

CARE MODEL

Mercy Medical Center’s program, *Emergency Room Starting Treatment Assisting Recovery (ER-STAR)*, expands access to opioid use disorder (OUD) treatment by focusing on initiating patients in medication for addiction treatment (MAT) and engaging them in ongoing recovery services provided by their partner organization, Behavioral Health Network (BHN). ER-STAR social workers screen patients presenting to the emergency department (ED) with evidence of OUD to identify those eligible for buprenorphine initiation. ED clinicians use the clinical opiate withdrawal scale and administer or prescribe buprenorphine to patients as appropriate. BHN peer recovery coaches provide support to patients as they transition from the ED to outpatient care. ER-STAR social workers provide long-term support with MAT as well as health-related social needs and assist patients with securing follow-up outpatient services as they continue in recovery.

IMPACT

HPC AWARD

\$516K

TOTAL PROJECT COST

\$688K

TARGET POPULATION

Adult patients who present to the Mercy ED with OUD

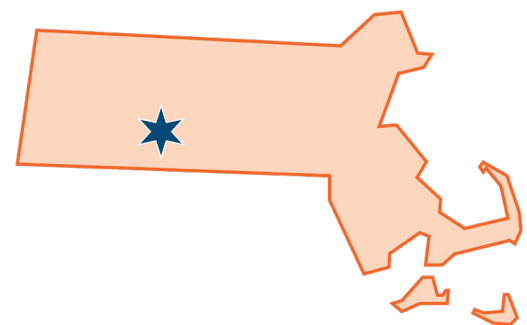
PRIMARY AIM

20% Reduction in 30-day readmissions

PARTNERS



- Behavioral Health Network
- Mercy Specialist Physicians
- Providence Behavioral Health Hospital: Outpatient Services
- Healthy Living Program



SHIFT-CARE CHALLENGE SUMMARY

The SHIFT-Care Challenge is an 18-month, \$10 million investment program supporting Sustainable Healthcare Innovations Fostering Transformation. Launched in 2018, SHIFT-Care has two tracks: one focused on addressing patients’ health-related social needs and improving behavioral health care and the other aimed at expanding opioid use disorder treatment capacity through emergency departments and bridge clinics and facilitating timely follow-up care. The 15 SHIFT-Care awardees are partnering with 40 community organizations to implement strategies to reduce unnecessary hospital acute care utilization and to report other track- and awardee-specific measures.

HPC BACKGROUND

The HPC, established in 2012, is an independent state agency charged with monitoring health care spending growth in Massachusetts and providing data-driven policy recommendations regarding health care delivery and payment system reform. The HPC’s mission is to advance a more transparent, accountable, and innovative health care system through independent policy leadership and investment programs. Visit us at Mass.gov/HPC. Tweet us @Mass_HPC.