



JOHNS HOPKINS
BLOOMBERG SCHOOL
of PUBLIC HEALTH

**Bloomberg American
Health Initiative**

The Bloomberg American Health Initiative at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health is tackling five issues that deeply challenge the nation's health: addiction and overdose, environmental challenges, obesity and the food system, risks to adolescent health, and violence.

With respect to the opioid epidemic, the Initiative is committed to actions that advance prevention, treatment, and recovery through several different mechanisms:

- **Training.** The Initiative provides full scholarships for the MPH and DrPH program to individuals working in organizations on the front lines of the epidemic. Current fellows include individuals who work in health departments, law enforcement agencies, medical examiner offices, harm reduction organizations, and tribal communities. More information is available at <http://americanhealth.jhu.edu>
- **Innovative research.** The Initiative provides funding for novel approaches to understanding and responding to the epidemic, such as a study of fentanyl checking (<http://americanhealth.jhu.edu/fentanyl>) and a study to count the number of people who use intravenous drugs in a rural county in West Virginia (<http://americanhealth.jhu.edu/RuralOpioidsCount>).
- **Direct policy consultation.** The Initiative is committed to helping cities, counties, and states to develop strategies to reduce overdoses based on evidence. To date, Initiative has worked in a Rhode Island, West Virginia, Louisiana, Delaware, and Staten Island, among other locations.
- **Collaboration with law enforcement.** The Initiative has worked with leading police chiefs to compile a list of ten “standards of care” for police departments and with the law firm of Akin Gump to develop a comprehensive legal analysis of the right to effective treatment for opioid use disorder with medications in the criminal justice system. Both are available online at <http://americanhealth.jhu.edu>.