

# Minnesota Association of Resources for Recovery and Chemical Health (MARRCH)

Our 2024 legislative priorities were identified and developed by more than 240 SUD professionals across the state.

## 2024 LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM

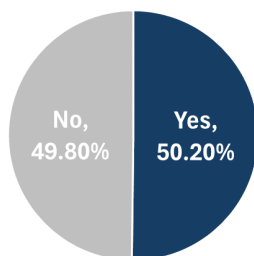
**ISSUE:** Substance use disorder (SUD) is a chronic disease. Minnesotans deserve quick access, and ample support throughout their recovery journey. Programs need adequate funding to maintain appropriate staffing levels to deliver life-saving care.

**BACKGROUND:** The SUD field has rapidly evolved since 2017, with program standards shifting to statute 245G, the 1115 Waiver becoming a mandate, and a push towards ASAM standards. The COVID pandemic, social justice efforts, and workforce crisis add additional challenges. While adopting evidence-based practices aligned with ASAM is positive, timing and cost of implementation are crucial considerations.

*Any further delays in addressing SUD rates will result in more burnout and program closures. With overdose deaths at an all time high, we are at a critical breaking point and need immediate and long-term relief.*

**We received survey data from more than 620 SUD workers in MN, focusing on stress, burnout, and hope.**

**BURNOUT:** In the past 12 months, have you considered leaving the SUD field?



***"Understaffing is the single most detriment to providing the best quality of care."***

**STRESS:** When asked what the one thing is that causes the most stress, the top 4 answers were:

- Caseload/Program needs
- Paperwork
- Not enough staff/inexperienced
- Client Acuity

***"High caseloads and turnover "water down" the quality of care, which contributes to clients relapsing and needing to return to treatment, or worse."***

## THE FACTS

**Rates = Fast  
Change = Slow  
Help = NOW!**



Net loss of 45 licensed SUD providers over last two years. 'more than 40% of these closures happen outside of the 7 county metro area. Closures in Greater MN have a significant impact on access.



MN opioid-involved overdose deaths increased 43% from 2020 to 2022; more than doubled since 2019.

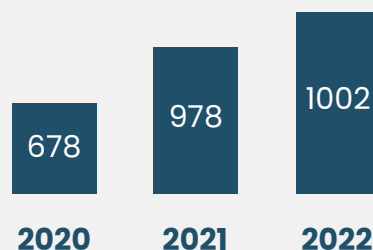
**10 X**

In 2021, American Indian MNs were 10x as likely to die from a drug overdose than white MNs.

**3 X**

In 2021, Black MNs were more than 3x as likely to die from drug overdose than white MNs.

**Opioid Overdose Deaths in MN  
(according to MDH)**



**Contact Us**

(651) 290-7462

[www.marrch.org](http://www.marrch.org)

## LEGISLATIVE OVERVIEW

### POLICY ([SF3984/HF4149](#))

- **Expand alternative paths to licensure [Section 1]**
- **ASAM certification/Alternative Licensing Inspections [Section 2]**
- **Eliminate ratios to align with ASAM [Sections 3 and 5]**
  - Medical and mental health staffing
  - Residential engagement documentation
  - Federal holidays off for counselors
- **County Affidavit for BHF [Section 4]**
- **Hard deadline for paperwork reduction of December 2024 [Section 6]**

### FUNDING ([SF4276/HF4190](#))

- **Waiving Fees for IDs (Sections 1, 2, and 3)**
  - Birth certificate and driver's license/ID card
- **SUD rates**
  - Develop group peer rate (section 4 and 5)
  - "Unstrike" SUD and be included in 3% increase effective Jan. 1, 2024 (section 7)
  - Auto inflation adjustment (section 7)
  - Implement rate methodology recommendations ASAP (section 11)
- **SUD Treatment Effectiveness (Section 6)**
  - Create an SUD data dashboard
- **Extend rate study** to include adolescent SUD (residential/non-residential, Withdrawal Management) and Room and Board payments (section 8)
- **1115 Waiver** for Incarceration (section 9)
- **Transition Support Workgroup (Section 10)**
  - Develop recommendations related to housing, food support, childcare, and transportation services for people transitioning out of SUD services
- **Deduct student loan payments from MN taxes (Section 12)**

## RESOURCES

**Legislative Report Outpatient Services Rate Study:**  
[Opioid Overdose Deaths in MN](#)  
([according to MDH](#))

**DHS presentation on Outpatient Services Rate Study:**  
[Opioid Overdose Deaths in MN](#)  
([according to MDH](#))

## ABOUT MARRCH

About MARRCH is a professional association of addiction treatment professionals and organizations striving to raise awareness about addiction and the power of recovery. We represent more than 150 agencies/organizations and more than 2,500 individuals (Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselors, students, other behavioral health professionals) with members in every region of Minnesota.

As a collective body, MARRCH works to educate, support and guide individuals and agencies while speaking with a unified voice in public policy venues.