ED Peer Support Program
July Report
August 1, 2018 - June 30, 2019

Enrollment of Adults with Substance & Opioid Use Disorder (SUD & OUD)

2664 Total Patients Served (SUD and OUD)

The ED Peer Support Model

A pilot initiative to combat North Carolina's opioid crisis, the ED Peer Support Program uses certified peer support specialists (peers) to connect patients presenting with opioid overdose or opioid use disorder to treatment, recovery, and harm reduction supports.

Total ED Visits
Among ED Peer Support Participants

- Year before Peer Contact (12 months): 9450
- After Peer Contact (up to 12 months): 4405
- Decreases* in ED visits and admissions reflect a similar drop in 30-day repeat ED visits at the three hospitals reporting data to Patient Ping.

Mental Health

Peers served a patient population experiencing comorbidity.
1 in 5 received mental health care in the year before peer contact.

Total Hospitalizations
Among ED Peer Support Participants

- Year before Peer Contact (12 months): 3159
- After Peer Contact (up to 12 months): 1136
- Decreases: 64%

Total 30-Day Readmissions
Among ED Peer Support Participants

- Year before Peer Contact (12 months): 1227
- After Peer Contact (up to 12 months): 772
- Decreases: 37%

Referrals from Peers

- MAT: 801 (81%)
- Harm reduction, mental health, housing, transportation, employment, health insurance: 185 (19%)

Peers provided empathetic, recovery-oriented support to hundreds of patients in the ED with OUD or other SUDs.

Peers increased patient awareness of recovery options, sometimes providing transportation vouchers to physically get patients to recovery in the community.

ED - Emergency Department; SUD - Substance Use Disorder; MAT - Medication Assisted Treatment; MH - Mental Health. Prior year reflects patient reported services in the year before date of enrollment in the Peer Support Program.