

# GOVERNOR EVERS' 2021-23 BIENNIAL BUDGET

## Treating and Preventing Substance Use Disorders

Many Wisconsinites struggle with serious substance use disorders, and without access to treatment services, the consequences can be deadly. The rate of overdose deaths in our state has drastically increased in the past 10 years, with the disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic worsening this existing crisis. Governor Evers' budget takes significant action to respond to these tragic realities by funding proven strategies to improve treatment, benefits, and training.

### **MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (\$12.4 MILLION)**

Medication-assisted treatment (MAT) combines medications, such as methadone, with counseling, and behavioral therapies to address substance use disorders. The budget will increase the Medicaid reimbursement rate for MAT, provide grants to support existing treatment centers and mobile MAT, and fund a Tribal MAT provider.

### **ROOM AND BOARD FOR RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT (\$6.5 MILLION)**

Medicaid now reimburses for substance use treatment services provided in residential facilities, but cannot use federal funds for room and board costs in these settings. By providing state funding for these costs, Medicaid members can better access this new benefit statewide.

### **MEDICAID COVERAGE OF ACUPUNCTURE (\$3.2 MILLION)**

Acupuncture can be an alternative to medication for managing chronic pain, such as prescription opioids. The budget would allow Medicaid to reimburse for acupuncture services, making it possible for program members to access this pain management method without paying out of pocket.

### **SUBSTANCE USE HARM REDUCTION GRANT (\$500,000)**

Harm reduction strategies reduce the negative consequences associated with substance use. DHS will have the flexibility to use these grants on programs such as NARCAN Direct, peer support specialists, fentanyl test strips, recovery residences, or planning assistance.

### **METHAMPHETAMINE TREATMENT TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM (\$450,000)**

Successful treatment for methamphetamine use disorder combines multiple evidence-based therapies focused on reducing the potential for relapse. Through a "train-the-trainer" process, the Matrix Model for Addiction Treatment will reach over 200 clinicians, improving treatment in communities across the state.

### **ADDICTION TREATMENT PLATFORM (\$300,000)**

Navigating options for addiction treatment can be complicated. This web platform will make it easier for Wisconsinites to find an appropriate provider who can best meet their needs.

**For more information on all of Governor Evers' proposed investments in Wisconsin's health, visit [www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/budget](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/budget)**