

THE OPIOID CRISIS
&
BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN
POPULATION:
AN
URGENT ISSUE

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Why do we need to create a State Plan

- Monitor trends to better understand and respond to the epidemic.
- **Advancing research** improving data quality to better identify areas that need assistance and to evaluate prevention efforts.
- Build state, local, community and family capacity
- **Reduce opioid and substance abuse deaths and addiction in the black Community**
- Support providers, healthcare systems, and payers
- Build a Culturally Sensitive and reflective workforce.
- **Partnering with public safety officials and community organizations**
- Increase public awareness
- Increase Funding for prevention and intervention programs targeted toward the black community
- Reduce stigma, racism, and discrimination in healthcare



Sound the alarm and Don't Press Snooze



In 2020, Black or African American Coloradans had the highest rate of death from drug overdose across all racial or ethnic groups: 36.3 per 100,000 people, which is double the rate for this population in 2018

The Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

- Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention supported a community-informed process to co-create the **Colorado Consortium Black Committee** State Plan as a State Advisory Committee.
- This plan sets an overarching direction for the next seven years
- Outlines actions to advance risk reduction and early diagnosis
- Improve outcomes for Black Coloradans experiencing or at-risk substance abuse and their families who live, work, and play in Colorado.

Substance Abuse in the Black Community

- Leads to higher mortality rates.
- More likely to be victims of crimes
- Have higher rates of alcohol-related problems,
- More likely to contract HIV/AIDS
- Impacts not only the individual but also the entire family and community.
- Approximately 80% of the incarcerated adults in the U.S. have a history of involvement with alcohol or illicit drugs³
- SUDs lead to physical and mental health problems, affect relationships, cause financial losses, and occasionally lead to legal problems.
- SUDs are also associated with domestic violence, traffic accidents, and crime⁷.

Key Take Aways



- Opioid overdoses rose by 54% in 2020, accounting for nearly two in three overdose deaths in Colorado.
- Fentanyl overdose rose by 400% among women, especially pregnant women
- Black men and women are less likely to have access, receive and complete substance use tx

Racism, Discrimination, and Stigma

Figure 1: People of Color Were More Likely to Report Race and Ethnic Background or Culture as Reasons for Being Treated With Less Respect**

Reasons for Being Treated with Less Respect, 2021

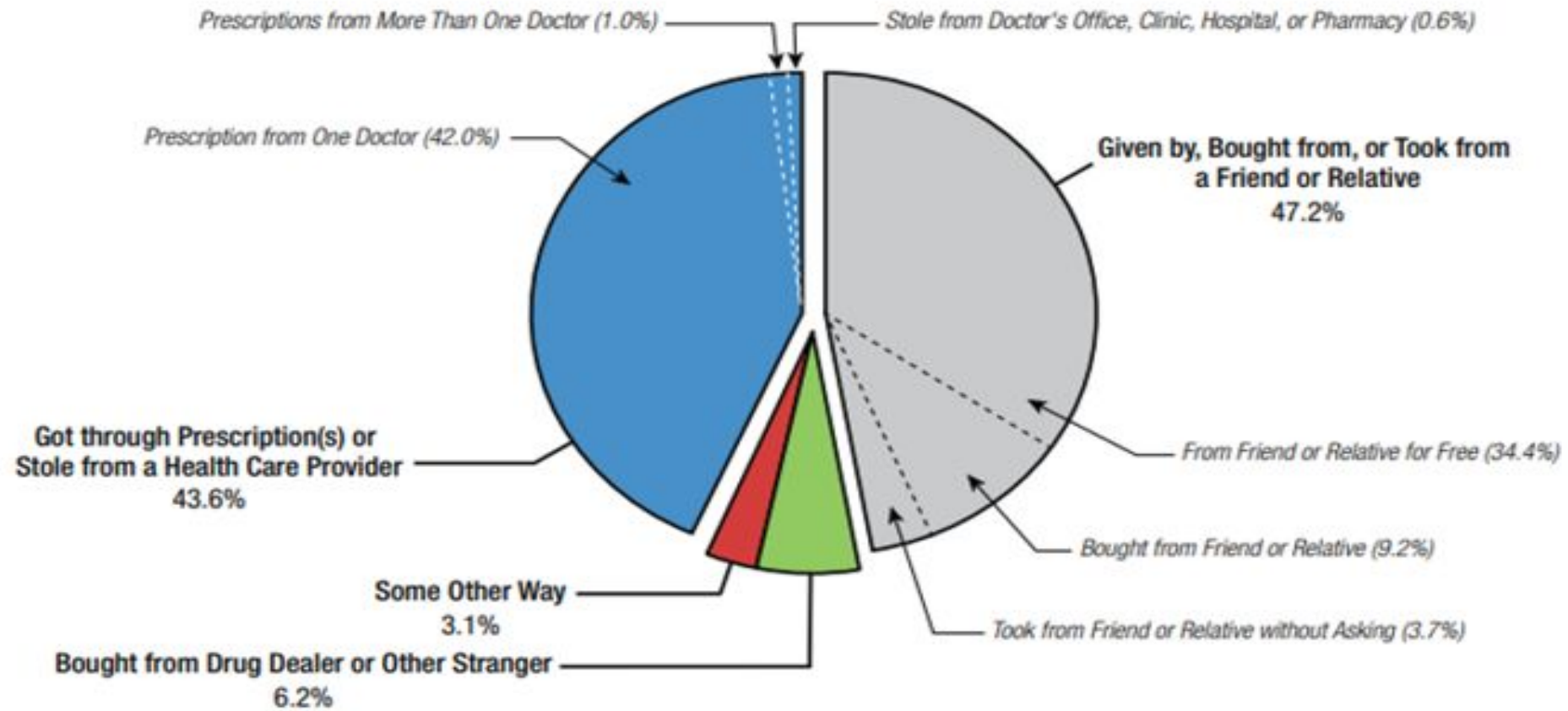
Reported Reasons Why Adults Were Treated With Less Respect	All Adults Who Reported Being Treated With Less Respect	Adult People of Color
Income or financial situation	58.3%	NA*
Ethnic background or culture	37.1%	89.2%
Race	36.0%	87.0%

* Sample size of responses for individuals 18 years and older was too small to report.

± Asked of Coloradans 18 and older who reported being treated with disrespect.

Where do people get their drugs?

Figure 18. Source Where Pain Relievers Were Obtained for Most Recent Misuse: Among People Aged 12 or Older Who Misused Pain Relievers in the Past Year; 2020



9.3 Million People Aged 12 or Older Who Misused Pain Relievers in the Past Year

Timeline for Creating the State Plan

Hire Project Manager	Form Work Groups	Create Provider Database	Community Resource list	Gaps in Service
<p>Manage the state advisory committee</p>	<p>Data Public Policy Workforce Measure and Outcomes Intervention Engagement/Outreach Messaging Campaign</p>	<p>Develop a list serve of all black peer-to-peer recovery specialists, therapists, clinicians, and more</p>	<p>Maintain quarterly updated resource list of black community resources</p>	<p>Identify gaps in access, service delivery, education, training, research, and data collection.</p> <p>Create BSUD workforce pipeline</p>



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Thank you