

2. What is your organization doing to address the demand/user side of opioids? What suggestions does your organization have (if any) to address the user side of opioids?

The CARE Coalition utilizes the Communities that Care (CTC) evidenced based model to guide our strategic planning. (For information on the model go to: communitiesthatcare.net) This model has been shown to decrease youth health and behavior problems by 25% to 33% and to produce a cost savings of \$5.30 for every dollar invested. The CTC model has a strong emphasis on decreasing the demand related to substance use disorder through the prevention of risk factors among youth. As noted in the previous section the extremely high rate of those suffering from a substance use disorder begin their use in the teen years. This drives our coalition to focus on the risks most burdening youth in Carbon County.

The CARE Coalition thoroughly evaluated 22 risk factors that lead to 3 being prioritized; Low Commitment to School, Depressive Symptoms, and Early Initiation of Anti-Social Behavior. The selection of these 3 factors was completed after an analysis of the data by our evaluation workgroup to determine which risk factors most influence the young people in Carbon County. This report was reviewed by our Key-Leader Board who supported the findings.

With these factors identified, our coalition then set about developing a strategic plan to address them head on. Below are the specific strategies associated with each factor:

- Low Commitment to School
 - Carbon County school district is working to implement an evidenced based resiliency development program called Why Try to students in the 5th grade. This program helps students develop the skills necessary to internally answer the question “Why Try”?
- Depressive Symptoms
 - Student Depression Screening and Follow Up. 2017/2018 School year was the pilot year- 156 10th graders were screened and 40 were identified. The families of these students were followed up with by a Four Corners Community Behavioral Health licensed mental health professional and referred to local resources.
- Early Initiation of Anti-Social Behavior
 - The Strengthening Families Program through JJS as the “backbone” is being conducted throughout the county.

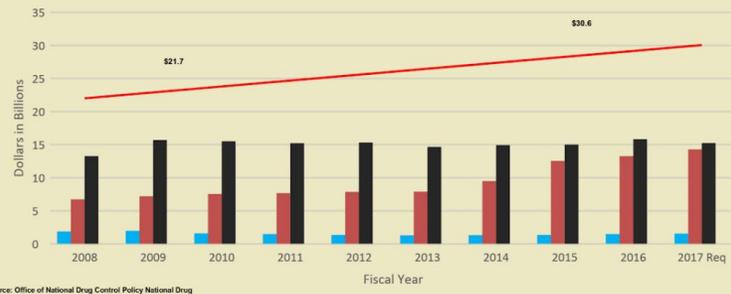
Without resources to support heading off the disease of addiction before it takes hold, we are likely to be having a similar conversation 5 or 10 years from now about the “_____ -epidemic” as opposed to the “Opioid-Epidemic”. Many of the efforts in our strategic plan fall short of the scale and saturation needed to produce community wide outcomes, due to a lack of resources and infrastructure.

Recommendations to decrease demand would be to not only encourage evidenced based strategies across the spectrum of care but to provide the necessary resources and infrastructure required to deliver those strategies with fidelity, to population saturation and with sustainability. Each of the pieces of the spectrum of CARE- prevention, treatment, recovery, harm-reduction, and law enforcement- are like the tires on a car. If even one goes flat, it can halt all future progress.



Despite the Evidence of the Effectiveness of Prevention, We Continue to Invest Less in Prevention

Federal Drug Control Spending For FY 2008 through 2017



Source: Office of National Drug Control Policy National Drug Control Budget Funding Highlights for Fiscal Years 2016 & 2017.

- Prevention spending
- Treatment spending
- Law enforcement, interdiction, and international spending
- Total spending
- Linear(Total spending)