Alabama
Alabama Department of Mental Health
Alabama System of Care Prior to STR/SOR Funding

- 76 Certified Substance Abuse Providers
  - Of these, only 21 provided MAT.
- All 21 of these providers were OTPs.
  - Of those 21, 10 provided methadone only.
- Of the existing OTPs, only one was a public entity.
- Due to certificate of need regulations, only two additional OTPs could have been opened within the state.
Alabama System of Care Prior to STR/SOR Funding

- The use of certified peer recovery specialists working in the field was extremely under utilized.
- Minorities, veterans and persons exiting the criminal justice system were not accessing opioid use disorders treatment at levels expected in relation to population representation and OUD problems experienced.
- Very little collaboration existed between OTPs, state-funded SUD treatment programs, primary care physicians, and office-based treatment providers.
- The SUD treatment workforce was not adequately trained to provide evidence-based practices for OUD treatment and recovery support.
STR and SOR Activities

- Improve access to treatment for opioid use disorders
- Expand access to medications approved by the FDA for treatment of opioid use disorders
- Improve retention in care for individuals who have been diagnosed with OUDs
- Improve the skills of Alabama’s workforce for delivery of evidence-based services for OUDs
STR and SOR Activities

- Reduce stigma, improve public awareness of Alabama’s opioid misuse and addiction crisis and of treatment options available

- Increase the availability of Naloxone in unserved areas of the state with high overdose death rates

- Implement prevention services aimed at preventing the onset and reducing the progression of prescription drug misuse at the community level.
STR and SOR Activities

• With SOR, we plan to continue all of the STR activities.
• With the additional money we received, we are going to develop a Center of Excellence in an extremely underserved area of the state (with a 2\textsuperscript{nd} COE to be developed in the 2\textsuperscript{nd} year).
• We also plan to place an additional 16 certified peers in the area.
STR and SOR Activities

• We are developing Opioid Training Institutes (OTI) which will provide 16 trainings over the course of a year. These trainings will target both professionals and non-professionals as it relates to prevention and treatment of opioid use disorders.

• We are funding recovery housing as a part of SOR.
Successes as a result of STR

- 44 Treatment Providers now provide MAT as a regular part of their services.
- This is a 50% increase in providers (remember, we started with 21).
- We currently have over 40 full time employed certified peers who are working in the field.
- We have served over 3500 distinct individuals with STR funding.
- 24/7 helpline, completely staffed by certified peer specialists.
24/7 Helpline
844-307-1760

Are you, or a family member, struggling with addiction or in need of support?

Do you prefer chat? Live chat is available through our website: www.rosshelpline4u.org

Want to send an email? Send us a message: helpline4u.ai@gmail.com

Every call, live chat and email is answered by a person in recovery at:

RECOVERY ORGANIZATION OF SUPPORT SPECIALISTS
R.O.S.S.

Addiction is a disease, not a moral failing.

All services are free, made possible through funding from ADMH and SAMHSA.
Additional Successes

• To date, ADMH has distributed 7,596 Naloxone kits to first responders and community providers.

• ADMH had developed and produced two successful media campaigns regarding opioid use and prevention.

• ADMH developed an opioid resource page that individuals or families can easily access for help and information.

• Providers now partner with physicians in the community to provide MAT.
Additional Successes

- Over 2,500 pounds of prescription drugs have been collected during the Take Back Days since prevention providers have received the Opioid STR funding.
- Opioid STR local sub-recipient have a total of eighteen (18) permanent prescription drug drop boxes throughout the state of Alabama. Each of the drop boxes are located at the local police station and pharmacies where community members can drop off any unused/unwanted prescription drugs at no cost.
Challenges

• What happens when the money ends?
• Stigma—an ongoing battle when it comes to substance use disorders and MAT
• Capacity issues
• Workforce issues
• Transportation for a rural state
The ADMH Vision:

Promoting the health and well-being of Alabamians with mental illness, developmental disabilities and substance use disorders

The ADMH Mission:

Serve • Empower • Support
Thank you