Background:
From 2019-2020, Texas A&M University College of Nursing led a team in a Rural Community Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Planning grant funded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

Results:
The Golden Crescent Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC) was established from the growing consortium network of clinical and non-clinical services and support to reduce SUD/OUD morbidity and mortality among the community. A community tailored plan of activities was formulated, including safe medication/drug disposal strategies.

Submission and subsequent funding of two RCORP grants are founded on the Golden Crescent ROSC and implement uniquely tailored plan by the community, for the community that includes exploration of safe drug disposal for the Golden Crescent. Current literature was used to consider:
• Innovative strategies for a community-focused solution
• Focus on existing community strengths and resources

Conclusion:
Working with the ROSC, current plans are in place for collaboration with local pharmacies. We are in process of assessment of drug disposal practices, pharmacy training programs, community education needs, and feasibility of single use drug disposal pouches within the community.

Description:
Community assessment included interviews and discussions with over 100 stakeholders to assess available substance use disorder (SUD) / opioid use disorder (OUD) services to include safe medication disposal.

This presentation was supported by Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of awards totaling $1,700,000 with 0% financed with nongovernmental sources. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by HRSA, HHS or the U.S. Government.

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