

Welcome to the monthly issue of the Southeast Rural Opioid Technical Assistance Regional Center (ROTA-RC) Newsletter! Please distribute to your contact list and encourage others to subscribe to the latest news from the Southeast ROTA-RC.

Making an Impact: Recent Events and Efforts



Experts Gather to Address Opioid Use Disorder and Rural Resiliency

On March 30-31, 2023, the Southeast ROTA-RC hosted a symposium on Opioid Use Disorder and Rural Resiliency. The event brought together more than 120 participants to share knowledge on opioid use disorder and its intersection with several topics and settings. Experts from across the country gathered to discuss their research efforts,

programs, and initiatives related to opioid addiction and mitigation.

Sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA), Emergent BioSolutions, and the Community Coalition Alliance, the symposium covered a range of topics, including prevention and intervention strategies, harm reduction approaches, and the role of community partnerships in addressing the opioid epidemic.

We want to express our sincere thanks to all the speakers, participants, and sponsors who made this event a success.

[Click here to access presentation slides and recordings](#), and mark your calendars for the next year's virtual symposium on April 11-12th, 2024!

[Read More](#)



FSU/FAMU Partnership Combats Teen Opioid Misuse Through 4-H Programs

A key feature of the Southeast ROTA-RC is the CFC Center's partnership with the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) Cooperative Extension program. The partnership brings together the research expertise of the CFC Center and the outreach and educational excellence of FAMU Cooperative Extension to improve the well-being and quality of life of families and children in underserved rural communities.

One of the current collaborative educational trainings in development is a specialized teen wellness curriculum for 4-H Programs run by cooperative extension programs. To learn about this most recent development and how 4-H is an ideal fit for substance use disorder prevention, check out the newsletter below.

[Read More](#)



"Pitch Your Pills" Events Educate Local Community on Safe Disposal of Prescription Drugs

According to the [2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#), almost 10 million Americans misused prescription drugs in the past year, with 70% obtaining the pills from friends and family. Improper disposal of prescription drugs can cause environmental contamination and pose a risk to public safety.

In response, the Southeast ROTA-RC, FSU Health and Wellness Center, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, and Leon County Government hosted "Pitch Your Pills" events to raise awareness about safe disposal methods and promote participation in the Drug Enforcement Administration's National Prescription Drug Takeback Day on April 22nd.

If you missed Takeback Day, [find an authorized drug collection site near you](#) or search on [Google Maps](#) for "drug disposal near me" or "medication disposal near me" to locate your nearest drug disposal site. **Take action today to protect your community and the environment.**

[Read More](#)

Upcoming Webinar

Upcoming Medications for Opioid Use Disorder Webinar! *May 12, 10 am - 11:30 am*

Join Dr. Barbara Andraka-Christou, author of *The Opioid Fix: America's Addiction Crisis and the Solution They Don't Want You to Have*, on Friday, May 12th, from 10 - 11:30 AM for a webinar and live Q&A on **Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)**.

Learn about:

- Benefits of MOUD
- Key differences between how the medications work on the brain
- How the medications can be accessed in the US
- Potential barriers to MOUD
- Myths associated with MOUD



- The importance of advocacy for MOUD for your family, friends, and clients

Free for all attendees. Registration is required. 2 CEU hours provided where eligible.

Register for Webinar

Trainings and Resources



Overdose Prevention Course

Do you know how to help someone that may be experiencing an overdose? Take this interactive self-paced course to learn the knowledge to respond to a known or suspected overdose emergency.

Get Trained Now



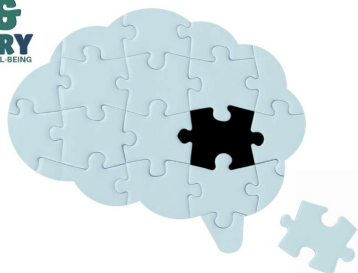
Stigma On Addiction Course

In this online course, you will learn about stigma, the impact of it, and tangible ways you can reduce shame and stigma on addiction.

Get Trained Now

Rebound & Recovery: Opioid Prevention & Well-Being for Teens Certification

This certification program is intended for librarians, 4-H extension staff, educators, and other direct providers working with middle and high school aged youth. It enhances youth's ability to self-regulate and cope with unexpected daily stressors and life events, promotes healthy lifestyle habits, and prevents opioid misuse by providing substance education at a developmentally appropriate level. The program can be completed in one lesson, taking only an hour to



implement, or in seven one-hour lessons. The one-hour lesson integrates all main concepts and the manual for Lesson 1 is available at the link below.

The certification is being beta-tested by a review board and will be available soon!

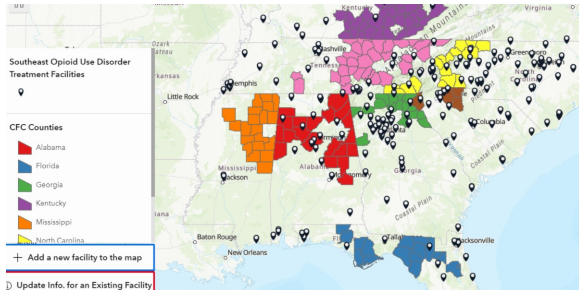
[Access Lesson 1](#)

Opioid Treatment Facility Map

Do you know where an opioid treatment facility is near you?

The Opioid Treatment Facility Map allows you to locate opioid use disorder treatment facilities near you within the southeast region. To view this interactive map, add a treatment facility, or update information on a treatment facility, visit the link below.

[Access the Map](#)

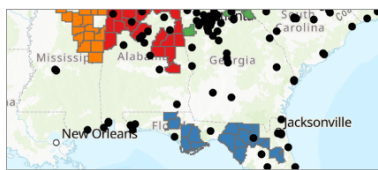


Narcan and Fentanyl Test Strip Resource Guide and Map

Do you know where to get free or low-cost Narcan and/or Fentanyl Test Strips?

The Narcan and Fentanyl Test Strips Resource Guide and Map allows you to locate different resources throughout the southeast. To view the Narcan and Fentanyl Test Strips Resource Guide and Map visit the link below. The map also allows you to add a resource or update existing information.

[Access the Guide & Map](#)



[LOCATOR MAP](#) ▶

Narcan and Fentanyl Test Strips Resource Map

INTERACTIVE LOCATOR MAP

[RESOURCE GUIDE](#) ▶

State by State Resource Guide

FIND FREE RESOURCES throughout the 8 southeastern states and learn how to access these resources.

If you are seeking information or resources that are not currently available, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. We are here to help and offer technical assistance to anyone who needs it. Simply send an email to Savannah Collier at ssmith24@fsu.edu, and we will do our best to connect you with the appropriate resources.



Check out the ROTA-RC website and make sure to follow us on social media!

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