

ICF's Commitment Statement on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic

For more than two decades, opioid overdose deaths have plagued our nation, taking an average of 130 lives per day. ICF is committed to working collaboratively to combat this evolving crisis and thus, pledges support for the National Academy of Medicine's Action Collaborative on Countering the U.S. Opioid Epidemic.

ICF is dedicated to the promotion of positive mental health and the prevention and treatment of substance use disorders, including opioids. We are at the forefront of this important topic, with a cadre of staff who have devoted their careers to addressing this, and other, critical public health issues. Our staff use the latest evidence-based practices and a range of service offerings. We are trusted by federal, state, local, and non-government partners and stakeholders and work alongside them to turn the tide on the opioid crisis. The snapshots of our work described below demonstrate our commitment to ending this epidemic.

ICF is supporting health professional **education and training** through development of a full suite of interactive, online training modules for primary care, and other healthcare, providers to assist them in applying CDC's **Guidelines for Prescribing Opioids** for Chronic Pain.

ICF developed and launched **Rx Awareness**—CDC's seminal public education campaign about the dangers of prescription opioids. Our work continues as we help CDC expand the campaign to reach audiences hardest hit by the opioid crisis, through the creation of **prevention-focused communication campaign products and resources**.

ICF maintains the CDC's **BioSense Platform**, a public health syndromic surveillance system and community of practice, that increases the ability of health officials at local, state, and national levels to monitor and respond to emerging diseases and other public health events (such as fatal and nonfatal opioid events). This platform provides a common electronic health information system that contains hospital emergency department data from 60+ percent of U.S. hospitals.

For decades, ICF has supported SAMHSA in conducting **multi-site evaluations to assess the impact**, **cost**, **and behavioral outcomes** of their child, youth and adult prevention and treatment programs. These programs are designed to address the co-morbidities of substance use, serious mental illness, and suicidality.

ICF supports **research**, **data**, **and metric needs** through a city-by-city performance analysis of the Drug Enforcement Administration 360 Strategy consisting of law enforcement, diversion, and community outreach components to combat the deadly heroin and opioid epidemic.

For more than 10 years, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), Executive Office of the President, has entrusted ICF to conduct a national cross-site evaluation supporting **research**, **data**, **and metric needs** to prevent and reduce youth substance use including evaluation of implementation and outcomes associated with DFC program's effectiveness.