



Underserved Areas to Receive Access to Treatment For Opioid Use Disorders

Several Southern Illinois counties will benefit

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GRANITE CITY, ILL. – Not every Illinois county has an organization that treats people for opioid use disorders. Grant funding from the state of Illinois will help people living in some of those underserved counties to get access to potentially-lifesaving services.

Chestnut Health Systems and several partner organizations are the recipients of a \$500,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services/Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery to put in place a “hub and spoke” model for offering Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for people suffering from opioid use disorders. MAT is the use of FDA-approved medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole-patient” approach for the treatment of substance use disorders.

Depending on specific needs, the patient might receive MAT at one of several locations – the “hub” location, Chestnut’s facilities in Granite City – or one of the partner agency “spokes.” They include Family Guidance Centers, Inc., and Hospital Sisters Health System (HSBS) Medical Group.

In addition, the agencies will coordinate family support, referral and connection with substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, and other services to support patients’ recovery.

The grant funding will help people living in Madison, St. Clair, Jersey, Macoupin, Bond, Montgomery, Clinton, and Sangamon Counties. Patients will be identified with the help of hospitals, emergency rooms, residential treatment programs, the Illinois Department of Corrections, county jails, law enforcement agencies, alternative treatment courts, and local community health programs.

About the funding

These services are funded in full or in part through an Opioid-State Targeted Response (STR) Grant (TI080231) to the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery, from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

About Chestnut Health Systems

Chestnut Health Systems is a non-profit organization that has cared since 1973 for persons needing behavioral health services. Chestnut provides substance use disorder treatment, mental health counseling, primary health care, credit counseling, and housing and supportive services. It is a leader in substance use-related research. More at www.chestnut.org.

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