Service Area
The region in the Texas Gulf Bend that we are serving includes Calhoun, DeWitt, Goliad, Jackson, Karnes, Lavaca, Refugio, and Victoria Counties.

Scope of Problem
Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) is an under-recognized health issue in the Texas Gulf Bend. OUD-related hospitalizations and rates of neonatal abstinence syndrome have risen in recent years. This rise coincides with the increase in the number of opioid pills dispensed in these counties.

Goal
Our goal is to support, expand, and increase access to substance use prevention, treatment, and recovery support and mental health services to address substance use disorders, particularly OUD, to prevent child abuse and neglect in the Texas Gulf Bend.

Strategies
Our strategies include a variety of tactics that address four main areas: prevention, screening, medicated assisted treatment (MAT) training and recovery support. These include:

Prevention
Developing a drug return program (safe location), providing school-based education for students, providing prescriber education, providing education on and identify services for alternative pain management, and providing telehealth mental services.

Screening
Increasing the number of MAT prescribers, then developing referral system for MAT and providing trauma-informed care and Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) training.

Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Training
Providing MAT training for prescribers, providing training on stigma, knowledge deficit, liability concern and cost, and identifying payment options for MAT for those who are uninsured or underinsured.

Recovery Support
Developing peer-to-peer recovery support program that includes parent peer support, providing telehealth mental health support, and identifying payment options and address other barriers to access for recovery services.

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