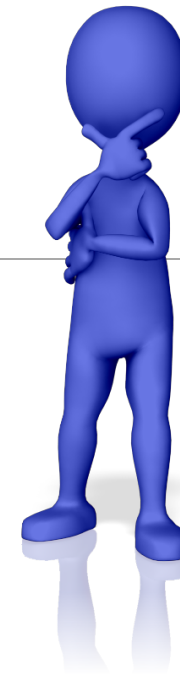




Harm Reduction Strategies for Law Enforcement

Rick Brandt, Chief, Evans PD and Past President, CACP

Scope of the Problem for Law Enforcement



Deterrence and The War on Drugs



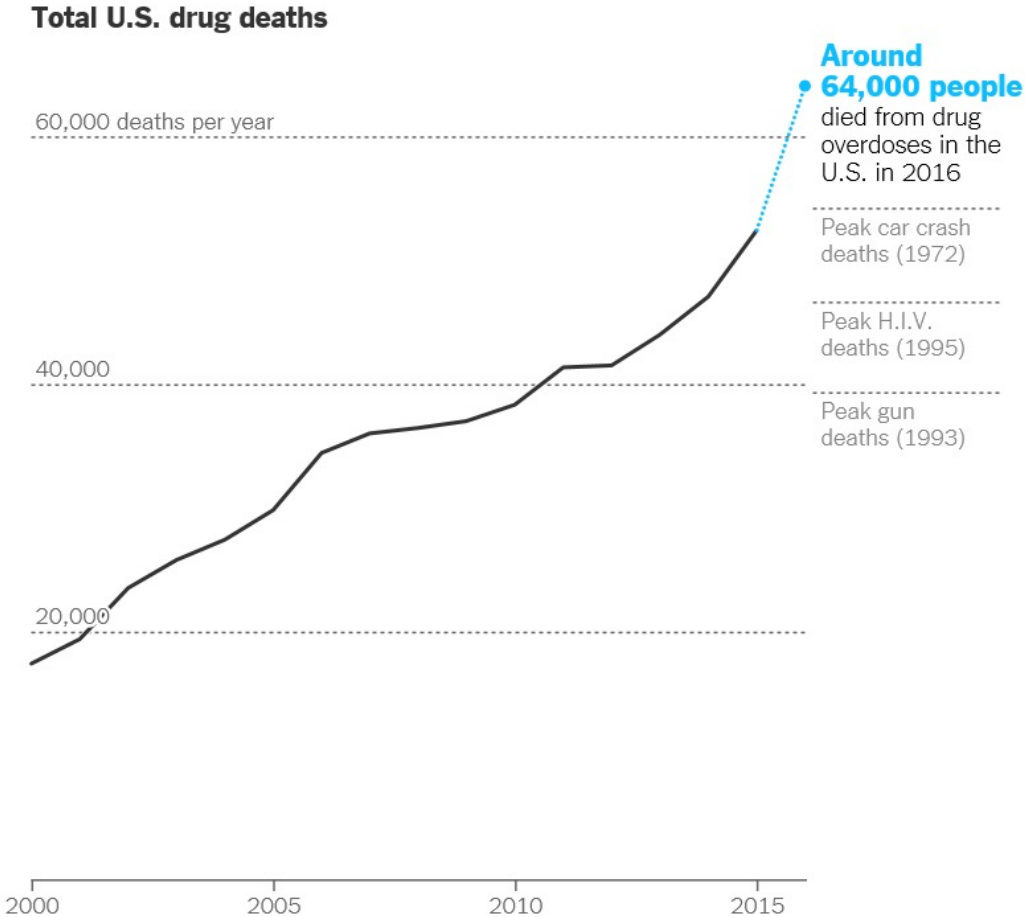
Cesare Beccaria
1738 - 1994

The Perfect Storm

- 1990's: Aggressive opioid prescribing practices
 - Many new users
 - Widespread opioid availability
- 2000's: Spread of heroin to new markets
 - No longer limited to coastal metropolitan areas
- Nearly 50,000 Opioid medication deaths in 2019
 - 500,000 deaths 1999-2019
- 72,000 total drug overdose deaths in 2019
 - 165 million substance users

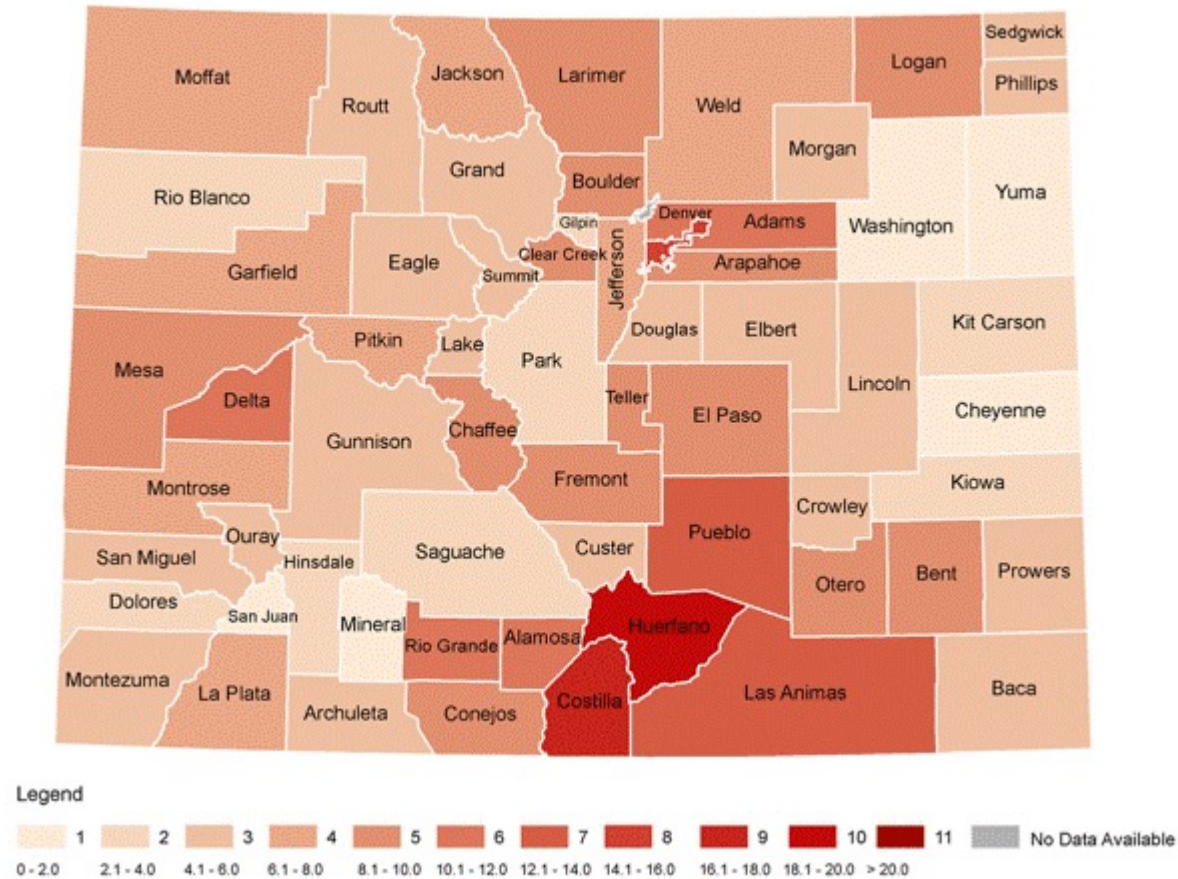


Overdose Death Rates: U.S.



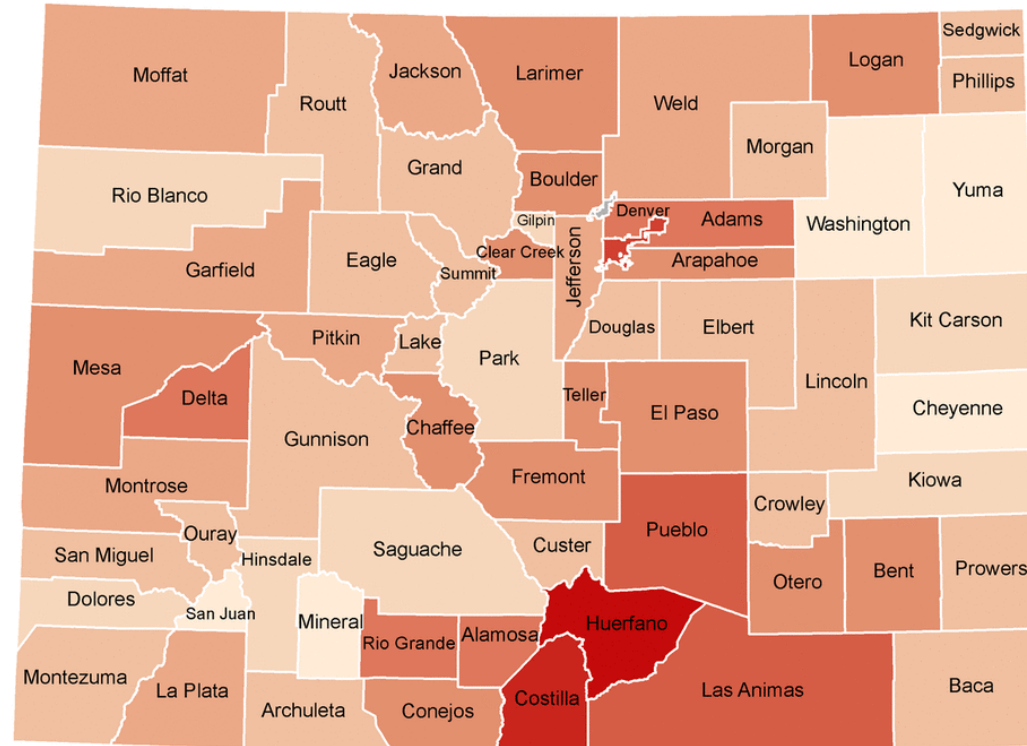
Drug Overdose Mortality in Colorado

Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, 2002

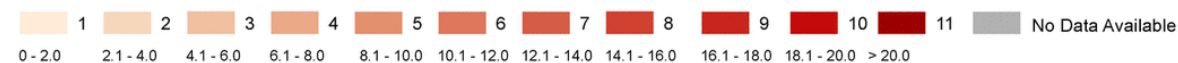


Drug Overdose Mortality in Colorado

Colorado Drug Overdose Death Rate, 2002



Legend





THE OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

INFORM. ENGAGE. INSPIRE.



Challenges and Strategies

Buy-in from Chief's and Sheriff's

- Overcoming stereotypical thinking about addiction
- “That’s not my job”
- Policy
- Political roadblocks

Buy-in from line officers

- “They’re just dopers”
- Re-enforcing primary mandate
- Use of media
- Formal awards



Early Partnership



Greeley Evans Mobile (GEM) Co-Responder team



GEM Overview:



- 2017 - Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) released RFA for \$2,900,000 to be awarded to 8 sites across Colorado
- Duration of the grant – 5 years, resulting in \$362,500 per year
- Evans Police Department initiated partnership between North Range Behavioral Health and Greeley Police, as well as several others
- The City of Evans was selected as a recipient of the grant!

The Evans Model

- Screening and hiring
- Training
- Equipment
- Types of calls
- 2019-2020 data



What's Next?

Sustainable funding

Increased autonomy

More safety nets for diversion

