#### 2024-2025

# $\mathbf{C}$ COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Oakland Kenwood Hyde Park Woodlawn





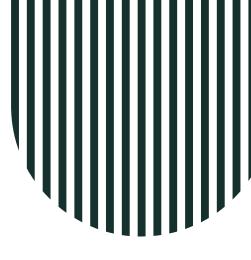
Rie Kobinson

WORLD SERIES



773-636-4689

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# SUMMARY

The Three Cords Strong ROSC Alliance (Recovery-Oriented Systems of Care) initiative is dedicated to understanding and addressing the unique needs of the Oakland, Kenwood, Hyde Park, and Woodlawn communities in Chicago. By conducting a comprehensive Community Needs Assessment, we aim to identify priority areas for intervention and develop strategies to support residents in their journey towards health, well-being, and resilience.



#### Introduction:

This Community Needs Assessment analyzes survey responses to understand the needs and gaps in services related to substance use disorders, mental health treatment, harm reduction, and healthcare access in the community. The goal is to identify key areas for improvement and recommend actionable steps to enhance support systems.

# TARGET AREAS









# KEY FINDINGS

#### **Respect and Awareness:**

- Most respondents agreed or strongly agreed that people who use drugs and those with mental illness deserve respect.
- This indicates a positive shift in attitudes toward reducing stigma in the community.

#### Medication-Assisted Recovery (MAR):

- A majority of respondents recognize MAR as an effective treatment for substance use disorders.
- However, there are challenges in accessing healthcare providers who offer MAR, with many respondents agreeing that these services are difficult to find.

#### Harm Reduction Services:

- There is a mixed perception of harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs, with some agreeing that they reduce risks while others remain neutral or disagree.
- Many respondents reported difficulty finding harm reduction services in their community, indicating a need for better availability and awareness.

#### Access to Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment:

- Many participants agreed that it is difficult to find mental health and substance use treatment services.
- A significant number of respondents support increasing government funding for treatment options, emphasizing the need for policy

advocacy.

#### **Equitable** Access to Services:

- Responses were divided on whether everyone in the community can access mental health and substance use treatment services regardless of income, insurance status, race, or other factors.
- Some respondents disagreed, highlighting disparities in service accessibility.





### **Demographics of Respondents:**

- The majority of respondents were aged 55-64.
- Most identified as African American/Black and non-Hispanic.
- English was the primary language spoken.
- Income levels varied, with many reporting earnings between \$25,000-\$99,999.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Increase Awareness and Education:

- Implement community education programs to reduce stigma and increase understanding of harm reduction services.
- Provide more information about MAR and how to access providers.

#### Expand Access to Treatment and Services:

- Advocate for more healthcare providers offering MAR and harm reduction services in underserved areas.
  Enhance community partnerships to make mental health and
  - substance use treatment services more accessible.

#### **Strengthen Policy and Funding Initiatives:**

- Advocate for increased government funding for treatment programs.
- Ensure equitable access to care for all individuals, regardless of demographic factors.

#### Improve Service Availability and Outreach:

- Establish more harm reduction programs and ensure they are wellpublicized.
  Provide mobile or community-based services to reach marginalized populations.
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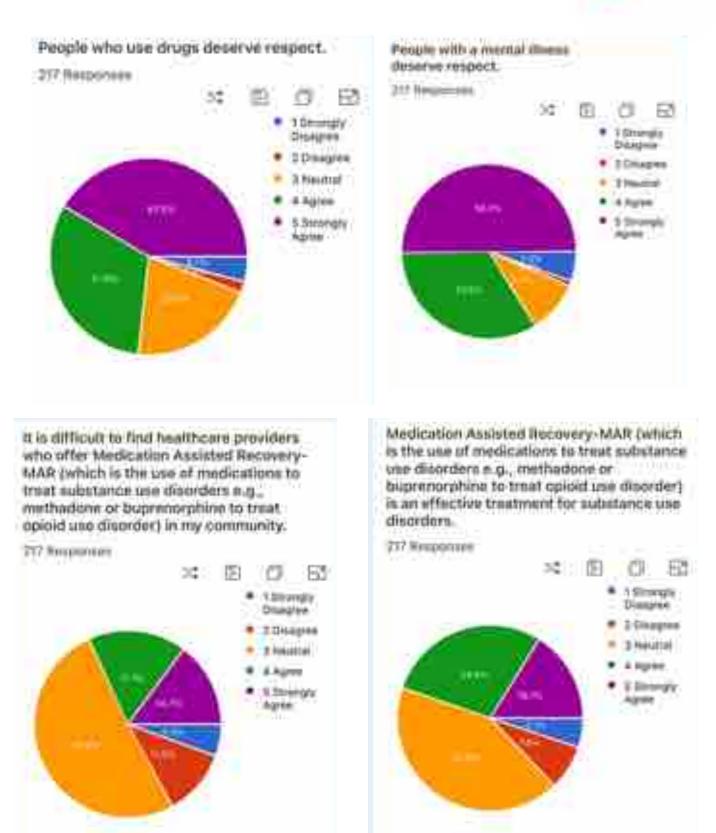
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#### **Conclusion :**

This assessment highlights the community's needs in mental health and substance use treatment. Addressing gaps in service availability, increasing public awareness, and advocating for policy changes are crucial steps toward improving health outcomes and overall community well-being.

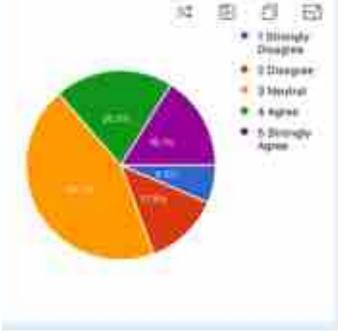




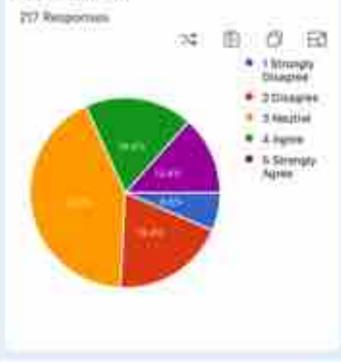


Harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs reduce the risks of drug use

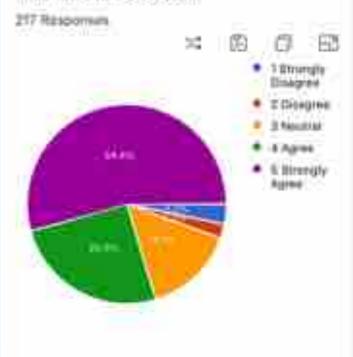
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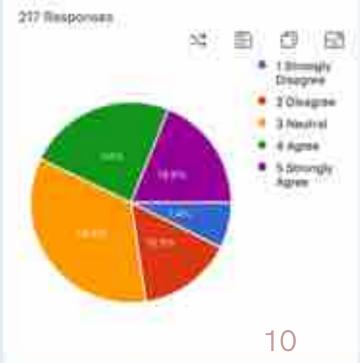
It is difficult to find harm reduction services like Narcan and syringe service programs in my community.



We should increase government funding on treatment options for mental health and substance use disorders.

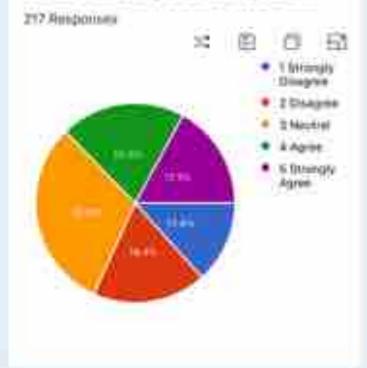


It is difficult to find mental health and substance use treatment services in my community

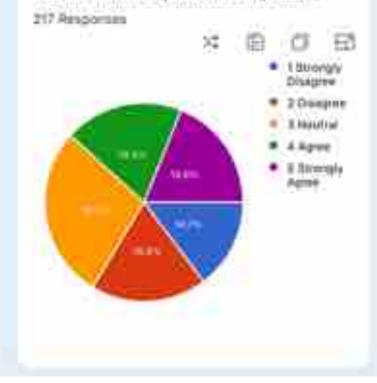




Everyone in my community can get help for substance use regardless of income level, insurance status, race, ethnicity, primary language, disabilities, geoder identity, sexual orientation, or citizembig status.



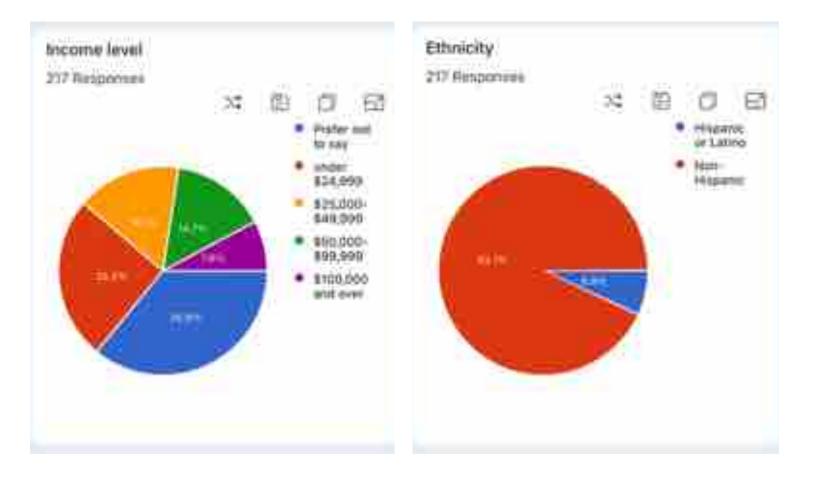
Everyone in my community can get help for mental health regardless of income level, insurance status, race, ethnicity, primary language, disabilities, gender identity, sexual orientation, or citizenship status



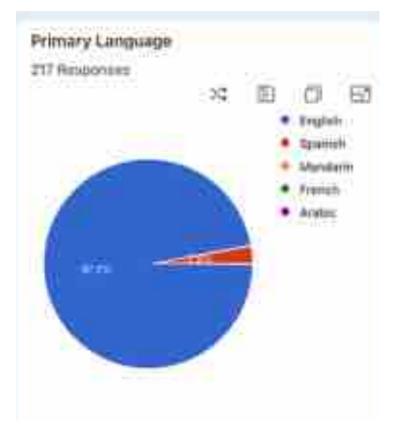


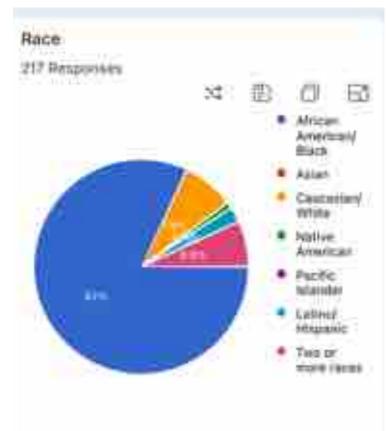








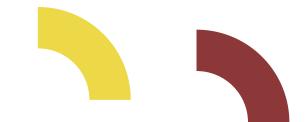






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STRESSED, ANGRY, BULLIED IM IN A HARD SPOT RIGHT NOW BUT IM TAKING IT ONE DAY AT A TIME WELL, BETTER THEN I USED TO FEEL OKAY **ALRIGHT** GOOD SAFE SPACE GOOD UP AND DOWN ALRIGHT BIEN ME SIENTO BIEN BIEN I'M FABULOUS AND DIVINELY GUIDED AT ALL TIMES

# Cook County Medical Examiner's Office Snap Shots



#### COOK COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER CASES AT A GLANCE

Number of Deaths Investigated	16,392
Number of Cases by Manner of Death <sup>1</sup> Accident Homicide Natural Suicide Undetermined	7,738 3,384 850 2,776 508 170
Homicides Autopsied	850
Suicides Autopsied	158
Non-Motor Vehicle Accident Deaths Certified	2,931
Motor Vehicle Accident Deaths Certified	453
Motor Vehicle Accidents Autopsied	79
Non-Motor Vehicle Accidents Autopsied	1,998
Drug-related Accident Deaths Certified	2,012
Drug-related Accident Deaths Autopsied	1,744
Naturals Autopsied	805
Undetermined Autopsied	148
Unidentified Autopsied	9
Opioid-Related	1,822
Gun-Related Homicides Latino NL White NL Black NL Other	739 137 25 574 3

<sup>1</sup> cases without a manner of death (n=50) like non-human bones are not listed

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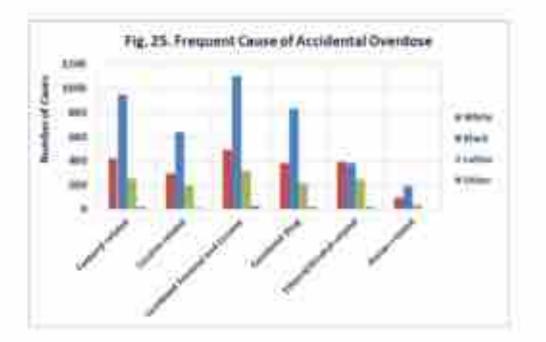
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#### MEDICAL EXAMINER 2023 CASE DATA

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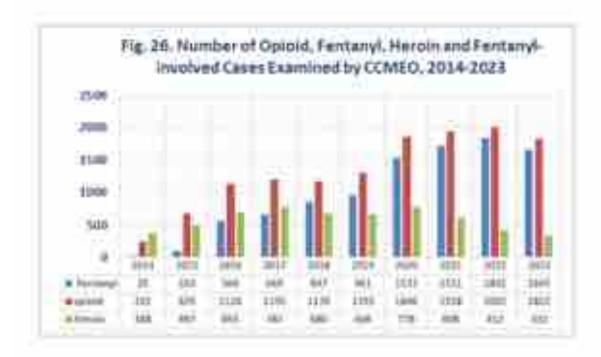
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#### **OPIOID DEATHS**

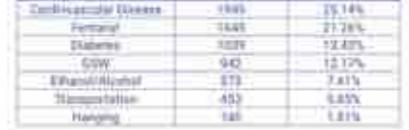


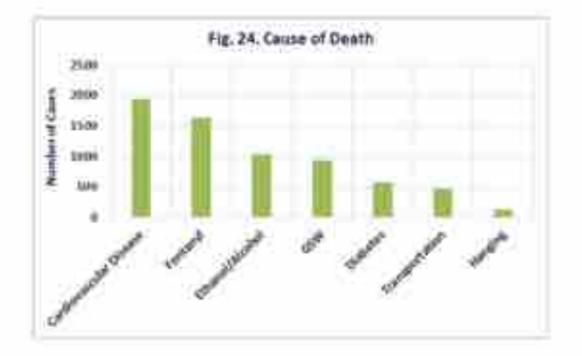


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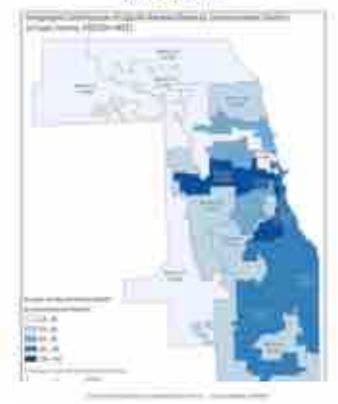
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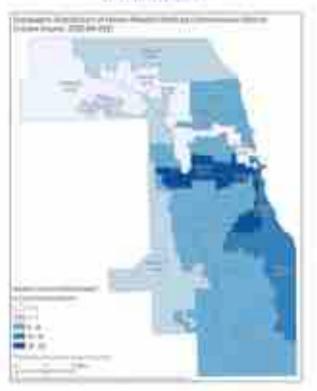




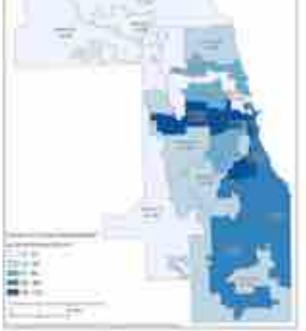
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# FENTANYS DEATHS





# SECONDARY SOURCE

Medical Examiner's Office Releases Preliminary 2024 Data Quotes:

"Opioid overdose deaths in the County continued to decline from their peak in 2022. While the Office still awaits the results of hundreds of toxicology tests, it has confirmed 1,026 opioid overdose deaths for 2024. The vast majority of those deaths - 87% - involved fentanyl. The MEO anticipates that 200 - 300 of its pending cases will be due to opioid toxicity, which would place the final total for 2024 well below 2022 and 2023 totals. While this decline is encouraging, opioid overdoses remain the greatest cause of unnatural deaths in Cook County. Of the opioid toxicity cases confirmed thus far, approximately 76% are male. African Americans make up 53% of the deaths, Latinos account for just under 14% and whites constitute 31%. The age group most impacted continues to be 50- to 59-year-olds, accounting for 27% of overdose deaths. The year's youngest opioid overdose death in Cook County was a 1-year-old boy from Chicago and the oldest was an 83-year-old man from Chicago."



# SECONDARY SOURCE

Year	<b>Opioid Overdose Deaths</b>
2024	1,026*
2023	1,822
2022	2,001
2021	1,938
2020	1,847
2019	1,295
2018	1,170
2017	1,167
2016	1,081
2015	647
	*Preliminary data



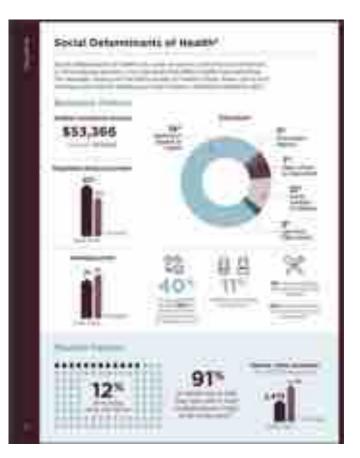


# University ofChicago **Community Needs** Snap Shots

# **HYDE PARK**

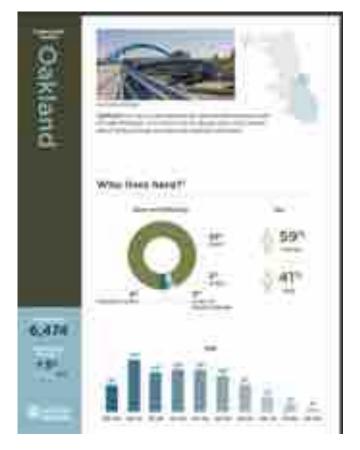


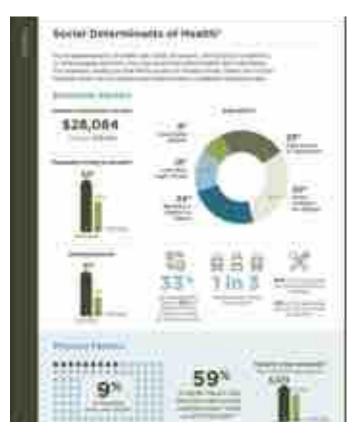






# OAKLAND









# KENWOOD







# WOODLAWN









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