



Workforce Development
Jennifer Serino

**SUBJECT: LAKE COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT US DOL
DISLOCATED WORKER GRANT – OPIOID CRISIS**

GRANT PERIOD: 10/1/19 – 6/30/2021

FUNDING: \$105,766

Summary: On January 2019, the National Safety Council reported that the chance from opioid overdose (1 in 96) is higher than dying in a motor vehicle crash (1 in 103). This reflects the impact of the opioid crisis in America. Lake County, IL is not immune to the national opioid crisis, the mortality rate as a result of opioid use in 2016 was 17.3 deaths/100,000 people. The individuals most impacted by opioid crisis are males and the age group between 25 to 34 years old (31.2 deaths/100,000), followed by the 35 to 44 year old age group (22.6 deaths/100,000). The effect of these losses is negatively impacting workforce and the economy in our country.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) impact not only the individual users but the families, friends and the community as a whole. Workforce productivity declines and criminal behavior, physical and emotional abuse are also frequently present in our impacted communities. In 2016, Lake County-IL Law Enforcement (LCOI) launched “A Way Out” program. The program has been designed to assist SUD sufferers to reduce the burden on the criminal justice system while enabling individuals a chance to focus on treatment and recovery.

Lake County Workforce Development will provide training and workforce opportunities to 17 individuals impacted by the opioid crisis. Lake County Workforce Development will partner with various community agencies throughout the duration of the grant provide training that builds the skilled workforce in professions that can impact the cause and treatment of the opioid crisis and reintegration of eligible participants. Lake County Workforce Development continues to make a difference bringing a skilled, better prepared workforce that strives to be innovative and add value to our employers.

PARTNER AGENCIES

- College of Lake County
- Lake County Workforce Department
- Job Center of Lake County
- Revive Lake County
- A-Way-Out Program in Lake County (<http://awayoutlc.org/>) part of the Lake County Opioid Initiative.
- Health Professions Education Consortium (HPEC)
- Lake County Health Department
- A Safe Place