## Collaborative Efforts in Rural Consortium of SUD/OUD Partners to Support Youth & Young Adults Along the US-Mexico Border







## **Learning Objectives**

- Describe activity mapping and planning strategies to identify service gaps, missing stakeholders, and required resources for supporting the target population.
- Explore collaborative strategies employed by the SOSA Consortium to effectively address barriers and disparities among youth and young adults, with a focus on engaging in prevention, treatment, and recovery services.

# 1. Santa Cruz County Overcoming Addiction (SOSA) Consortium

#### Goal

 Collaborate for increased access to culturally tailored services, preventing, treating, and recovering from substance use disorders, especially OUD.

#### Mission

 Reduce stigma, heal the community, and provide easily accessible culturally appropriate mental health and substance use disorder services for those seeking to enhance their quality of life

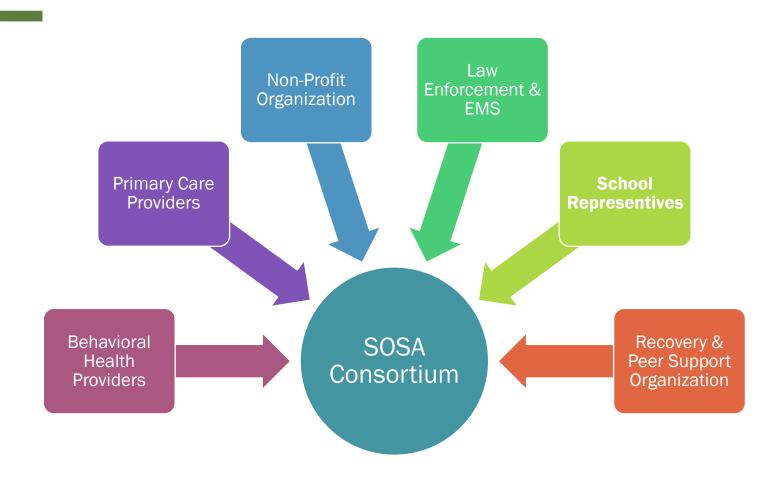
#### Value

 Respect, dignity, honoring diverse pathways to recovery, freedom from stigma, and inclusive practices.

#### Vision

Wellbeing across generations

#### 2. Santa Cruz County Overcoming Addiction (SOSA) Consortium



# Behavioral Disparities Impact Statement (DIS)

- Required deliverable for the HRSA Rural Communities
   Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Implementation IV and Psychostimulant Support II grants.
- Purpose:
  - To describe how the SOSA Consortium plans to reduce behavioral health disparities in Santa Cruz County
- Components:
  - Assessment
  - Capacity
  - Planning
  - Implementation
  - Evaluation





RURAL COMMUNITIES OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM

## Collaborative Engagement of Community Partners

**Process Overview:** 

Establish Partnership Guidelines

Identify priority communities

Identify
Existing
Community
Resources/
Services

Identify Gaps in Services

Action Plan

## **Establishing Partnership Guidelines**

#### Partnership Guidelines:

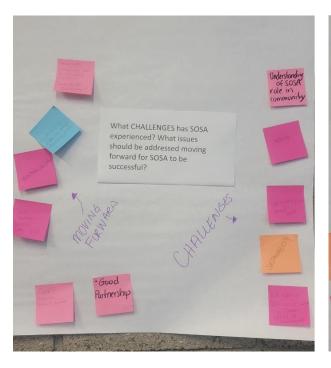
- Living document that outlines collaboration guidelines.
- Responsibilities & Roles
- Decision Making
- Communication
- Sustainability

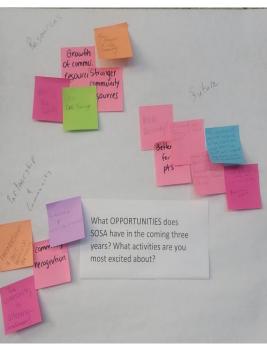
#### **Annual Evaluation of Collaboration**

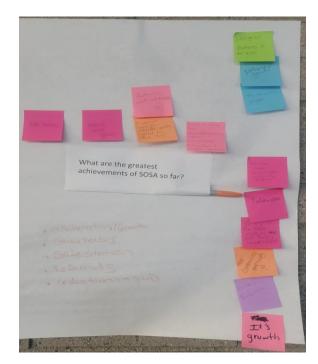
- Wilder Collaboration Factors Inventory
- Relational Coordination Survey

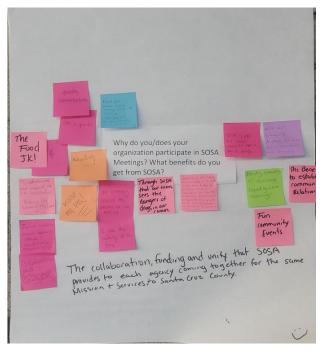


## **Gallery Walk**









## **Identify Priority Communities**

#### **Priority Population:**

Discussion of populations with health disparities outcomes and the ability of the SOSA Consortium to support and serve them.

#### Decided to focus on:

- Young Adults (8–18-year-olds)
- Youth (18–24-year-olds)

#### Population

Teens/adolescents (combine with young adults)

No treatment/support groups in

Addiction is

alcohol)

"popular" (e.g.

Disparities they experience

**FOCUS ON** 

lack of treatment options

PREVENTION!

marijuana/vaping Stigma

Kids that need it aren't engaged in services; isolated/secluded

People leaving prison

No insurance/ don't know how to get-access care; lack of support system, may not have positive influences, go back to old habits. Lack of housing. Lack of structured resources, don't have navigation support; transportation (applies to all!), no proof of employment, lack of cell phones;

Homeless population

Many same as prison. reliable contact (phones), no proof of employment, IDs, birth certificates; No halfway houses or rehab facilities, more difficult to travel and access

Immigrants/Undocumented

Fear they will be asked for documentation; sponsor may not want to/be able to support; fear to get help/would negatively impact their asylum application; language

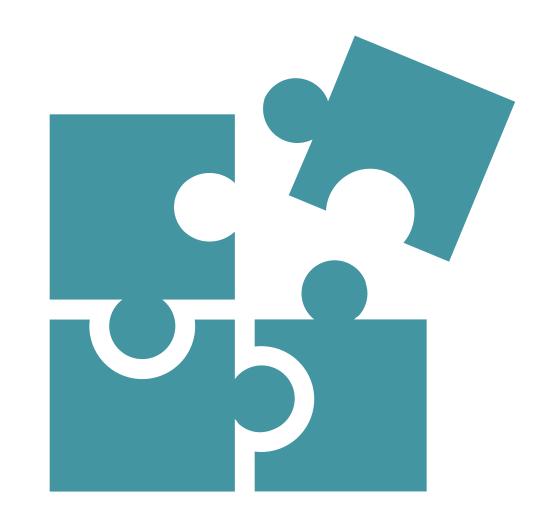
(across several categories): employers allowing employees to take time from work to access services. especially in positions that are more manual or low skilled labor such as produce; fear to take time from work

## Mapping and Planning Process

Collaborative engagement with community partners for mapping and planning.

Three-part activity:

- 1. Identify existing resources
- 2. Identify gaps/challenges
- 3. Create an action plan



#### **Creating an Action Plan**

#### Discussion of Collaboration:

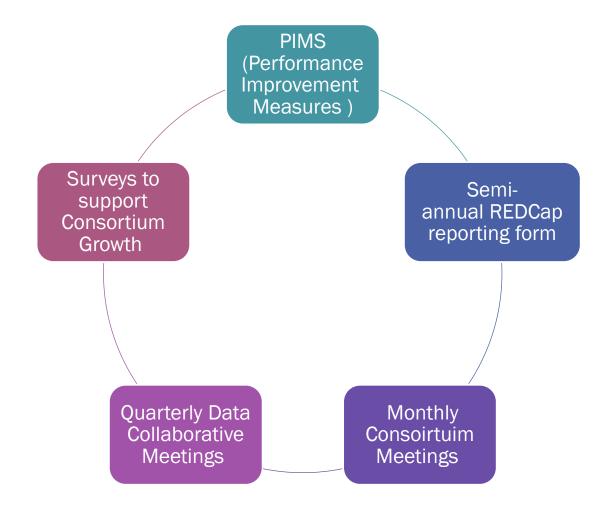
- What are the action steps/strategies for collaboration to engage our target population?
- Which community partners can take the lead in collaboration?

Each action/strategies for collaboration:

- Establish Target Date
- Document Potential challenges
- Identify Contingency plans to address challenges



## **Evaluation of Progress**





## **Community Impact**

- Resource Hub for Prevention, Treatment and Recovery via Website
- Activities to Address Stigma
- After Hours HOPE inc.
- Teen Health Facilitators
- Promoting Healthy Students Initiative Programs Santa Cruz Superintendents Office
- Drug Free Community Collation Prevention Lead;
   Circles of Peace
- Nogales Police Department
  - CARES Program
  - Peer Task Force



## Partner Engagement & Sustainability

- Establishing strong community ties
- Cultivating relationships through formal contract partnerships & community partnership
- Consistency & fostering trust within a tight-knit community
- Supportive collaborations, systems building & long-lasting services

### Accomplishments

- Enhanced public awareness with SOSA-branded educational materials in English and Spanish at outreach events.
- Engaged 678 community members during outreach events, distributing culturally and linguistically appropriate SOSA-branded information.
- Implemented ODMap for accurate reporting of overdose incidents, ensuring comprehensive coverage in Santa Cruz County.
- Fostered ongoing collaboration among health providers, primary care professionals, and law enforcement to support individuals with substance use disorder/opioid use disorder.































## Thank you



Organizations and community members Involved in SUD/OUD are welcome to join! Visit our website at <a href="https://sosaheal.org/">https://sosaheal.org/</a>

Contact Yara Castro at <u>ycastro@mariposachc.net</u> or 520-375-6050 for more information!

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