

# RESPONDING TO THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC IN MINNESOTA: RESEARCHING THE NATIONAL RESPONSE

## RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROJECT

### About the Partner

The League of Minnesota Cities (the League) is an association of 833 cities in the state which plays a critical role researching important matters that impact communities and developing resources to support members.



### Project description

The opioid crisis is reaching epidemic levels and it is becoming an increasingly pervasive issue in cities in Minnesota.

Cities in the state are looking for ideas, best practices, and resources to shape their own programs and policies related to addressing opioid misuse and overdose. Therefore, the League is developing an online toolkit for city officials to learn about what is working in other jurisdictions, find model policies, and identify other resources that may be available.

The League's ultimate goals and objectives for this project are:

- To learn how cities in other states have developed formal programs to address the opioid epidemic.
- To understand how other state associations are working with their members to meet their needs.
- To identify other partnerships that cities may consider to combat the problem

## Key issues, questions, and ideas to explore

1. Are there cities throughout the country that are running particularly effective opioid mitigation programs?
2. How are other state associations working with their members related to this topic?
3. What partnerships should the League and cities consider to mitigate the impacts of opioids?

## How will students' work be used to build community resiliency?

- To build an online resource toolkit that will be available to cities throughout the state of Minnesota to combat the opioid epidemic.

### Potential community partners or stakeholders

- UofM Opioid Advisory Task Force
- Other state municipal league associations
- Member cities
- Police departments

### Existing Plans & Reports

- Opioid Destruction Kit reports and data
- Opioid Epidemic Information & Resources (League of Minnesota Cities)
- Positive Language Guidelines
- UMN Extension: Community-based Solutions to the Opioid Crisis in Rural Minnesota
- Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC): Understanding the Opioid Epidemic
- Minnesota Department of Health: Opioid Overdose Prevention

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