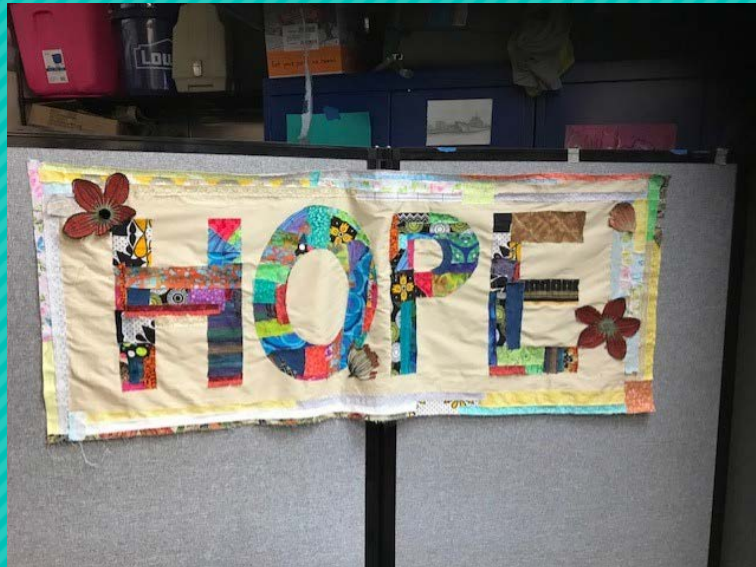


We are all more alike than different: Addressing the Stigma Surrounding Substance Use Disorder Through Connections



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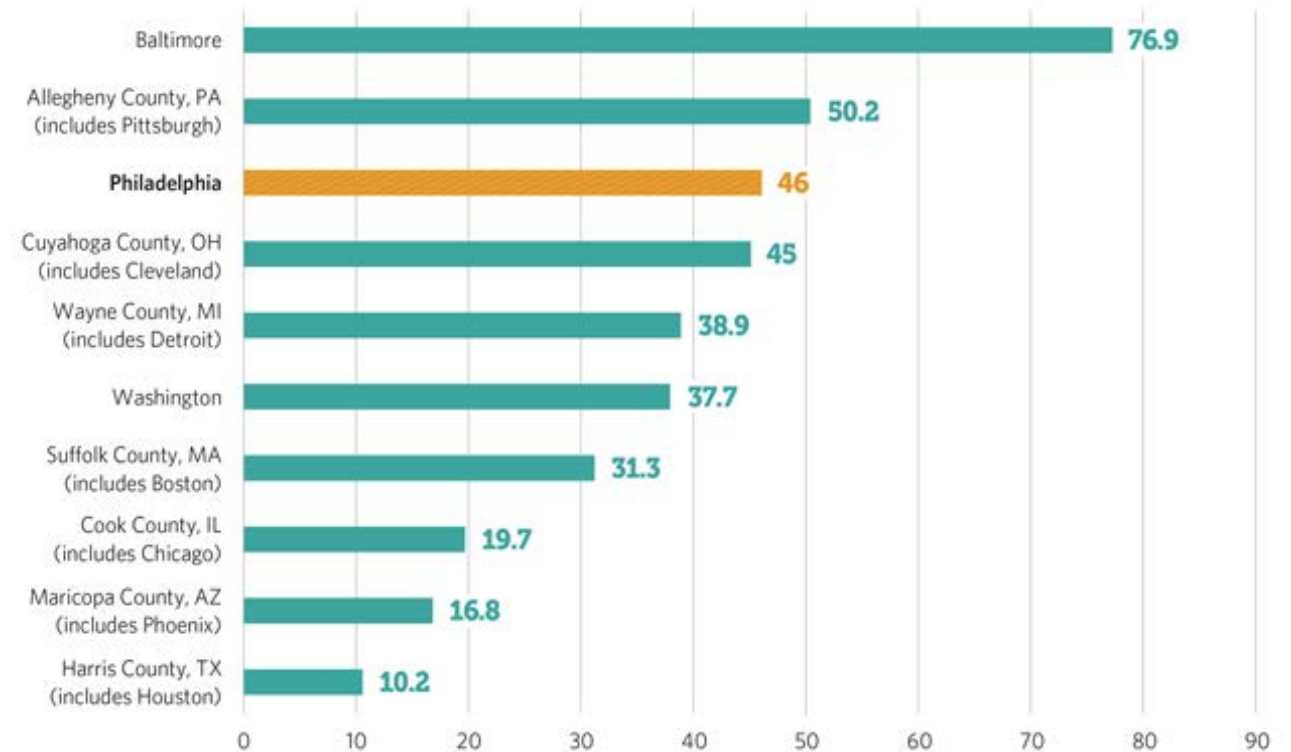
19130 Zip Code Project

- Community College of Philadelphia Department of Nursing
- Funded by the Independence Foundation
- Partnerships with Schools, senior centers, head start programs, health fairs
- Health Promotion & Disease Prevention activities to vulnerable populations in Philadelphia



Substance Use in Philadelphia

Drug Overdose Deaths Per 100,000 Residents, 2016
Age-adjusted rates for Philadelphia and other major jurisdictions

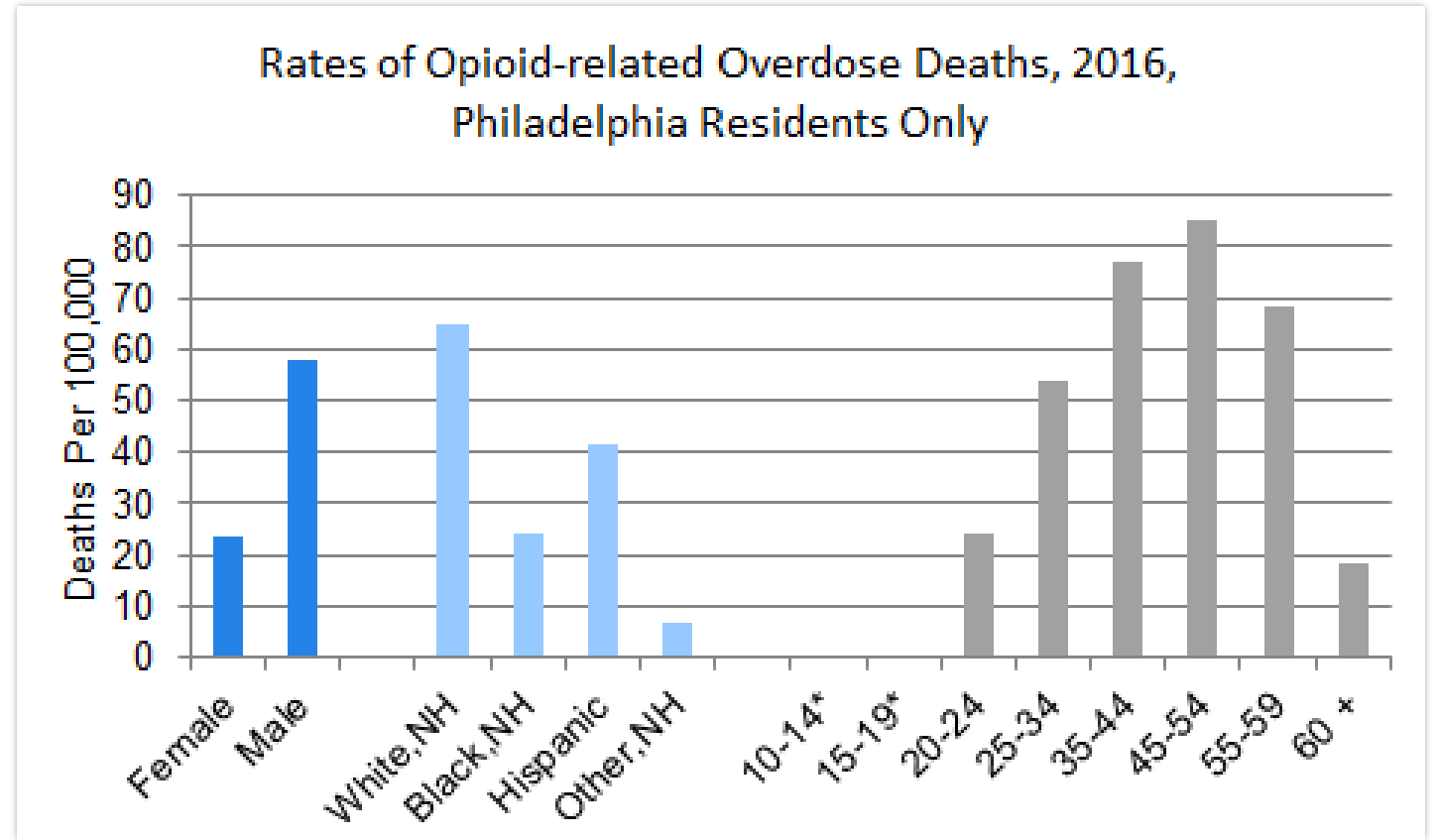


Note: Data were collected at the county level, except for Washington, which is the only non-county city for which numbers were available. Baltimore and Philadelphia are both cities and counties. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention adjusts rates by age so that comparisons among jurisdictions are not skewed by one county having a significantly younger or older population than another; drug overdoses ruled homicides or suicides are not included.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CDC WONDER Database, Multiple Cause of Death Data, 2016

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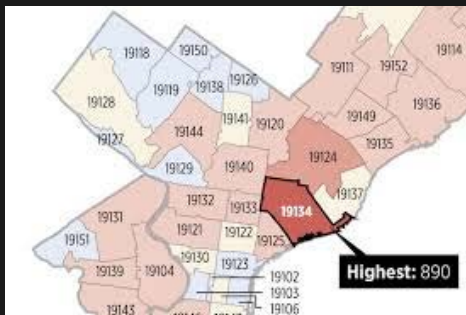
Demographics of Opioid Related deaths





How to address the opioid crisis?

Kensington..



Kensington Storefront Project



Porch Light hub space in Kensington, serves as a workshop for artists, a site for learning, and a safe space for neighbors seeking refuge and recovery.



Making art and teaching art helps people connect, Pannepacker said. "You see the essence of someone, and you want the best for them. You want to help them align with that somehow."



Neighborhood hub that is meant to increase community wellness

- Porchlight program a collaboration between Mural Arts and the Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disability

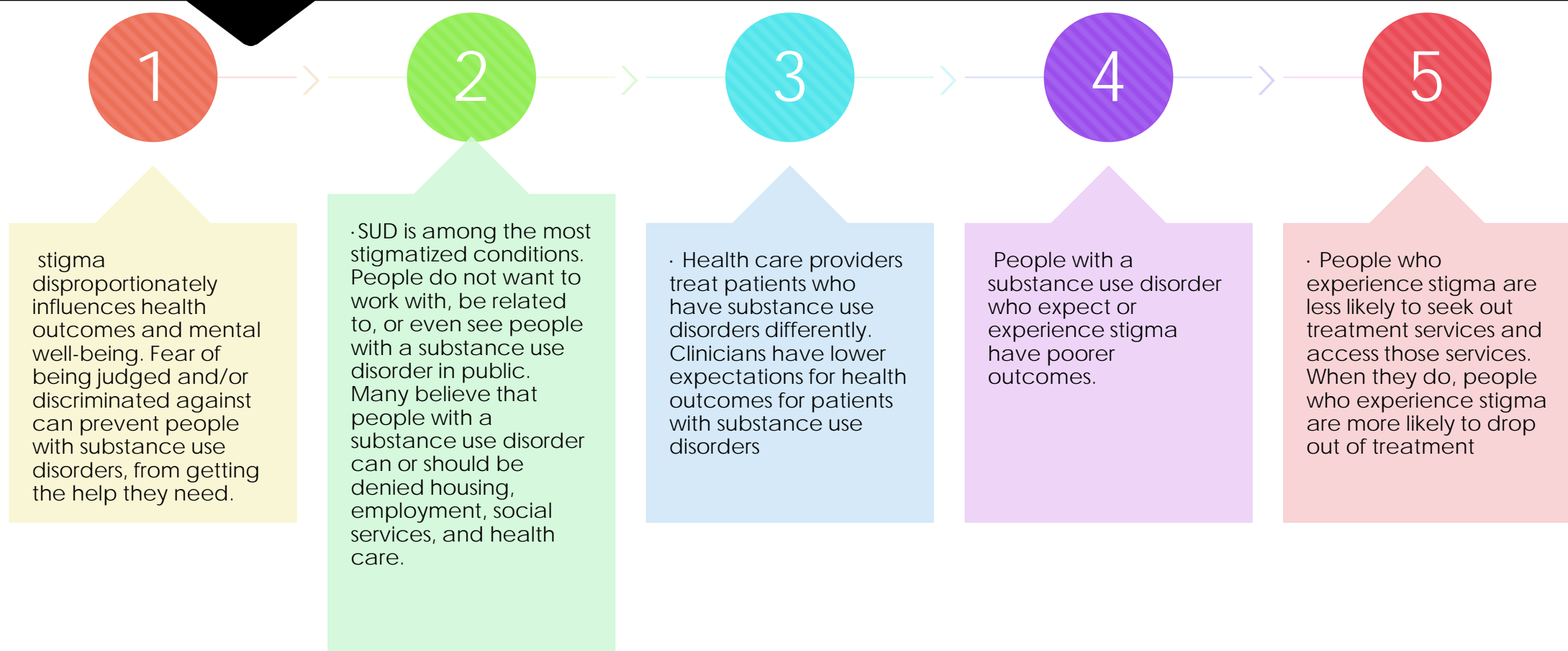


Objectives of the project

- Understand that people are people regardless of other issues in their lives
- Recognize the impact of harm reduction related to substance use disorder (v. an all or nothing approach)
- Recognize bias related to caring for individuals with substance use disorder/ mental illness/homelessness
- Identify how stigma in caring for individuals with substance use disorder/mental illness/homeless can negatively impact health treatment



Stigma





YIKES!

Faculty Response

“I went on Friday to see the place and I was welcomed. There was a great vibe and I saw great acts of kindness and inclusion. So cool.”

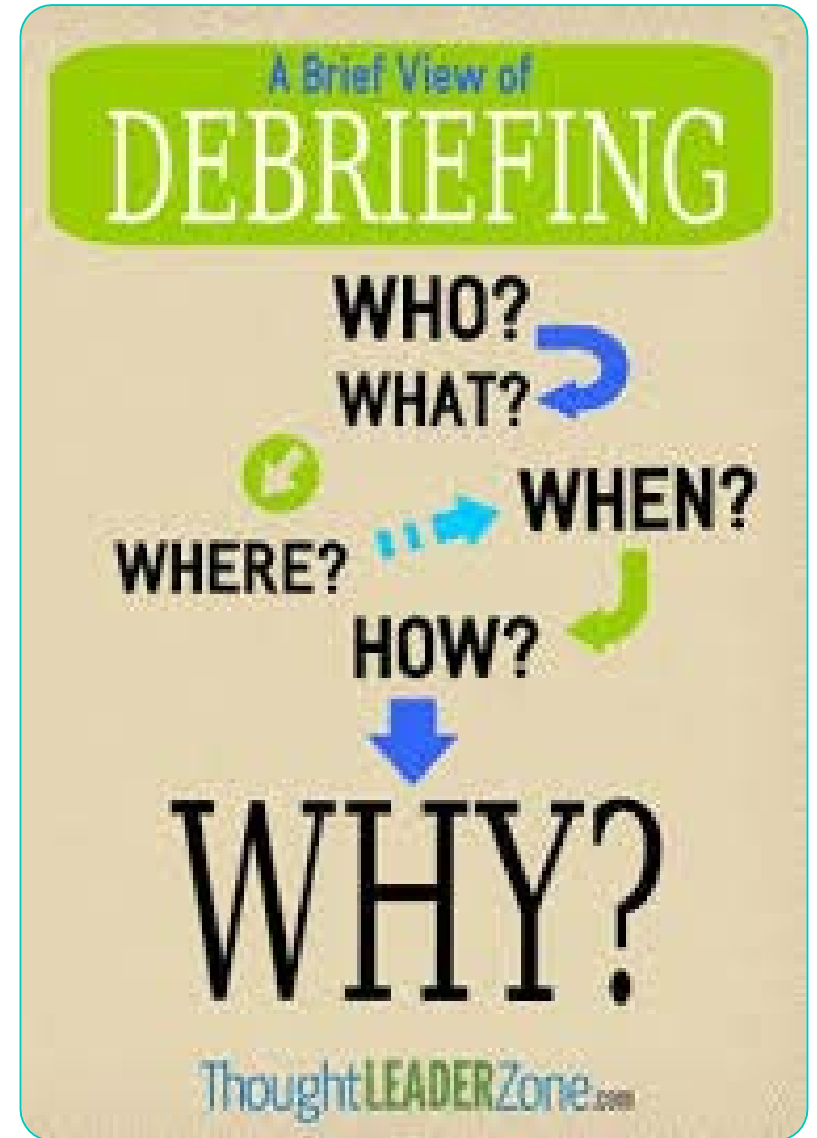


**"I am more
than my
addiction"**



**Please
remove
this label**

Value of the Debrief



Reflection: Changing Perceptions



- The most valuable part of my week was going to Porch Light. The facility itself was different than I expected. I thought it was going to be like a clinic, where people with substance abuse problems could come in to have injuries assessed or be given supplies. Instead, it reminded me of a welcoming neighborhood recreational center, equipped with clothing, activities, food, and friendly staff. I talked to a few of the staff and they told me about how they started working there. Also, I was pleasantly surprised by how polite and thankful the visitors were. A woman was making a scarf on one of the looms and showed me how it worked. We talked for a few minutes afterwards. She told me about her life and thanked me for listening. It was a nice experience because I felt like I listened to someone that just wanted to be heard.

Reflection: Opportunity



- Today we went to the Kensington storefront. I was a little frustrated at first because it wasn't our day to go and we didn't have time to properly prepare ourselves but it turned about to be a very enlightening experience. I kind of needed to stand back and take it all in first before I could really get involved and to be honest it was nothing like how my other classmates described it. It was really something you can only experience. It was nice just to make someone feel like they mattered. I enjoyed my time there and learned a lot about homeless people and people in addiction. They like their space but they also like to be comforted. Although I enjoyed it it was a hard experience and I am unsure if I am cut out to work in the nursing field doing something like that.

Reflection: Fatigue

"Today was a major change of pace from the other clinical. I left the store front feeling physically and mentally drained, although I didn't feel like I did that much to be as tired as I was. That feeling made me realize how draining doing that job everyday must be and I left having an increased level of respect for those who work in substance abuse settings. I also left knowing that substance abuse is not a field that calls me and however the experience equipped me with some take home points from that I can apply in my field of choice. Therapeutic communication is essential to how future interactions will not only patients will go, but also with the working relationships amongst peers."

Reflection: Small Gestures



"Today we visited "Kensington Storefront", it was an eye-opening experience to say the very least. Even though I am currently working with clients who suffer from substance dependence disorders and having been exposed to family members substance dependency there was a big hesitance on my part. When we got there the neighborhood was seedy with people staring as we got out of my car. I come from a very similar neighborhood, so I wasn't necessarily scared but most of the traumatic experiences in my childhood can be linked back to growing up in an improvised neighborhood. At first when trying to engage in conversation it was a bit difficult. I did help a couple of people with medical issues, and I hope that these small gestures showed them that they do matter. I am really appreciative for this experience."

Reflection- People are just people

"I come from a long background of family members dealing with substance abuse issues. All different drugs of choice, alcohol, pills, and crack. Five of my close relatives are still in their addiction. So I, on many occasions contemplating telling you I don't think I should go. My husband literally asked me the night before if I thought it's a good idea for me to be in that environment. I didn't ask to not go because I wanted to experience going and seeing things in different light. People are just people"



Reflection- We talked about the Phillies

"This clinical day - surprising to say - was so far my favorite. My anxiety was way high being thrust into an uncomfortable situation, in a small store front on Kensington Avenue but it was rewarding. Since my sister has been a heroin addict for almost 20 years now I was dreading this experience, mostly because I didn't want her or someone who knew me from her to walk in while I was there. I don't understand addiction on the level that leads you to be homeless, but I did feel empathy for a lot of the people I talked to because they were nothing like my sister and weren't afforded the 15 chances and 9 trips to rehab that she has. After talking to one gentleman he explained that he was clean, had a bed at a rehab and a job. He was wearing a Phillies hat and what we really talked about were the Phillies!"



Reflection- Stories surpassed my perception of who they were

" ...I especially had an eye opener when visiting Porch Light at the store front in Philadelphia's Kensington area. Admittedly I was afraid of the unknown before visiting. I overcame this fear once I found connections with the clients who's stories and needs surpassed my perception of who they were. I found myself having so much in common with them and realizing that the stigma placed on opioid and substance abuse individuals can affect any and everyone from any walk of life. This allowed me to further understand that the nurse's role should also include being a good non judgmental listener. I was also able to assess the health needs in the community and see how my role as a future nurse can help to assist in fulfilling these needs. Overall this was an amazing experience that I am grateful to have been apart of, and I look forward to any other opportunities like this .."



Partnerships

Preparing a
workforce who
sees people
outside of their
addiction



Independence
Blue Cross
Somebody you
know
campaign

Someone You **Know**

FACING THE
OPIOID CRISIS
TOGETHER

Hmmm....

- How do we balance the content v. processing in a topic like substance use disorder
- How can we prepare our students to better work in teams
- What strategies work best to break down the stigmas and labels around substance use disorder?
- How do we stop working in silos?



Thank you

