Patients who elect to participate are provided transportation directly to Gateway Community Center or another local provider. Patients who refuse services are closely followed by a Peer and are offered Nasal NARCAN®. The continued follow up and connection encourages patients to enter treatment later. In addition to Peer Specialists being housed in the ED, the program also places Peers in the hospital and maternity units, functioning as Peer Navigators. This ensures that mothers and families of newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome are provided a *Plan of Safe Care* to advance personal and family recovery and resiliency.

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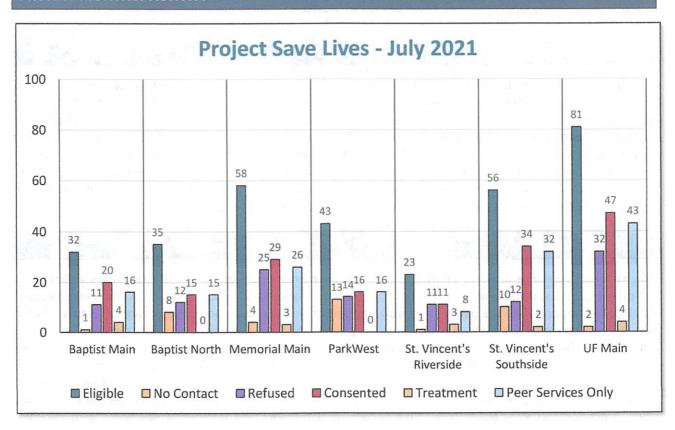
# **PROJECT STATUS**

Project Save Lives began on November 16, 2017. Below is the activity for July 2021 and program totals.

HOSPITAL								JULY 2021	PROGRAM
DESCRIPTION	BM	BN	MM	PW	RS	SS	UF	TOTAL	TOTAL
ELIGIBLE FOR SERVICES	32	35	58	43	23	56	81	328	7168
NO PROGRAM CONTACT	1	8	4	13	1	10	2	39	719
REFUSED ALL SERVICES	11	12	25	14	11	12	32	117	2978
CONSENTED TO SERVICES	20	15	29	16	11	34	47	172	3471
DRUG-RELATED DEATHS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
TRADITIONAL TREATMENT	4	0	3	0	3	2	4	16	534
PEER SERVICES ONLY	16	15	26	16	8	32	43	156	2928

BM = Baptist Main, BN = Baptist North, MM = Memorial Main, PW = ParkWest, RS = St. Vincent's Riverside, SS = St. Vincent's Southside, UF = UF Main

# PROJECT MONTHLY ACTIVITY



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#### **PROJECT OUTCOMES**

Initial analysis revealed a 52% decrease in JFRD's overdose responses to program participants who accepted services in 2018. The analysis was performed by comparing the number of JFRD overdose responses to each participant for 12-months prior to accepting program services and 12-months post-services. The same analysis was conducted for participants who accepted services in 2019. The post analysis for the 2019 participant group ran through June 2020 (during the COVID-19 pandemic). While JFRD experienced a 27% spike in overdose calls to the general public, overdose responses to participants of Project Save Lives decreased by 28%. To better understand program outcomes, a comparative analysis was conducted in March 2020 between the program participant group and the non-participant group. The analysis was conducted by reviewing death records from the Florida Department of Health Vital Statistics Office, which demonstrated that persons who accept services from Project Save Lives had a lower death rate than persons who refused services. To date, there have been nine known drug-related deaths among program participants.

### PROJECT FUNDING AND LEGISLATION

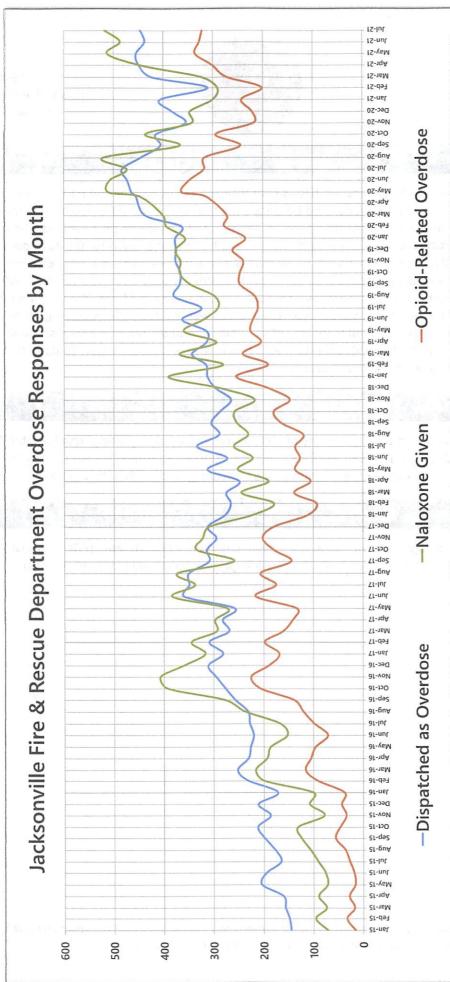
Project Save Lives is funded in part by the City of Jacksonville and by each participating hospital. The City's FY 2020/21 budget includes a line-item request for \$1,160, 999. The program also receives funding from the Florida Department of Health in Duval County's Overdose Data to Action grant (for Peer Navigators).

## **PROJECT EXPANSION**

The program is currently operating in seven Jacksonville emergency departments (EDs): Baptist Main, Baptist North, Memorial Main, Park West, St. Vincent's Riverside, St. Vincent's Southside, and UF Main.

DSC/mr

Note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from government officials regarding government business are public records and may be subject to public disclosure upon request.



Source: Jacksonville, Florida Fire & Rescue Department., Asst. Chief Mark Rowley. A 9-1-1 Call Received as overdose and/or Narcan administration does not necessarily confirm an overdose, opioid use or opioid misuse Definitions: **Dispatched as Overdose** = a 9-1-1 call in which the call in which the call of notions the with many include repect doses to some patient. **Opioid-Related Overdose** = the following type of incidents: naloxone administration and control impression is "opioid-related", or overdose reported with the following substances: "Fentanyl, Carfentanil or Heroin", or overdose reported with naloxone administration. Each of these definitions and events are independent of the other and are not mutually exclusive.

# Jacksonville Fire & Rescue Department - Overdose Responses

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Source, Norwal rite & rescue Department, ASST, Chiej Mark Rowiey, A 4-1-1 Call it which the callet stated that the victim was suffering from a known or suspected overlacse.

Naloxone Doess Given = the count of naloxone administered, which may include repeat doses to same potient. Opioid-Related Overlacse = incidents where naloxone was administered and nature of call at scene is "ingestion/poisoning/OD", or naloxone administered and clinical impression's opioid-related with Fentanny, Carjentanial or Heroin.

Transported as Overlacse = incidents in which a patient was transported with either an overdose reported, the nature of call at scene was "ingestion/poisoning/OD" or the clinical impression included substance and incidents in which apparented and incidents in mutually exclusive.