



## DuPage ROSC Community Needs Assessment

**Goal:** DuPage ROSC conducted a community needs assessment in the Fall of 2021 to gauge accessibility of local substance use/mental health services, attitudes towards them, identify gaps and barriers to services. We wanted feedback from the recovery community, but didn't only target them. As substance use and mental health is a community issue, we wanted to get as much feedback from the community as possible.

**Methodology:** DuPage ROSC created a 21 question survey (20 multiple choice rating questions and one open-ended) that was distributed to the community. The survey was completed on Survey Monkey, which was also used to collect and correlate the data.

The survey was distributed through the ROSC outreach email list, as well as through the DuPage County Health Department, Serenity House, and Catholic Charities email lists, In addition, hard copy of flyers with QR codes were posted in community spots: 12 Step clubs, recovery homes, community centers, etc.

The survey was available in English and Spanish.

In total, 136 surveys were completed (135 in English, 1 in Spanish)

Questions/Findings: (full findings attached below)

1. **There are enough substance use/addiction treatment services in DuPage County:** we found that 57% of those surveyed disagreed that we have enough treatment services, while only 20% agree that there are enough
2. **It is relatively easy to get into detoxes and treatment centers in DuPage County:** 57% of those surveyed believe it's difficult to get into detoxes and treatment centers, as opposed to 15% who agree that it's easy to access them
3. **DuPage County needs more substance use treatment centers where the stay is longer than 90 days:** an overwhelming 68% agree that we need longer treatment stays

4. **Awareness and education about substance use disorder is readily available to residents of DuPage County:** 31% of those surveyed agree that education is readily available
5. **Education and services for people with BOTH mental health and substance use issues are widely available in DuPage County:** 59% of those surveyed disagree that co-occurring education is not readily available.
6. **Education on Harm Reduction is available in DuPage County:** 39% disagree vs 27% agree
7. **DuPage County works to lower stigmas that are connected to substance use and mental health issues:** 40% agree, vs 30% disagree
8. **DuPage County makes it easy to get appointments with primary care physicians, to get your medications from the pharmacy, and to get into services at clinics and mental health centers if you have no insurance or not enough insurance:** 50% disagree vs 21% agree
9. **DuPage County makes it easy for people who don't speak English to get into substance use and mental health services:** 36% disagree vs 10% agree, largest response was 32% for "don't know"
10. **DuPage County meets the substance use and mental health needs for the LGBTQ+ community:** 37% disagree vs 11% agree, largest response was 38% for "don't know"
11. **DuPage County Public School systems offer substance use and mental health education for students:** 32% agree vs 24% disagree, largest response was 35% for "don't know"
12. **DuPage County offers a wide variety of safe, sober, enjoyable activities for the community:** 37% agree vs 27% disagree
13. **DuPage County has locations like community centers where people in recovery can come together for sober social activities:** 40% disagree vs 25% agree
14. **People in recovery in DuPage County know about and have access to Suboxone, Vivitrol, Methadone, etc., also known as Medication Assisted Recovery:** 30% disagree vs 28% agree, largest response was 32% for "don't know"
15. **DuPage County helps people in early recovery by connecting them with peer recovery support services and directing them to drug court programs for help if they are in trouble with the law:** 34% agree, 23% disagree, 32% "don't know"
16. **Individuals in recovery in DuPage County can find alternative recovery programs like SMART Recovery, Celebrate Recovery, Refuge Recovery, Rational Recovery, etc in addition to Twelve-Step programs:** 41% agree, 25% disagree
17. **Individuals looking for support with their recovery in DuPage County can find a trained Peer Recovery Coach (a person with lived experience in recovery) providing recovery support services:** 29% agree, 25% disagree, largest response was 32% "don't know"
18. **Individual counseling and therapy for substance use and mental health disorders, grief, trauma, etc is easy to find and easy to access in DuPage County:** 44% disagree, 33% agree

19. **Organizations run by cities and the county are addressing serious issues like the opioid epidemic and the need for Medication Assisted Treatments like Narcan and Naloxone:**  
41% agree vs 24% disagree
20. **DuPage County addresses barriers to treatment and recovery, ie childcare, transportation, employment, affordable housing, legal problems, peer support, etc:**  
50% disagree, 16% agree

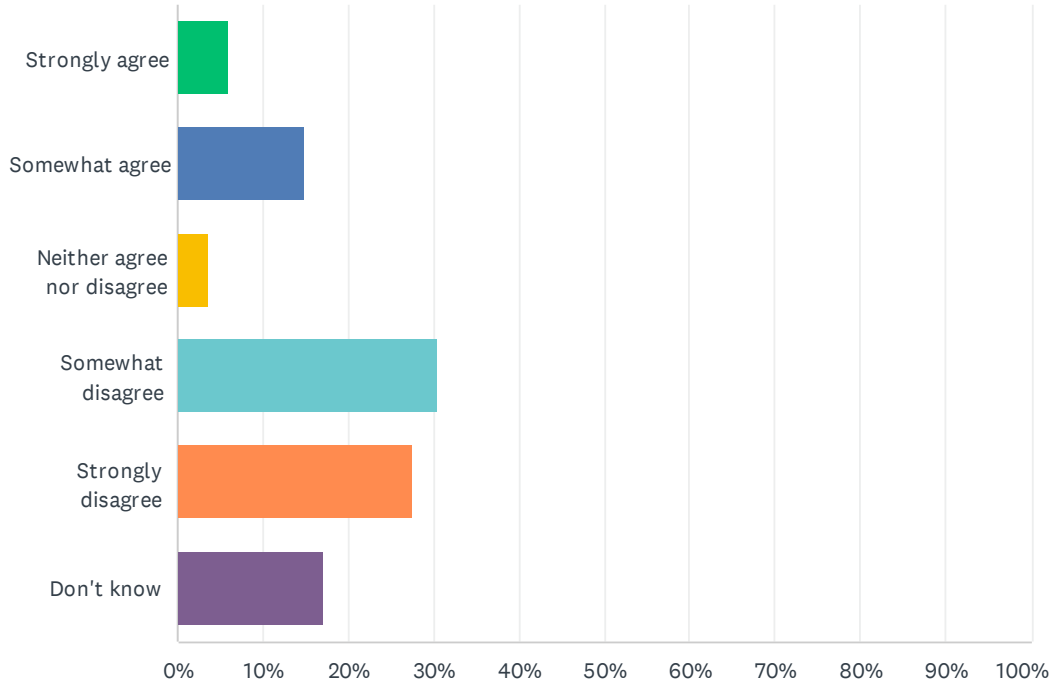
**Summary:** We really want to focus on the topics/questions that seemed to skew heavily towards disagreement. Having said that, we can surmise the following from the assessment:

1. There are not enough substance use/addiction treatment services in DuPage County.
2. It is difficult to get into detoxes and said treatment centers.
3. We need more long-term residential treatment.
4. We need more education on co-occurring disorders.
5. It's too difficult in DuPage to access services without insurance.
6. There are too many additional barriers to treatment like childcare, transportation, employment, affordable housing, legal problems, peer-support, etc

We will use this information in our efforts going forward, and try to find ways to advocate and work around these existing issues.

## Q1 There are enough substance use/addiction treatment services in DuPage County.

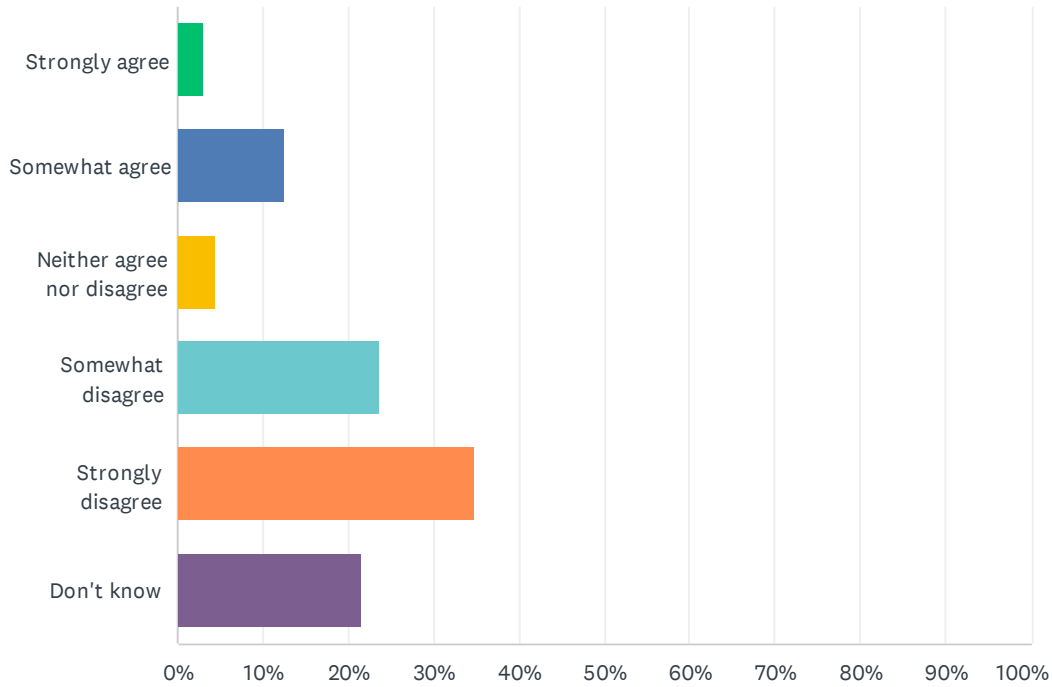
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	5.97%	8
Somewhat agree	14.93%	20
Neither agree nor disagree	3.73%	5
Somewhat disagree	30.60%	41
Strongly disagree	27.61%	37
Don't know	17.16%	23
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

## Q2 It is relatively easy to get into detoxes and treatment centers in DuPage County.

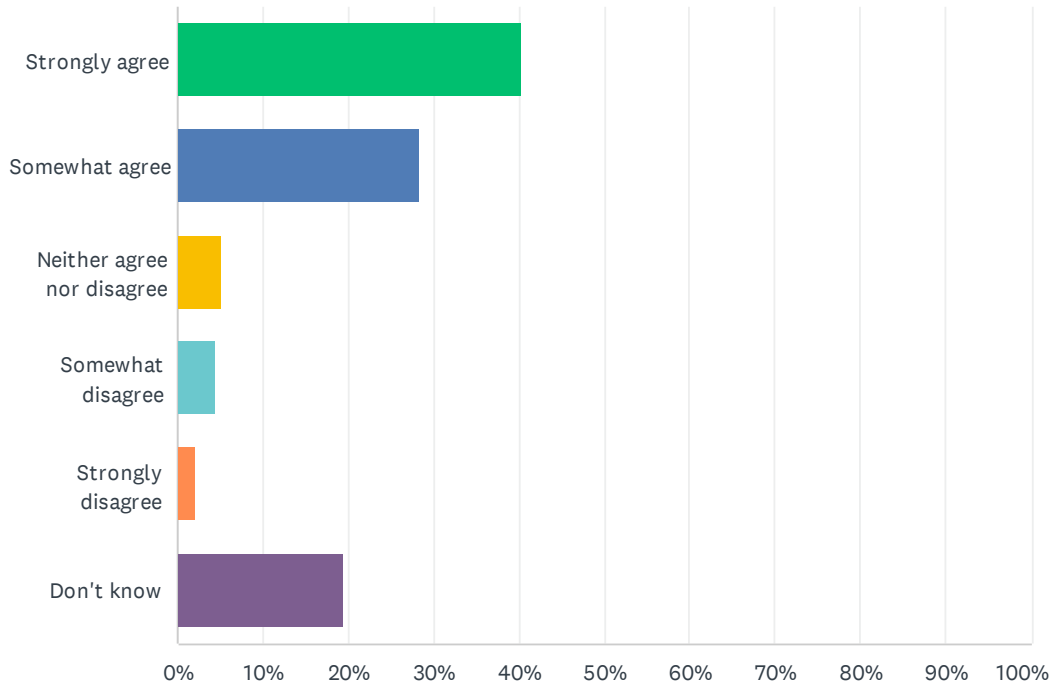
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	2.96%	4
Somewhat agree	12.59%	17
Neither agree nor disagree	4.44%	6
Somewhat disagree	23.70%	32
Strongly disagree	34.81%	47
Don't know	21.48%	29
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

### Q3 DuPage County needs more substance use treatment centers where the stay is longer than 90 days.

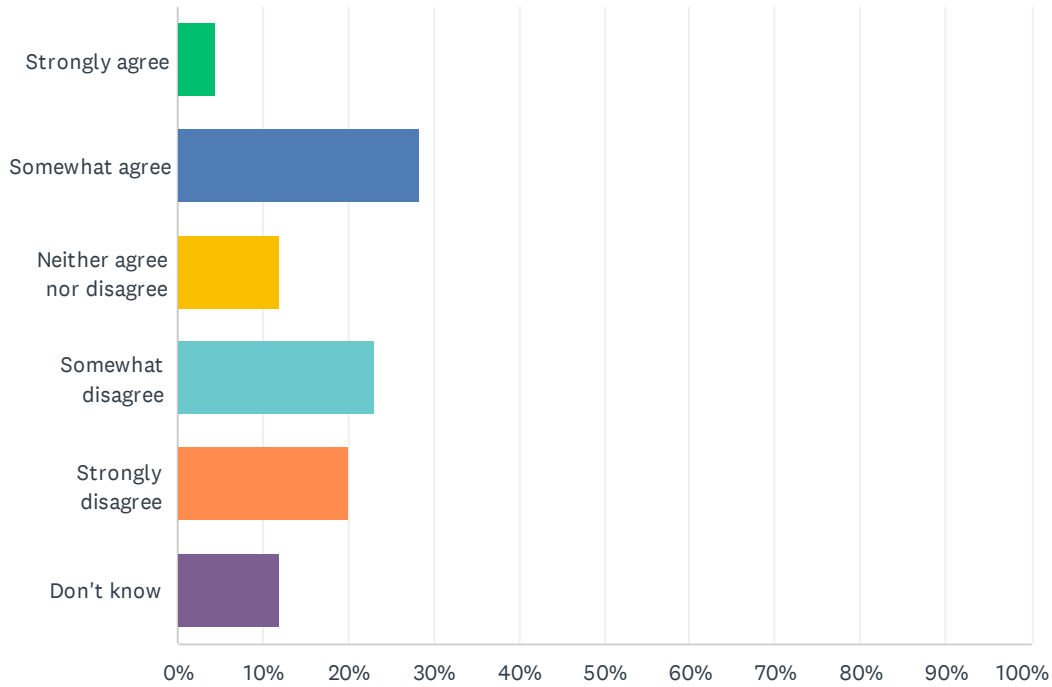
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	40.30%	54
Somewhat agree	28.36%	38
Neither agree nor disagree	5.22%	7
Somewhat disagree	4.48%	6
Strongly disagree	2.24%	3
Don't know	19.40%	26
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

## Q4 Awareness and education about substance use disorder is readily available to residents of DuPage County.

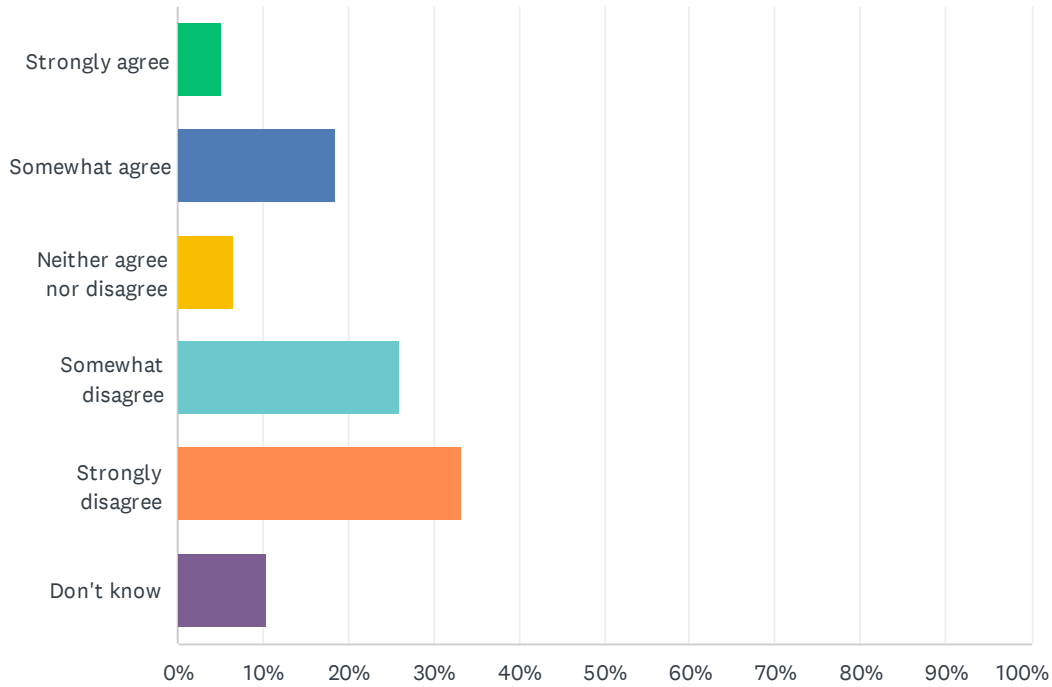
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	4.48%	6
Somewhat agree	28.36%	38
Neither agree nor disagree	11.94%	16
Somewhat disagree	23.13%	31
Strongly disagree	20.15%	27
Don't know	11.94%	16
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

## Q5 Education and services for people with both mental health and substance use issues are widely available in DuPage County.

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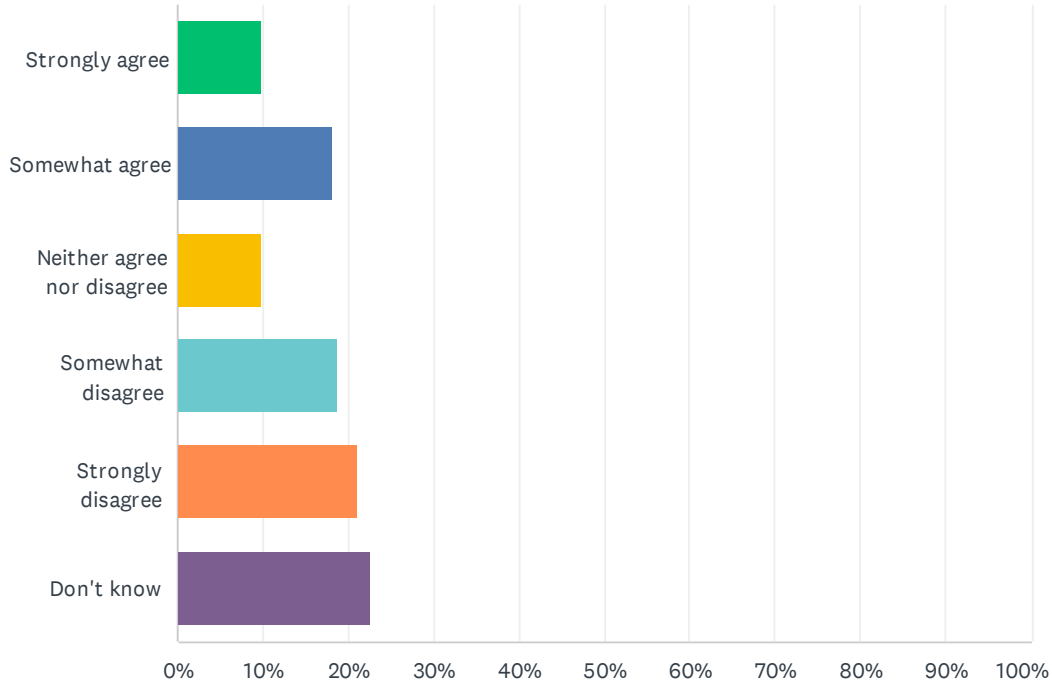


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	5.19%	7
Somewhat agree	18.52%	25
Neither agree nor disagree	6.67%	9
Somewhat disagree	25.93%	35
Strongly disagree	33.33%	45
Don't know	10.37%	14
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>



## Q6 Education on the use of opioid-reversal medication, Fentanyl testing strips, needle-exchanges, etc., also known as Harm Reduction, is available in DuPage County.

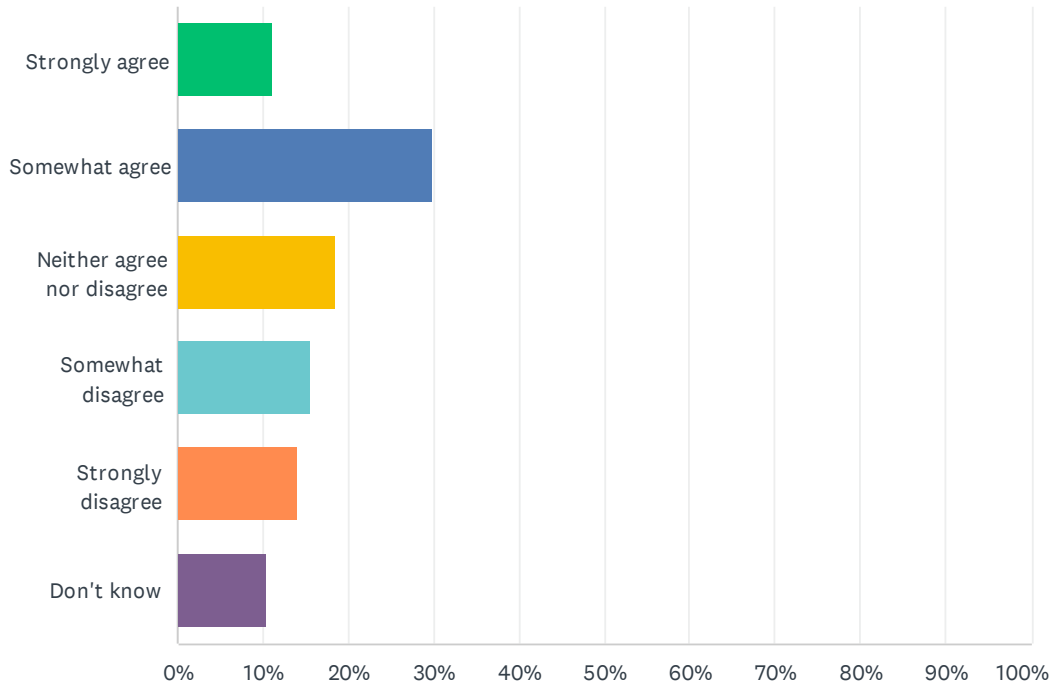
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	9.77%	13
Somewhat agree	18.05%	24
Neither agree nor disagree	9.77%	13
Somewhat disagree	18.80%	25
Strongly disagree	21.05%	28
Don't know	22.56%	30
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>133</b>

## Q7 DuPage County works to lower the stigmas that are connected to substance use and mental health issues.

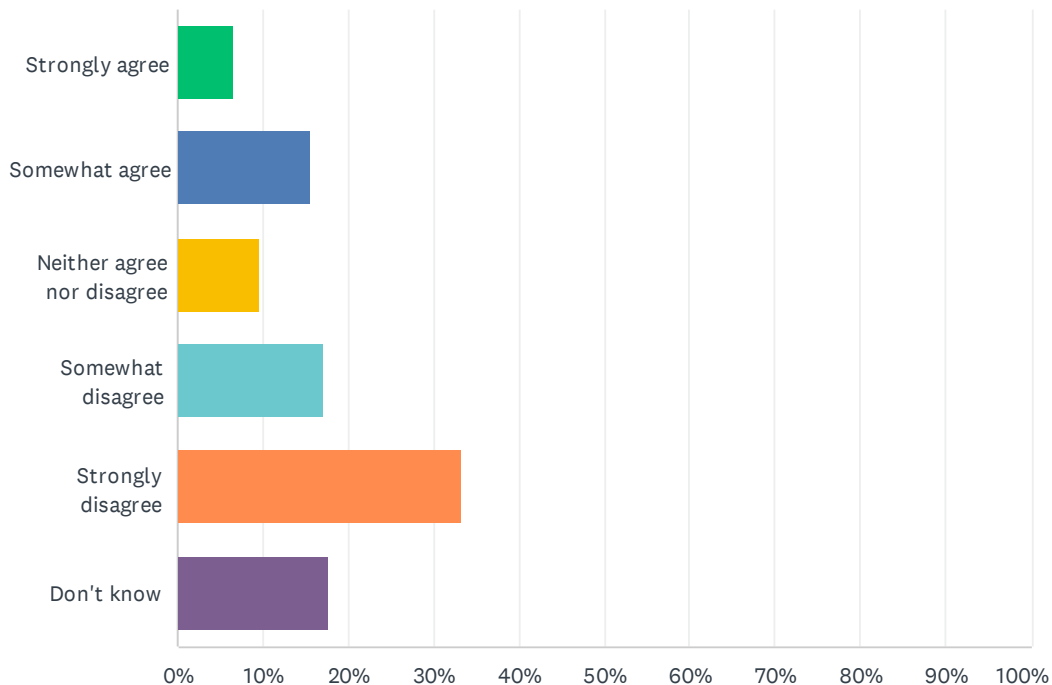
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	11.19%	15
Somewhat agree	29.85%	40
Neither agree nor disagree	18.66%	25
Somewhat disagree	15.67%	21
Strongly disagree	14.18%	19
Don't know	10.45%	14
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

Q8 DuPage County makes it easy to get appointments with primary care physicians, to get your medications from the pharmacy, and to get into services at clinics and mental health centers if you have no insurance or not enough insurance.

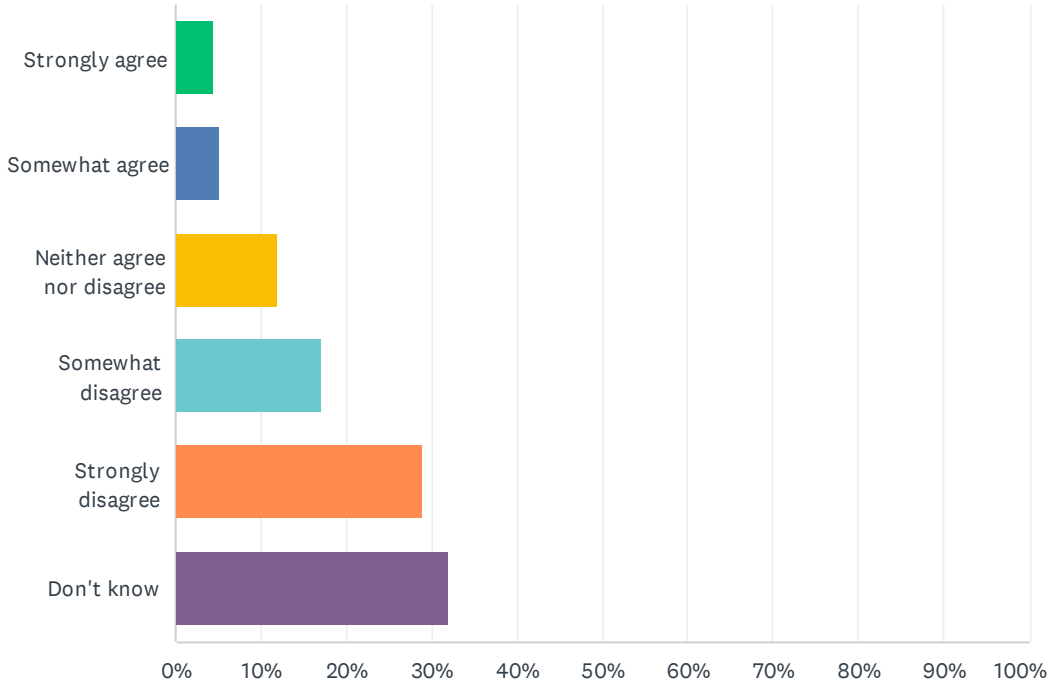
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	6.67%	9
Somewhat agree	15.56%	21
Neither agree nor disagree	9.63%	13
Somewhat disagree	17.04%	23
Strongly disagree	33.33%	45
Don't know	17.78%	24
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

## Q9 DuPage County makes it easy for people who don't speak English to get into substance use and mental health services.

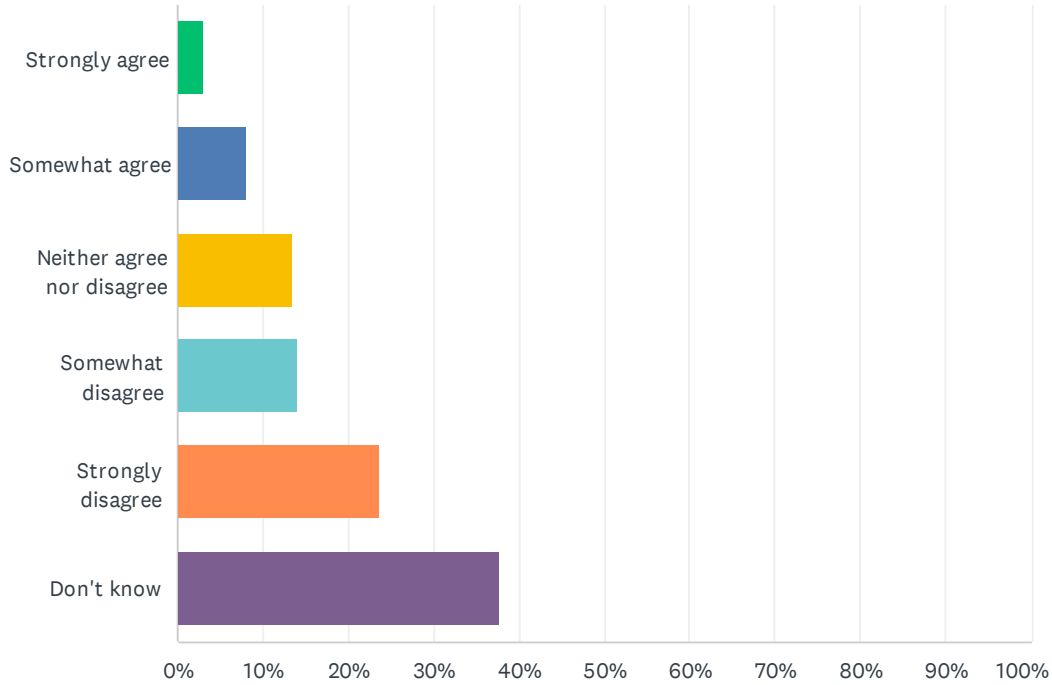
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	4.48%	6
Somewhat agree	5.22%	7
Neither agree nor disagree	11.94%	16
Somewhat disagree	17.16%	23
Strongly disagree	29.10%	39
Don't know	32.09%	43
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

## Q10 DuPage County meets the substance use and mental health needs for the LGBTQ+ community.

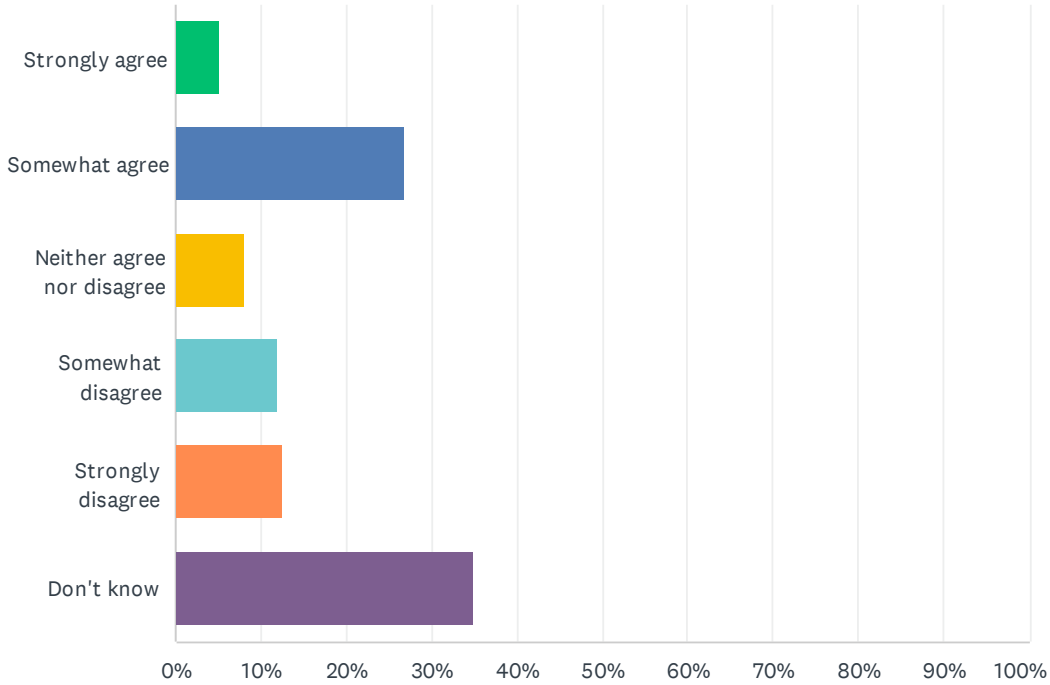
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	2.96%	4
Somewhat agree	8.15%	11
Neither agree nor disagree	13.33%	18
Somewhat disagree	14.07%	19
Strongly disagree	23.70%	32
Don't know	37.78%	51
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

## Q11 DuPage County public school systems offer substance use and mental health education for students.

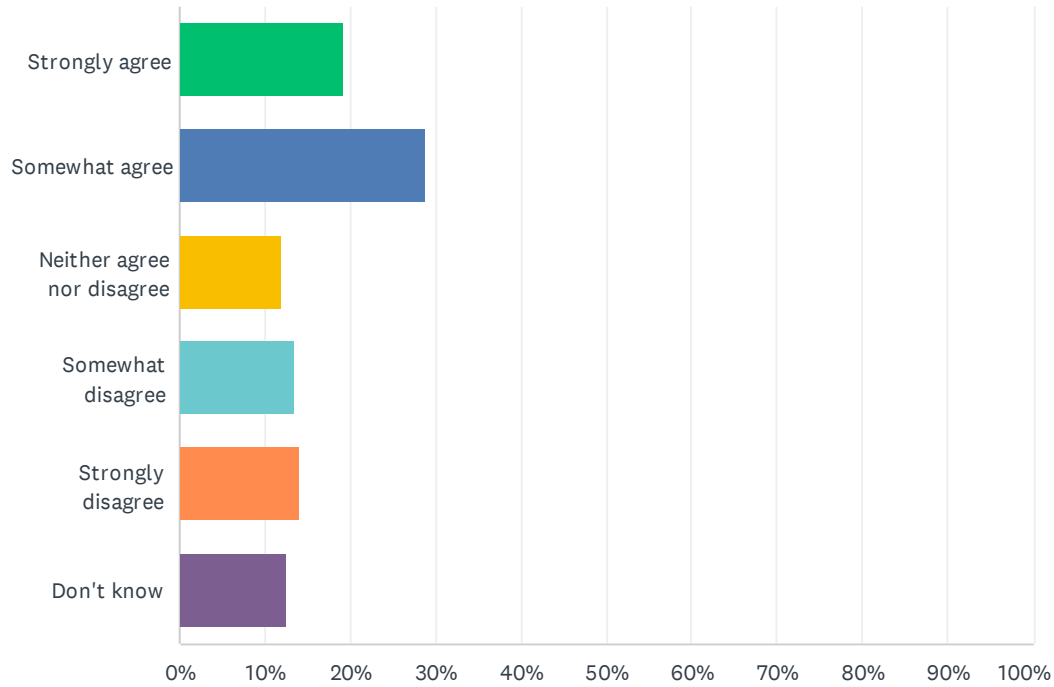
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	5.22%	7
Somewhat agree	26.87%	36
Neither agree nor disagree	8.21%	11
Somewhat disagree	11.94%	16
Strongly disagree	12.69%	17
Don't know	35.07%	47
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

## Q12 DuPage County offers a wide variety of safe, sober, enjoyable activities for the community.

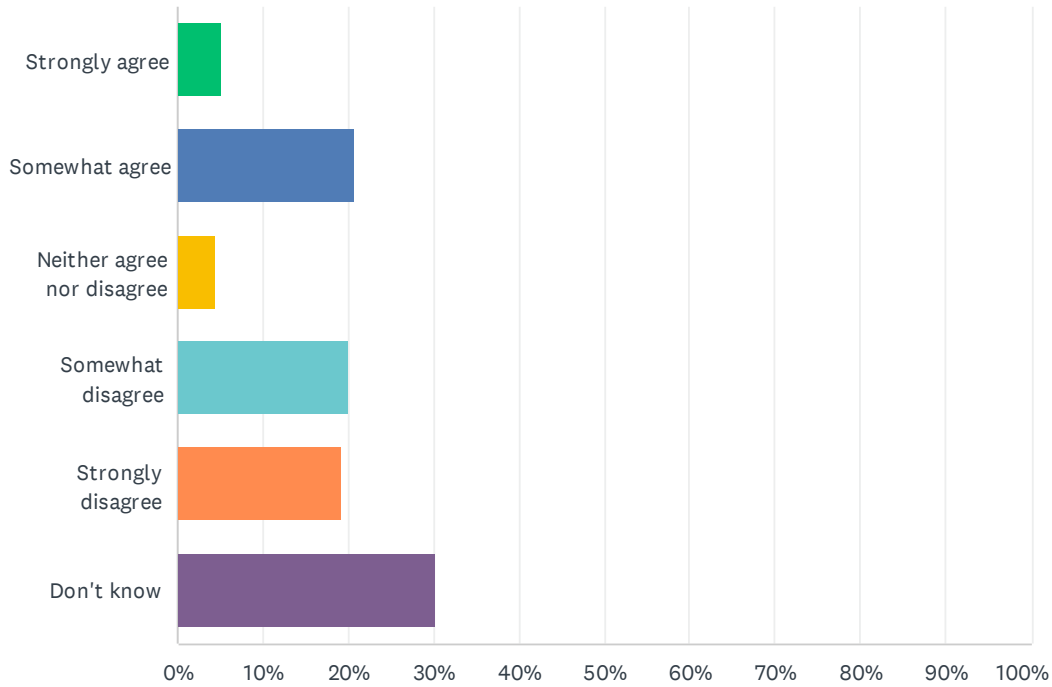
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	19.26%	26
Somewhat agree	28.89%	39
Neither agree nor disagree	11.85%	16
Somewhat disagree	13.33%	18
Strongly disagree	14.07%	19
Don't know	12.59%	17
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

### Q13 DuPage County has locations like recovery community centers where people in recovery can come together for sober social activities.

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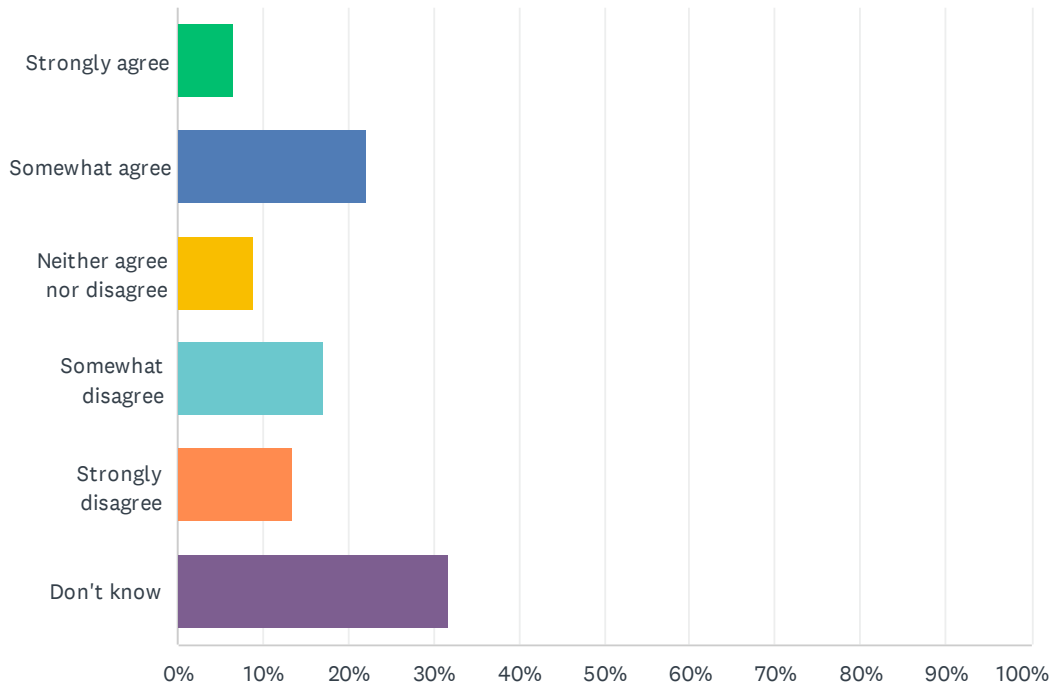


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	5.19%	7
Somewhat agree	20.74%	28
Neither agree nor disagree	4.44%	6
Somewhat disagree	20.00%	27
Strongly disagree	19.26%	26
Don't know	30.37%	41
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>



## Q14 People in recovery in DuPage County know about and have access to Suboxone, Vivitrol, Methadone, etc., also known as Medicated Assisted Treatment (M.A.T.).

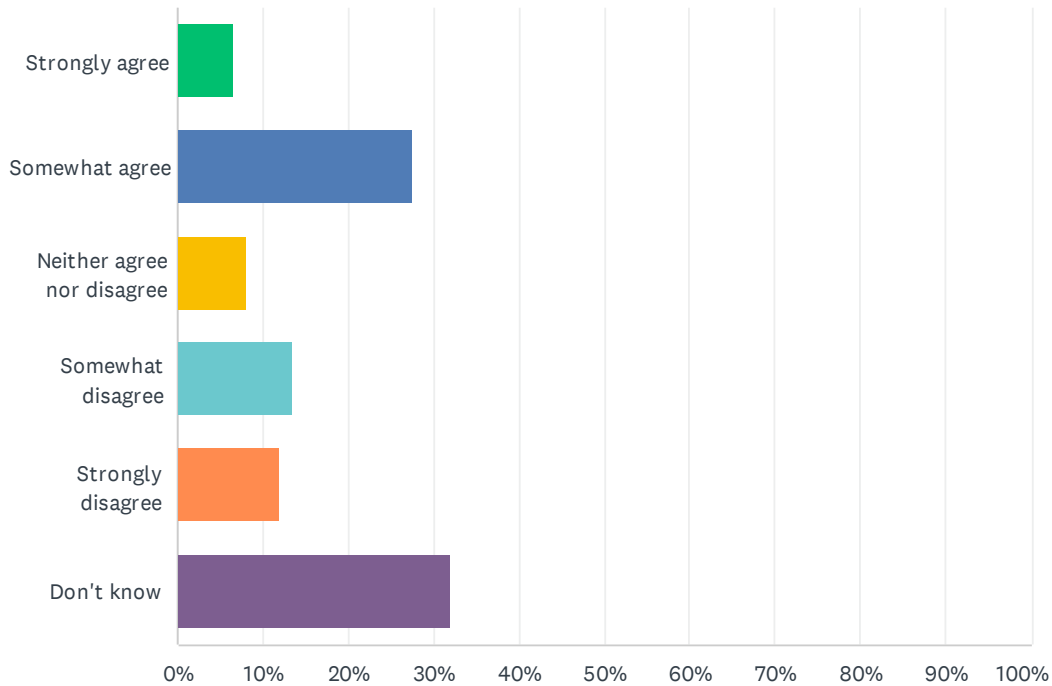
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	6.67%	9
Somewhat agree	22.22%	30
Neither agree nor disagree	8.89%	12
Somewhat disagree	17.04%	23
Strongly disagree	13.33%	18
Don't know	31.85%	43
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

### Q15 DuPage County helps people in early recovery by connecting them with peer recovery support services and directing them to drug court programs for help if they are in trouble with the law.

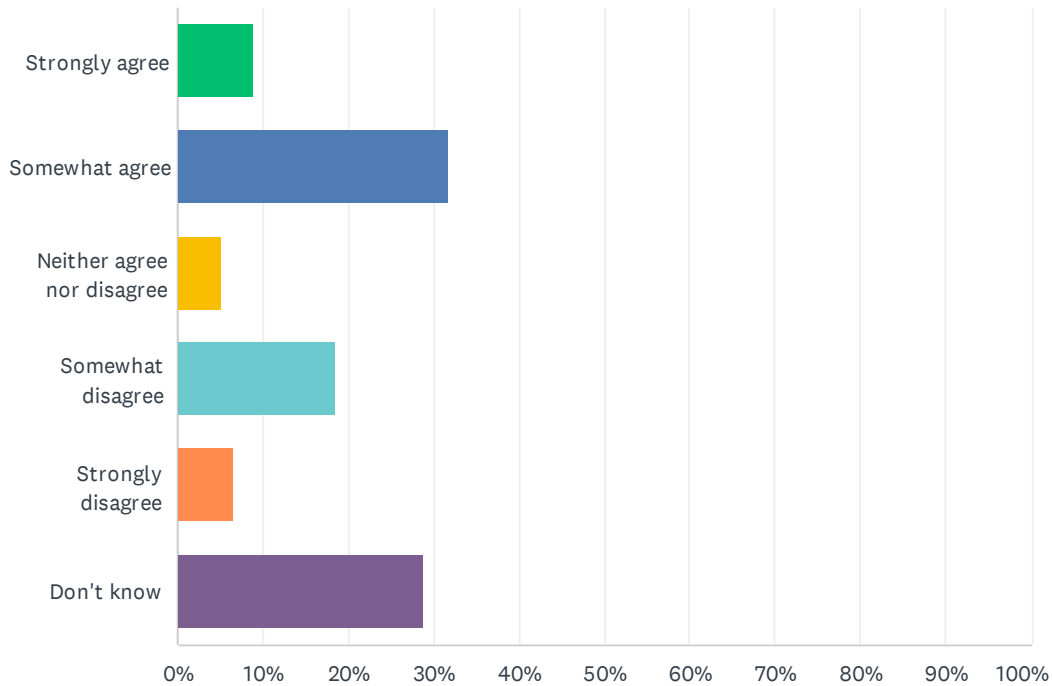
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	6.72%	9
Somewhat agree	27.61%	37
Neither agree nor disagree	8.21%	11
Somewhat disagree	13.43%	18
Strongly disagree	11.94%	16
Don't know	32.09%	43
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>134</b>

### Q16 Individuals in recovery in DuPage County can find alternative recovery programs like SMART Recovery, Celebrate Recovery, Refuge Recovery, Rational Recovery, etc., in addition to Twelve-Step Programs.

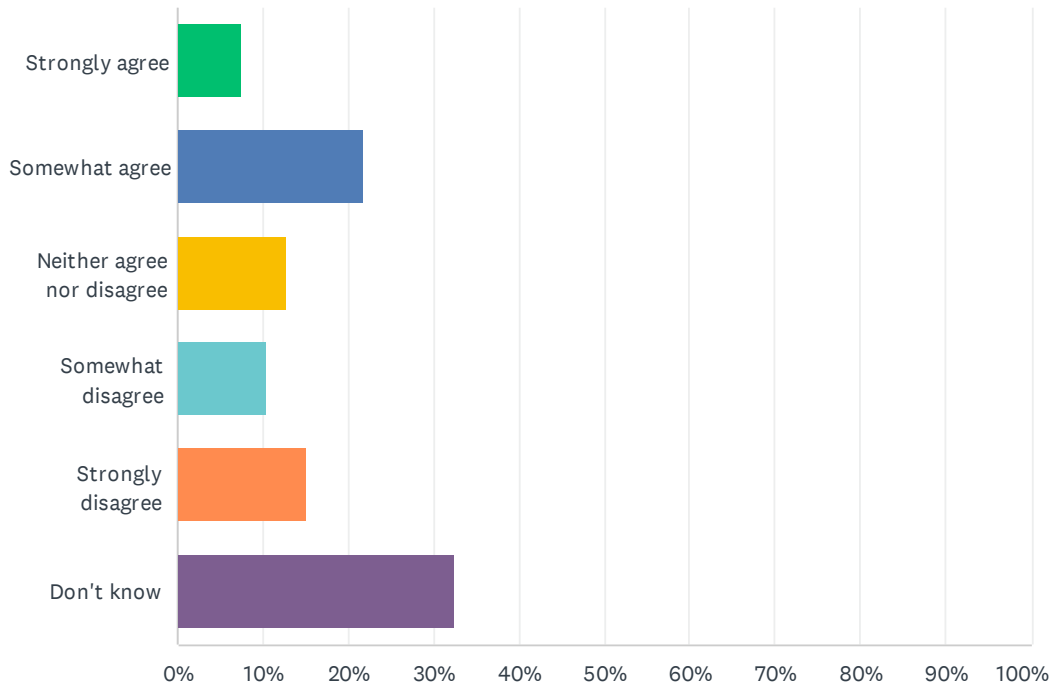
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	8.89%	12
Somewhat agree	31.85%	43
Neither agree nor disagree	5.19%	7
Somewhat disagree	18.52%	25
Strongly disagree	6.67%	9
Don't know	28.89%	39
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

### Q17 Individuals looking for support with their recovery in DuPage County can find a trained Peer Recovery Coach (a person with lived experience in recovery) providing recovery support services.

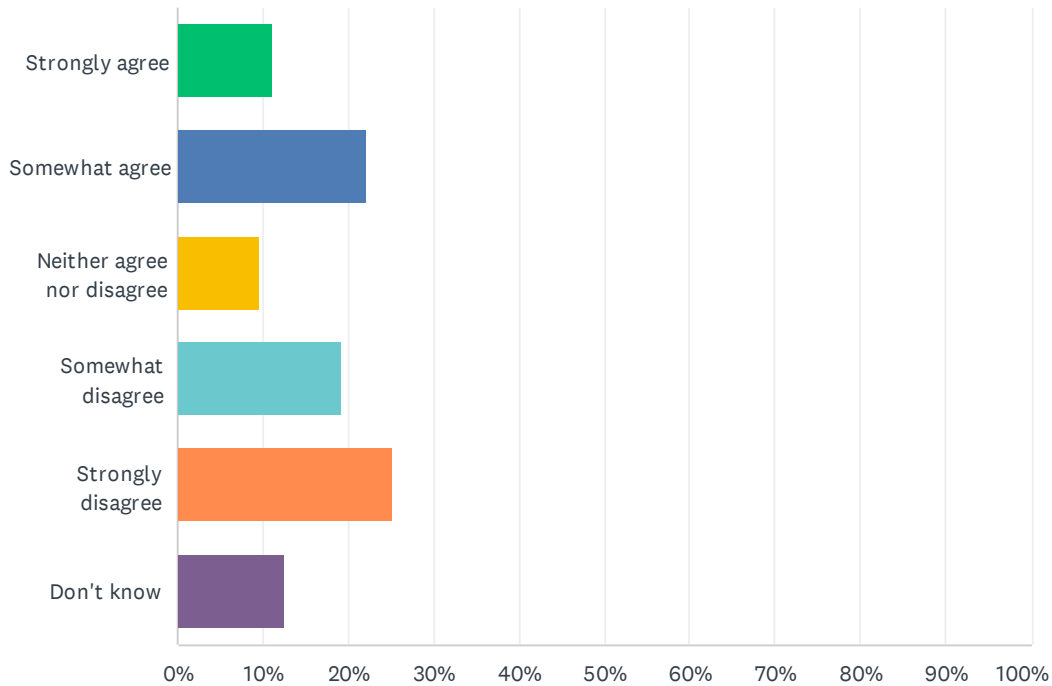
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	7.52%	10
Somewhat agree	21.80%	29
Neither agree nor disagree	12.78%	17
Somewhat disagree	10.53%	14
Strongly disagree	15.04%	20
Don't know	32.33%	43
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>133</b>

## Q18 Individual counseling and therapy for substance use and mental health disorders, grief, trauma, etc., is easy to find and easy to get to in DuPage County.

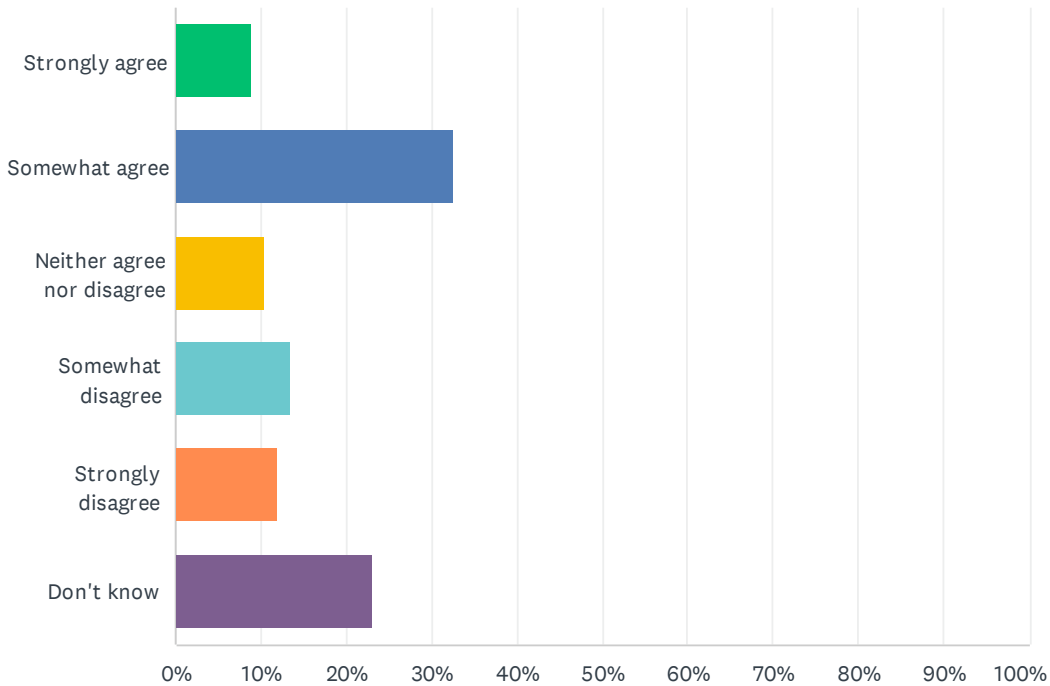
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	11.11%	15
Somewhat agree	22.22%	30
Neither agree nor disagree	9.63%	13
Somewhat disagree	19.26%	26
Strongly disagree	25.19%	34
Don't know	12.59%	17
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

### Q19 Organizations run by cities and the county are addressing serious issues like the opioid epidemic and the need for Medication Assisted Treatments like Narcan and Naloxone.

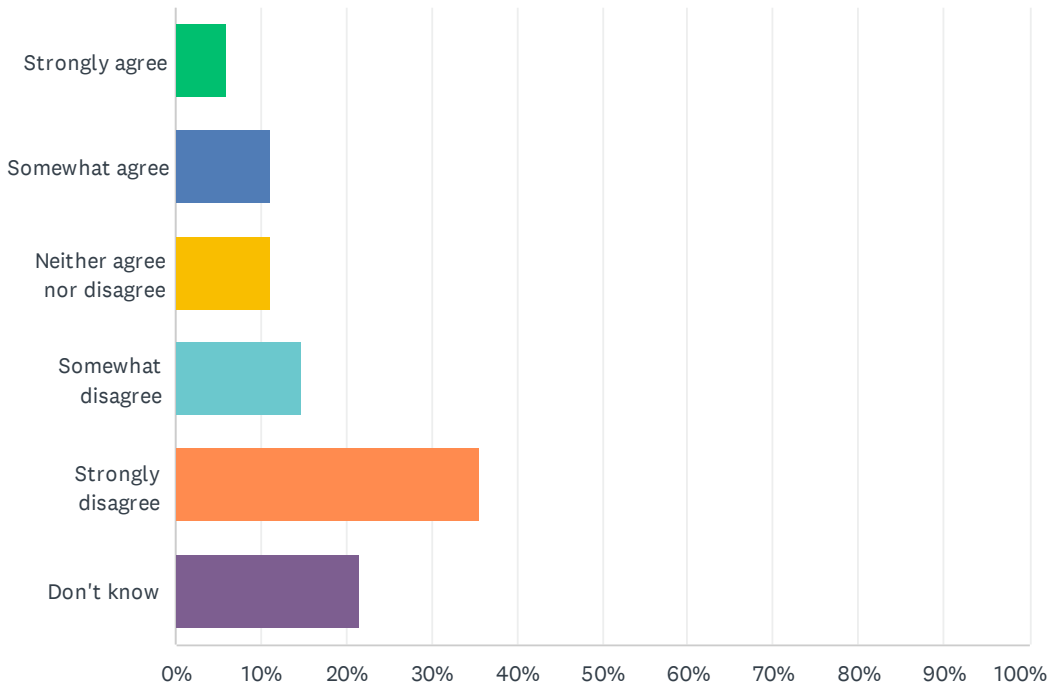
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ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	8.89%	12
Somewhat agree	32.59%	44
Neither agree nor disagree	10.37%	14
Somewhat disagree	13.33%	18
Strongly disagree	11.85%	16
Don't know	22.96%	31
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

## Q20 DuPage County addresses barriers to treatment and recovery, ie: childcare, transportation, employment, affordable housing, legal problems, peer support, etc.

Answered: 135 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Strongly agree	5.93%	8
Somewhat agree	11.11%	15
Neither agree nor disagree	11.11%	15
Somewhat disagree	14.81%	20
Strongly disagree	35.56%	48
Don't know	21.48%	29
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>135</b>

**Q21 Are there any other substance use and mental health topics that you feel need to be addressed in DuPage County?**

Answered: 58 Skipped: 77