

MEETING DATE: October 3, 2024

AGENDA ITEM: F

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Kasey Warmuth, Deputy Director, kasey.warmuth@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Opioids in Local Detention Facilities – Survey Results and Next Steps: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This report provides a summary of the information gathered through the Opioids in Local Detention Facilities Survey. The attached presentation (Attachment F-1) highlights the results for both the adult and juvenile local detention facilities. The detailed results can be found here: <https://www.bscc.ca.gov/opioid-survey/>. The second administration of the survey was conducted in July 2024, and the survey provides helpful baseline information about current practices and issues related to opioids in local detention facilities.

This agenda item requests Board approval to refer the Opioid Survey data to the Director of In-Custody Death Review (DICDR) for their consideration. If there is further information needed from local detention facilities on opioid issues, the DICDR may come back to the Board with recommendations on additional survey or data collection efforts.

Background

At the June 2023 BSCC Meeting, Board members discussed the increasing incidence of overdoses in both adult and juvenile local detention facilities. The Board requested that BSCC staff develop a survey to assess the impact of overdoses in adult and juvenile local detention facilities. In November 2023, the Board reviewed a draft survey that focused on the availability of opioid antagonists and the incidences of opioid antagonist use. After extensive public input and Board discussion, the Board directed staff to revise the draft to address the public comment and Board input.

In response to the Board's request, BSCC staff conducted follow up meetings with Board Members Chavez, Zaragoza, and Dicus as well as correctional health consultants and advocates. Staff also requested input from the California State Sheriffs Association and the Chief Probations Officers of California.

BSCC staff substantially revised the survey to collect a broader scope of information about opioids and overdoses within local detention facilities, both adult and juvenile (Attachments F-2 and F-3, respectively). The survey used the use of opioid antagonists as a proxy for the occurrence of drug overdoses within local detention facilities. In addition, the survey included questions about training of facility staff, substance use-related practices, and how opioids were introduced into facilities. The *Survey Overview* (Attachment F-3) provided detailed instructions for respondents including key definitions.

At the April 2024 BSCC Meeting, Board members approved the survey and directed staff to administer the survey twice. The first administration occurred in May 2024 and requested information related to the use of opioid antagonists for January, February, and March 2024 and information on how opioids were introduced into facilities. It also requested information about the training of facility staff and substance use-related practices. The second administration occurred in July 2024, and requested information related to the use of opioid antagonists for April, May, and June 2024 and information on how opioids were introduced into facilities.

Some highlights from the local adult detention facilities include:

- One hundred (100) percent of the reporting facilities have opioid antagonists accessible to custodial staff. For 67 percent of these facilities, the opioid antagonists are always on custodial staff (e.g., on duty belts). For 27 percent of these facilities, opioid antagonists are accessible to the people who are detained.
- Between January 1 and June 20, 2024, there were 581 unique incidents of opioid antagonist use with a 99 percent successful intervention rate.

Some highlights from the local juvenile detention facilities include:

- One hundred (100) percent of the reporting facilities have opioid antagonists accessible to custodial staff. For 41 percent of these facilities, the opioid antagonists are always on youth supervision staff (e.g., on duty belts).
- Between January 1 and June 20, 2024, there were five unique incidents of opioid antagonist use with a 100 percent successful intervention rate.

The information received in the two quarters of data collection provides a helpful snapshot of current practices around the state. BSCC staff are recommending that the DICDR review the survey results and recommend next steps on data collection.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends the following:

1. The Board defer further action until the In-Custody Death Review Division is established and can review the results for possible regulation recommendations or whether further information from local detention facilities is needed.
2. The Board end this data collection effort with the already completed second administration.

Attachments

F-1: Opioids in Local Detention Facilities – Survey Results Power Point Presentation

F-2: Survey of Opioid Antagonists in Local Adult Detention Facilities

F-3: Survey of Opioid Antagonists in Local Juvenile Detention Facilities

F-4: Survey Overview: Opioid Antagonists in Local Detention Facilities