

OPIOID RESPONSE INNOVATION INITIATIVE

A multidisciplinary design effort led by InSTEDD

InSTEDD is a social impact nonprofit with expertise in human centered design and open source technology development. For the past twelve years, InSTEDD has supported various projects for improved epidemic response worldwide, including efforts around Ebola, Malaria, HIV/AIDS and Bird Flu. Early in 2018, InSTEDD was asked to determine if its capabilities and experience could be applied to provide support to the U.S. opioid crisis response.

Since May of 2018, InSTEDD has been exploring how innovation and open source technology might assist county level health officials and community coalitions working to respond to the opioid epidemic. After several months of research and exploratory design workshops, we launched the [Opioid Response Innovation Initiative](#) in March of 2019. The initiative is a cross-functional effort involving a group of community health providers, health agencies, research bodies, and technology innovators across the United States. We are dedicated to identifying and evaluating how design and open source technology can best support organizations that provide prevention, treatment, and recovery services to people with opioid use disorder. In addition, we value and encourage knowledge sharing and network strengthening across our member organizations and beyond.

Our initial design efforts for this initiative have taken place with Sonoran Prevention Works in Arizona and Regional Family Resource Network in West Virginia. Sonoran Prevention Works is a grassroots resource provider and advocate for individuals, families, and organizations affected by drug use in Arizona, with a focus on education and risk reduction. Regional Family Resource Network partners with county health agencies, health systems, and local coalitions to develop innovative projects and provide needed resources for a variety of community issues, including opioid use disorder. We are working with an additional six organizations from around the United States to formulate future proposals and ideas for action.

The collective goal of this initiative is to improve health, safety, and sustainable development in communities heavily impacted by opioid use disorder. We are committed to pursuing this goal and are eager to support the NAM Action Collaborative as a network organization.