

## **TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUPPORT OF HEROIN/OPIATE ADDICTED INDIVIDUALS CARBON-MONROE-PIKE COUNTY SINGLE COUNTY AUTHORITY (SCA)**

Carbon, Monroe and Pike counties have seen a steady increase in opiate admissions to treatment. Like other SCAs throughout the Commonwealth, we are experiencing a critically high incidence of heroin/opiate disorder and overdose deaths.

In State Fiscal Year 2013-2014, 70% of clients referred to inpatient rehab identified opiates/heroin as their drug of choice. Among our outpatient providers, 54% of clients referred in Carbon County identify opiates/heroin as their drug of choice and in both Monroe and Pike, 45% of the clients also identify this as their drug of choice. In outpatient treatment those percentages are nearly double what they had been seven years ago. As a drug of choice, Opiate/heroin use has surpassed that of alcohol. Based upon data from all three counties' coroner's reports there were 55 confirmed overdose deaths in 2014, 7 of which were in Pike County.

In our three counties in 2014 there were 1039 calls related to drug overdoses made to 911 centers and Police across Carbon, Monroe and Pike Counties.

The direct correlation between opiate/heroin use and criminal activity is a well-known fact. The SCA and one of its contracted providers have Treatment Programs in the Correctional Facilities in Carbon and Pike counties. Currently the drug of choice heroin/opiates accounts for up to 76% of inmates in these programs.

The Carbon-Monroe-Pike County SCA views a highly structured Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program as essential in dealing with opiate/heroin addiction. Both the SCA and one of its contracted providers monitor each MAT case through their in-house MAT Coordinator. This includes, but is not limited to, ensuring client is working on treatment goals (MAT coordinator attends weekly case consultation meetings with the client's counselor), medication administration, medication checks, doctor services (Contracted MAT physician is on site once per week), and urine drug screens. The SCA and its contracted provider also have in-house recovery support specialists who provide specialized recovery support services on an individualized basis. In these Suboxone programs we have seen families reunited with children, parents regain custody of children, clients become gainfully employed productive members of society and most of all, remain drug-free. If funding were available use of Vivitrol would further enhance the outcomes of medication assisted programs for this population by extending the Medication Assisted Treatment regimen.

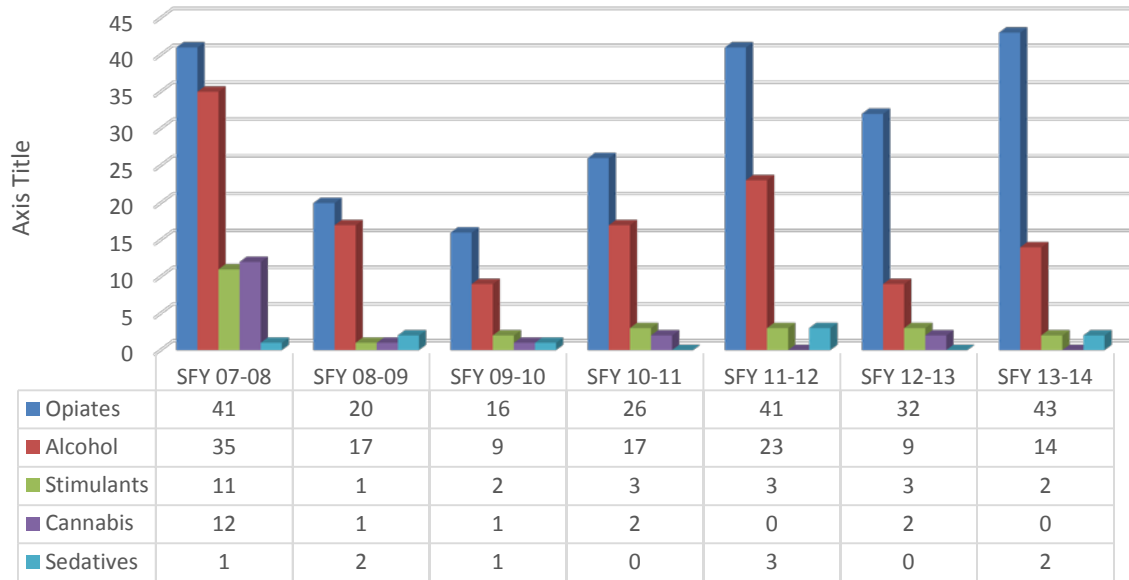
In Carbon-Monroe-Pike Counties heroin/opiate use disorders accounted for 70% of all inpatient placements in 2013-2014. The SCA placed 61 people in inpatient treatment using SCA funds in 2013-2014. The average length of stay was 7.4 days (for short term rehab). The SCA has not made a long term inpatient placement including half way house and still continues run out of funding prior to the end of its fiscal year. The SCA in 2013/2014 had 22 additional identified cases needing inpatient services based on the PCPC that did not receive them. If the individuals had been able to receive inpatient treatment at all or the appropriate length of inpatient treatment per the PCPC, additional costs would

be estimated at \$454,218. There is a multitude of data that shows a direct correlation between longer lengths of stay and positive treatment outcomes.

Along with a traditional 12 step support group, The SCA and its contracted providers have been fortunate in their ability to provide Recovery Support Services. During treatment completion and re-entry into the community is when some of the greatest barriers and challenges to recovery for this population exist. The recovery support specialist is there to help an individual in early recovery manage basic life necessities, rebuilding of healthy lifestyles, sober leisure activities and community service and enhancing both meaning and purpose to life. The extra support provided by the recovery support specialist helps this population deal with these barriers within the context of a healthy recovery, which enhances the treatment and recovery process. Treatment is just the beginning of the journey of recovery and recovery is far greater than not using a substance, it is a whole lifestyle change.

In Pike County there is a definite need to increase the provider capacity for outpatient treatment and to include a Medication Assisted Treatment program. Educational programs are provided in the schools and more outreach in the communities is necessary. The issue must be addressed with a multi-faceted approach for prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support.

### Seven Year Comparison of SCA Funded Rehab Drug of Choice



### Seven Year Comparison of Pike County Drug of Choice

