

Public Health has helped add 25 of the additional 30 years of life we now experience – only five of those additional years are attributed to clinical medicine. ODH is dedicated to continuing to protect and improve the lives of Ohioans.

Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant

Prescription Drug Overdose

Problem We Face



COSTING OHIO OVER
\$3+ Billion

From 1999 to 2008, Ohio's drug overdose death rates increased more than 350 percent.

In 2009, in Ohio, there were 1373 unintentional drug-related poisoning/overdose deaths.

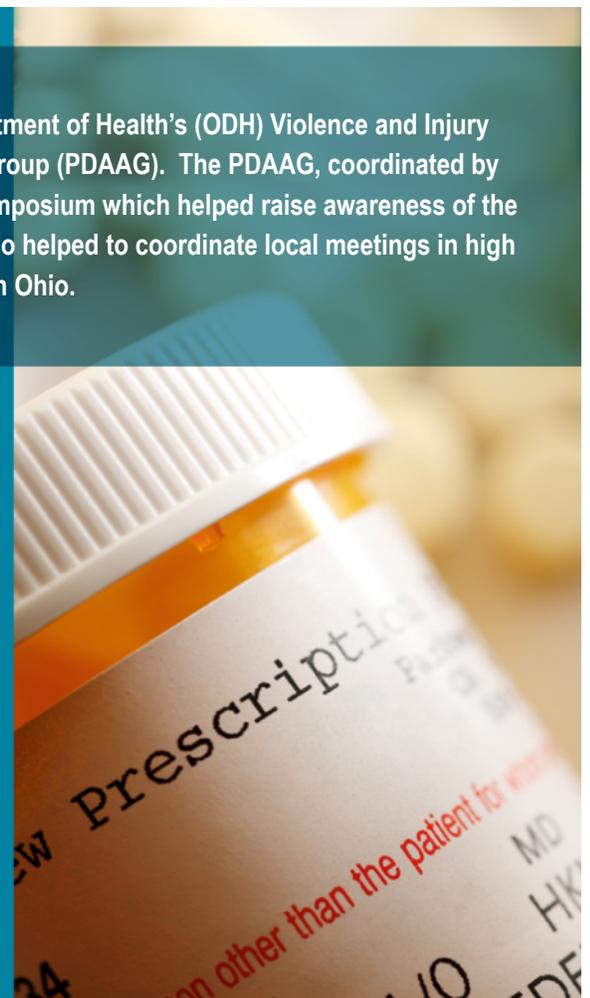
An average of four Ohioans die each day from unintentional drug overdose.

Without funding from the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant (PHHSBG), ODH will be unable to continue its role as a leader in coordinating a state-level response to this public health and safety issue.

In response to this alarming and rapidly growing epidemic, the Ohio Department of Health's (ODH) Violence and Injury Prevention (VIP) Program developed the Prescription Drug Abuse Action Group (PDAAG). The PDAAG, coordinated by VIP Program staff funded through the PHHSBG, sponsored a statewide symposium which helped raise awareness of the issue among key stakeholders. In addition, VIP Program staff members also helped to coordinate local meetings in high risk parts of southern Ohio and presented data documenting the problem in Ohio.

Following these meetings, ODH received multiple requests from the media and various stakeholders. At the local level, grassroots advocacy and public awareness efforts through local coalitions, funded by the VIP Program, commenced and residents requested state level assistance and resources to tackle this issue.

The issue was quickly elevated and on April 2, 2010 the **Ohio Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force (OPDATF)** was established. The OPDATF issued a report to the Governor on October 1, 2010 related to treatment, law enforcement, public health and regulatory approaches. Many recommendations from that report have been incorporated in a new bill (**HB 93**) introduced in the Ohio General Assembly in February 2011. This bill, if enacted, represents a dramatic step forward in the prevention of prescription drug misuse, abuse and overdose in Ohio.



An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

PHHSBG funding to support the work of the VIP Program is vital for continued success in battling this preventable statewide epidemic.

Without the block grant critical and proven activities would not exist.

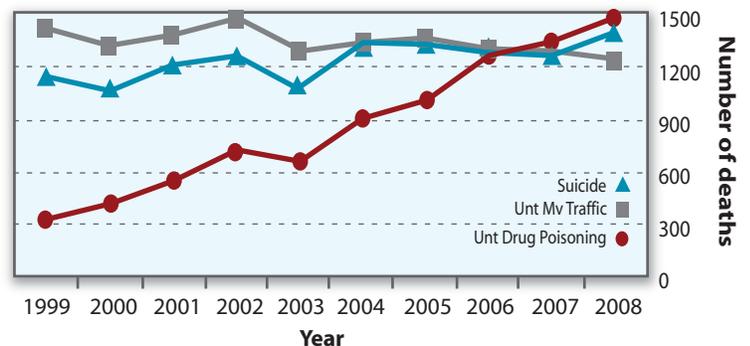
- Ohio would not have had an injury epidemiologist to analyze and report the drug overdose data.
- ODH efforts imperative to it's public health mission would cease:
 - a drug poisoning Web site
 - a state-level coalition
 - state sponsored symposiums
 - policy development
 - state-level drug disposal guidelines
- Ohio would not have funding to implement prevention and education efforts in counties hardest hit by the epidemic or support local communities to advocate for policy changes at the state and local level.

Average annual costs of unintentional poisonings in Ohio, 2005

Type of Costs	Fatal Costs	Non-fatal, hospital admitted costs
Medical	\$5,160,120	\$21,189,500
Work loss	\$1,260,480,808	\$5,856,300
Quality of Life loss	\$2,333,600,989	\$8,459,500
Total	\$3,599,241,917	\$35,505,300

Children's Safety Network Economics & Data Analysis Resource Center, at Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation, 2005

Deaths from Motor Vehicle Traffic, Suicide and Unintentional Drug Poisonings by Year, Ohio 1999-2008



Ohio Department of Health, Office of Vital Statistics and Ohio Department of Public Safety



Your Community.

Through successful community-based public health strategies the Ohio Department of Health is committed to ensuring all Ohioans have the opportunity to lead healthy lives. Together we can protect the lives of those in our community against prescription drug misuse, abuse and overdose.

For more information on the CHC program or other Healthy Ohio initiatives, please visit:

www.healthyohioprogram.org



Healthy  Ohio

www.odh.ohio.gov

This report was written and designed by the ODH Office of Public Affairs.