

Enhancing Overdose Response through Data-Driven Innovation.

Public Health - Dayton & Montgomery's Recovery Outreach Team, a Quick Response Team (QRT), in partnership with Ascend Innovations and Cordata Healthcare Innovations, conducted an analysis to explore the impact of QRT engagement on clients' interactions with local healthcare and criminal justice systems. The analysis included 3,050 individuals who were referred to the QRT between August 2018 and April 2022. Of those referrals, half (n=1,550) had at least one contact with the QRT. The QRT clients were mostly male (59%) and white (72%). Most individuals that engaged with the QRT were insured by Medicaid (65%) or Medicare (17.51%). Nearly 6% were uninsured.

A statistical testing method was used to compare clients' system encounters before and after they engaged with the QRT (pre- and post-testing).

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Making an impact on individuals struggling with substance use.

- ✓ **Reduced Death Rates**
QRTs save lives based on analysis of coroners' case records.
- ✓ **Healthcare**
QRTs reduce Emergency Department use across all diagnoses and behavioral health specific diagnoses.
- ✓ **Criminal Justice**
QRTs reduce non-drug related arrests. Clients who engaged in the QRT had a reduction in violent crime (new charges).
- ✓ **Medicaid**
QRT clients had significantly lower hospital-related Medicaid billings than those who didn't engage with QRT.
- ✓ **Mental Health**
Approximately 5% of overdoses documented by the QRT are "intentional overdoses."

QRT reduces healthcare & criminal justice interactions.

QRT clients saw **reductions in hospital utilization & charges**.

- ✓ **Significant reductions in healthcare charges** when comparing the year before they were referred to QRT with the year after their referral. The more contacts a client had with QRT, the more their total charges dropped (see table below on the right).
- ✓ **Reductions in arrests** that were non-drug related.

QRT clients saw **reductions in criminal justice interactions**.

- ✓ **Fewer Emergency Department visits** in the 6 months after receiving support than in the 6 months prior to connecting with QRT.
- ✓ **Fewer new charges for violent crimes** in the 6 months after their QRT engagement than in the 6 months prior to connecting with QRT.

TOTAL INTERACTIONS WITH LOCAL SYSTEMS FOR THE POPULATION OF STUDY*

QRT Contacts	Before QRT	After QRT	Change
0	37,583	35,188	-6.4%
1	21,958	15,562	-29.13%
2	8,181	4,410	-46.1%
3+	7,923	3,711	-53.16%

*Local systems include law enforcement, jail bookings, and hospital interactions.

AVERAGE TOTAL CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH HOSPITAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT ENCOUNTERS

QRT Contacts	Before QRT	After QRT	Change
0	\$38,174	\$37,363	-2.12%
1	\$33,592	\$24,283	-27.7%
2	\$43,393	\$21,767	-49.81%
3+	\$48,991	\$27,173	-44.5%

*Note: Charges data displayed above reflects the 12 month period before and after QRT interactions.

Illustrating the Value of Improved Care Coordination.

See how enhancing care coordination can make an impact on the lives of our community members through the lens of one individual's journey.



Case Study: Jane Doe, 48

"Jane," was referred to the QRT after an overdose encounter with local law enforcement. In the year before she was connected with QRT, Jane had been **arrested several times**, was **in and out of the local jail**, and had more than **50 hospital encounters**. The QRT was able to successfully contact Jane, and she completed an intake into treatment.

AFTER INTERACTING WITH THE QRT:

- ✓ 14 successful contacts in 64 days (78% success rate)
- ✓ Majority of referrals from local police department, the rest through community sources
- ✓ Successful intake into treatment
- ✓ Decrease in jail encounters (2 v. 5 before)
- ✓ Most contact via phone calls, also hospital & professional
- ✓ One successful family / friend contact
- ✓ Twice referred to community recovery resources & recovery support meetings
- ✓ Decrease in hospital encounters (12 after v. 56 before)

INVESTING TO DRIVE OUTCOMES

Supporting Quick Response Teams in Ohio

Based on these results, here are ways to support QRTs and expand the impact of this work:

1 Provide funding & support to QRTs

QRT has big potential for impact, but QRTs still struggle to find consistent funding. Many QRTs are grant-funded; communities need a consistent source of funding to sustain this important work. In addition to funding, QRTs need coaching and training, support for data collection, and assistance evaluating and reporting on their work.

2 Invest in systems & networks that increase referrals to QRTs

Even one contact can make a difference; the more individuals who are referred to QRTs, the more lives can be saved. Today, many referral activities are manual and cumbersome; however, several communities (including Montgomery County) have implemented creative systems to streamline referrals. By investing in and scaling those communities' solutions, QRTs can provide support to more people.

3 Support enhanced data collection & analysis

Montgomery County is unique in its ability to conduct this analysis; however, every community needs high quality information to drive decision-making and program development. Communities should continue to support the existing data infrastructure for QRTs and explore pilot projects that expand the footprint of data available to the state and to local teams. Communities may consider data collection efforts that explore the overlap between mental health issues and addiction.

GET IN TOUCH

Interested in
Learning More?

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