



# Promoting Public Health Through Harm Reduction

*A compassionate approach to prevent overdose and equip communities to confront the opioid crisis*

By:

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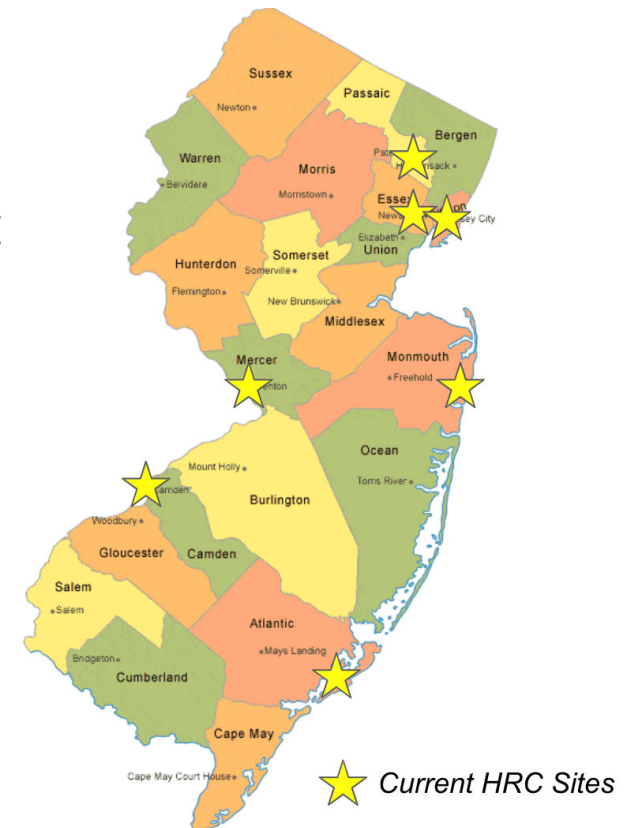
John Butler, Criminal Justice Policy Advisor



# Applying Harm Reduction Principles

Harm reduction efforts in New Jersey focus on:

- Expanding syringe access and other vital support services through harm reduction centers.
- Increasing access to medication assisted treatment (MAT), such as buprenorphine.
- Equipping providers with the tools to support persons who use drugs, including access to and training on the use of naloxone.
- Developing non-punitive approaches to drug related crimes.





## Applying Harm Reduction Principles

- A798 – Establishes local drug overdose fatality review teams.
- S3009/A4847 – Authorizes provision of harm reduction services to distribute sterile syringes and provide certain support services to persons who use drugs intravenously.
- S3493/A5458 – Permits expungement of possession or distribution of hypodermic syringe or needle offense in case of previous expungement; repeals criminal offense of possession of syringe.



# Applying Harm Reduction Principles

Investments from Opioid Settlements:  
Insys CEO John Kapoor and McKinsey & Co.

- Pediatrician and Adolescent Medical Provider Training
- Motivational Interview Training
- Peer Recovery Support Expansion
- Harm Reduction Education, Outreach, and Expansion
- Opt for Help and Hope Prosecutor-led Diversion
- Child Trauma Response Initiative



# Applying Harm Reduction Principles

## Combating the Opioid Epidemic

The \$641 million in settlement funds will be paid through 2038 and will fund state and local programs focused on treatment, prevention, and other strategies to combat the opioid epidemic in the state.



### We want to hear from you!

How do you think the opioid settlement money should be spent?

The state of New Jersey will be receiving over \$300 million of opioid settlement funds over the next 18 years, and the Murphy Administration wants your opinion on how the funds will be used.

#### Funding must go towards:

- Treating opioid use disorder (OUD)
- Supporting people in treatment and recovery
- Providing connections to care
- Addressing the needs of justice involved persons
- Addressing the needs of pregnant or parenting people who use drugs and their families
- Preventing over-prescribing and ensuring the appropriate prescription of opioids by medical professional
- Preventing problematic use of opioids
- Preventing overdose deaths and harms through harm reduction strategies
- Other goals such as supporting first responders, training, and cross-system collaborative efforts, and/or research

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# The Future of Harm Reduction in New Jersey