

# REENTRY NEWSLETTER

October 2022

camden **county**

Making It Better, Together.



“The conversation surrounding criminal justice is rightly changing, and the focus is shifting toward making sure that when individuals leave these facilities, they leave hopeful,” said Freeholder Jonathan Young. “This mural is a reminder to our community that the Correctional Facility is not a place of despair. This is a place where people receive support, they find peace, and they are prepared to reenter the community for the next phase of their life, where we ultimately hope they will successful.”

**Mural Design:** Angela Brown

**Mural Artist:** Sonia Gonzalez

## What's in this Issue

- Art Inspires Hope
- Substance Abuse Prevention Month
- Opioid Data Dashboard
- Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD)
- Spotlight: Reentry Partners
- Be In the Know: Upcoming Events
- Get in Contact with Reentry Team and Services
- Additional Resources



## October is National Substance Abuse Prevention Month

Fentanyl misuse continues to leave its horrific mark in Camden County. From September 26, 2020 through September 25, 2022, our “in county” health systems saw 4871 suspected overdoses. Every demographic was represented. The only way to positively impact these numbers is to ‘prevent’ first time use of fentanyl. Without that, we are fighting an after-the-fact battle. How do we get folks to stop starting.

Recovery and treatment are always opportunities. Today both are available like no other time in the county’s history. There is more funding and resources available. There is a greater amount of federal, state and county dollars. Roughly 7000 people a year from Camden County enter statewide treatment facilities for substance use disorder.

In the last 10 years Camden County secured 2 recovery centers. There is street outreach, medication assisted treatment, certified peers working in our homeless shelters, MAT, halfway houses, the highest number of sober living facilities in the state, REAL recovery sports, inpatient facilities in Pemberton, Williamstown, Hammonton, Bridgeton, Pleasantville and Cherry Hill. We have a Center of Excellence – the Cooper Addiction Clinic which is respected by professionals all over the country.

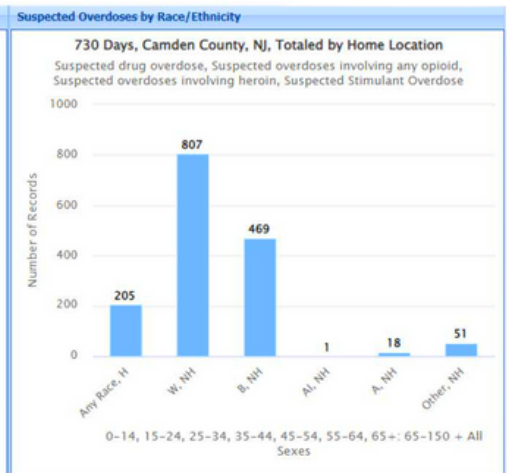
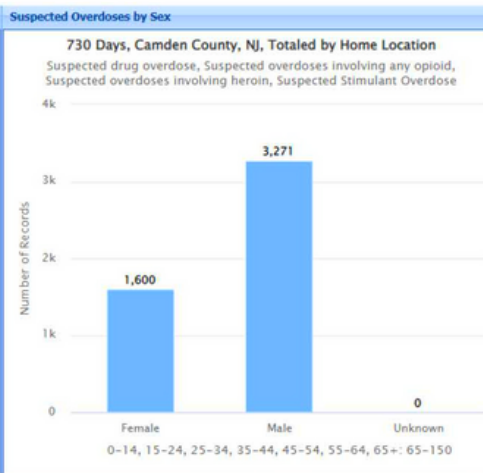
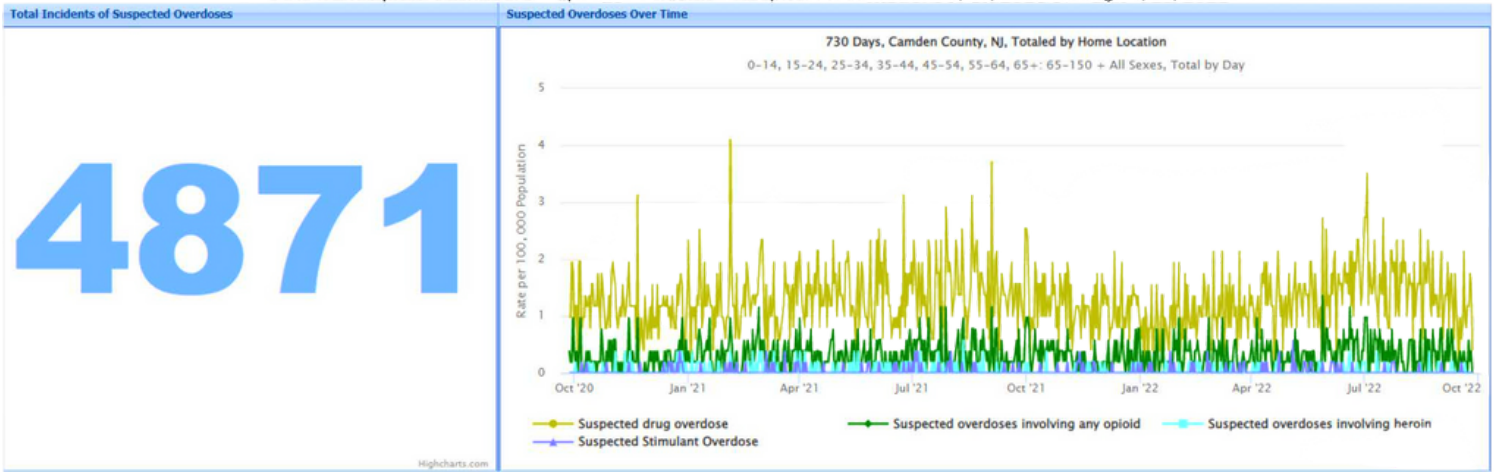
We have a jail whose efforts at providing the most evidence-based treatment is that type of setting sets a model for the rest of the state. We have partnerships across every discipline. The police, prosecutors, health systems, county office of mental health and addiction, advocates, folks in recovery, members of the Addiction Awareness Task Force are all working together to combat this problem. County leaders have been committed to this for quite some time. Yet, we still have the highest number of naloxone administrations and second highest fatality rate in the state. We are seeing a higher and higher number of arrests for meth and an infiltration of a horse tranquilizer called xylazine blended in with fentanyl. We are losing unsuspecting individuals.

October is National Substance Abuse Prevention Month; we must recognize and understand that prevention is the golden key. While we need to treat all aspects of substance misuse at all points in the continuum, the efforts that will produce the greatest return are secured through prevention. Preventing the problem in the first place!

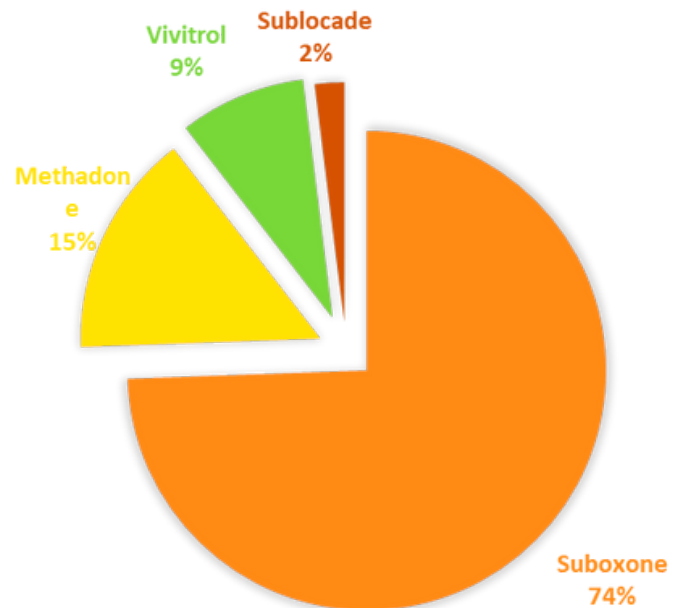
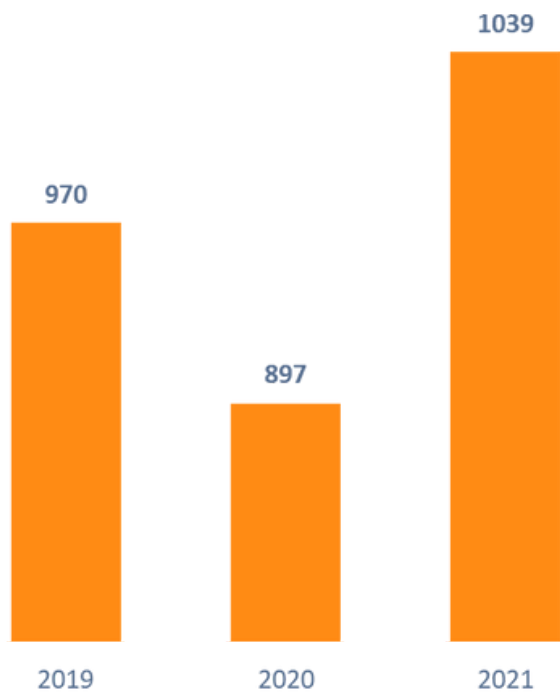
**For more information, please contact the Office of Mental Health & Addiction at (856) 374-6361.**

<https://www.camdencounty.com/service/mental-health-and-addiction/>





## Utilization of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder in the Camden County Correctional Facility



## Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in the Camden County Correctional Facility

Beginning in June 2018, Medication Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorders (MOUD) is offered as a treatment option for individuals incarcerated in the Camden County Department of Corrections (CCDOC). MOUD was implemented in response to the opioid epidemic, specifically the number of overdoses in Camden County. Additionally, an assessment conducted in 2018 of the Camden County Jail found that 71% of individuals included reported active substance use at the time of booking in the facility, with 48% reporting active opioid use. The first form of MOUD to be offered as treatment was Naltrexone, after the CCDOC received a \$200,000 grant from the New Jersey Department of Corrections. Options were expanded to include both Buprenorphine and Methadone in February 2019 and Sublocade in 2021. Apart from Methadone, any person can be initiated on MOUD treatment upon booking in the facility. The CCDOC does continue the treatment of MOUD that a person was receiving in the community prior to incarceration.

The MOUD program in the CCDOC is more than simply providing medication. The CCDOC has implemented a variety of strategies to ensure continuity of care and treatment once released home.

One example is the development of a team of MOUD Navigators to assist individuals with connecting to both pharmacies and treatment providers once released. The team of Navigators provide face-to-face care coordination while incarcerated to expedite the connection to community-based treatment and service providers at the time of release.

In addition, the CCDOC began partnering with Cooper University Hospital Center for Healing (Cooper) in August 2020 to have certified staff members to screen for health insurance and the NJ FamilyCare Presumptive Eligibility application is completed for uninsured individuals receiving MOUD while in the CCDOC. Individuals are also referred to Cooper for addiction treatment and/or healthcare navigation.

Lastly, two additional strategies developed include providing individuals on MOUD with backpacks at the time of release. The backpacks include Narcan, fentanyl test strips, hygiene, and clothing items. Information on how to contact the Navigators and the Medical Prescription hotline is also provided if there are any issues with accessing medication at the time of release. The prescription hotline was put in place specifically to address the barriers individuals were consistently facing when trying to access their medication.



RESOURCES



# SPOTLIGHT



## ReNew Camden

ReNew Camden is a Federal reentry court program that focuses on individuals who face challenges to their success under supervision. The Camden branch of the program was initiated in 2015. Twice each month, participants meet with a United States Probation Officer, a United States District Court Judge, a United States Magistrate Judge and a team of volunteers who represent a variety of agencies, including the U. S.

Attorney's Office, Federal Public Defender's Office, Rutgers University, among others. During these meetings, participants advise the Judges of their progress and the team works together to help resolve any problems that may present a barrier to their successful reintegration into society. The program adds to the regular oversight of a person under supervision, and utilizes a blend of treatment, education, and job skills training to aid the participant.

Some participants are selected while incarcerated so that they may join the program immediately upon their release. Others are selected during the early stages of their reentry into the community. Participation is voluntary. Participants are granted a reduction of their supervision term of up to one-year upon successful completion of the program.

The team is continuously seeking out community resources - including, but not limited to vocational training, financial literacy, resume building, parenting, mentorship and community engagement. If you have interest in becoming a presenter on one of the preceding topics, or any other Reentry concerns, please email [USANJ-CamdenReNew@usa.doj.gov](mailto:USANJ-CamdenReNew@usa.doj.gov).

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## Camden County Peer Reentry Program Begins Serving Participants

The Camden County Department of Corrections was awarded two reentry grants from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) in 2020 to support individuals with a Substance Use Disorder as they transition home following a period of incarceration. The two grants enable the development of Reentry Peer Support Teams.

The Peer Support Teams Model merges the Peer Recovery Model with the Credible Messenger (CM) Model, a model that is a holistic, comprehensive approach to justice that transforms and improves individual lives, rearranges relationships between communities and the justice system, and empowers neighborhoods to use the resources they have within to maintain public safety. Each Peer Support Team will be comprised of two Peer Support Specialists, pairing together one individual with lived recovery experience and one individual with lived experience in the criminal justice and incarceration systems. Peer Support Teams will engage individuals in the pre- and post-release stage in the recovery process and supports to reduce the likelihood of relapse and recidivism.

Center for Family Services (CFS), was awarded the contract to operate the Peer Reentry Program in partnership with the Camden County Department of Corrections. Camden County is excited this program is underway! Contact Sharon Bean for additional information or any questions.

## Be In the Know: Upcoming Events

### November 2022

**November 9, 2022 - Free Expungement Clinic** : To support community members in navigating the expungement

process, Volunteer UP, Camden County College, and NJ Public Defender will be sponsoring the free Expungement Clinic 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Event will be held at the Camden County College, Blackwood Campus. Meet with an attorney to discuss your options free of charge. Space is and attorney time is limited so please register in advance.

**Register Here:** <https://www.volunteeruplegalclinic.org/expungement-event>

**November 2 & November 17, 2022** - Energy Assistance Day. Hosted by Atlantic City Electric and South Jersey Gas, will bring together NJ utilities, community partners, and agencies to help customers in need of assistance with their utility bills.

November 2 - Camden County, Orchards FSC: 416 Sicklerville Rd, A-2, Sicklerville, NJ 08081 (11am-2pm)

November 17 - Camden County: 180 White Horse Pike, Clementon, NJ 08021 (10am-2pm)

**November 9, 2022 - Affordable Housing 101 Webinar:** Fair Share Housing Center:

**Register Here:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_xY8cAFXVS-2kweSc2FgWLQ](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xY8cAFXVS-2kweSc2FgWLQ)

### December 2022

**December 5 - 7, 2022** - The Sozosei Foundation is pleased to announce that registration for the 3rd Annual Sozosei Summit to Decriminalize Mental Illness is now open. This year's Summit will be held in Philadelphia, PA at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA). For those who cannot attend in person, you to attend virtually.

Each year, the Summit brings together a diverse group of people with a broad range of expertise to collaborate, create, and explore pathways to decriminalize mental illness.

**Register Here:** [https://whova.com/portal/registration/sozos\\_202211/](https://whova.com/portal/registration/sozos_202211/)

### Get in Contact:

**Camden County DOC Reentry Coordinator:** Victoria Nicolosi, [victoria.nicolosi@camdendoc.com](mailto:victoria.nicolosi@camdendoc.com)

**Camden County DOC Special Services Unit:** Sgt. Michael Quinones, [michael.quinones@camdendoc.com](mailto:michael.quinones@camdendoc.com)

**Camden County DOC Reentry Specialist:** Alyssa Perry, [alyssa.perry@camdendoc.com](mailto:alyssa.perry@camdendoc.com)

**Volunteers of America - Safe Return - Contact:** (856) 671-6101 - 24 Hour Contact; **Hours:** 7 a.m. - 8 p.m.

**Transformative Justice Initiative/NuEntry Opportunity Specialists:** (848) 230-5855

**If you or someone you know are in need of reentry services, please visit:**

<https://www.camdencounty.com/service/corrections/>

**If you are interested in learning more about NOS and/or becoming a NOS member, please visit:**

<https://www.camdencounty.com/service/corrections/reentry-services-and-community-outreach-sign-up/about-the-nuentry-opportunity-specialists/>

## Additional Resources

### ARE YOU IN NEED OF A PHOTO I.D.?

We realize that the absence photo identification presents barriers in obtaining housing, employment, social services benefits, etc.

If you were previously incarcerated in the Camden County Correctional Facility and need a County Identification Card, the ReEntry ID Hours for 2022 are:

**Monday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday: Closed**

**Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

**Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.**

**Friday Closed**

**Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

**Sunday 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.**

**\*\*\*Please note: Hours subject to change without notice.**

### VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA - SAFE RETURN

Volunteers of America Delaware Valley's Safe Return Program, funded by the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, provides reentry assistance and a broad range of essential services for individuals returning to society within three years of being incarcerated and who are no longer under criminal justice supervision. Safe Return ensures that individuals returning to society from incarceration are given the tools and care they need in order to establish and lead self-fulfilling, independent lives after reintegrating back into society.

**The program offers the following key services:**

- Case management and family reunification
- Housing assistance
- Employment services - job readiness, employment training, job placement
- Education assistance
- Legal assistance and advocacy
- Benefits assessment and reinstatement assistance
- Substance abuse and mental health linkage
- Treatment referral and linkage
- Assistance with State Identification & Driver's license

Operating within established VOADV offices and embedded satellite offices, the Safe Return program is a one-stop place for reentry needs and services, covering the entirety of the organization's footprint across southern New Jersey.