



# CAREFIRST BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD

## Substance Use Disorder Initiative

[www.carefirst.com](http://www.carefirst.com)

In the U.S., more than 115 people die each day from an opioid overdose, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse’s March 2018 report.

**CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield** (CareFirst BCBS) is joining the fight to turn this tide with nearly \$2.1 million in investments across 11 community health organizations working to combat substance use disorders, including opioid use disorder, in Maryland, Northern Virginia and Washington, D.C.

These grants will help each organization bolster their substance use disorder treatment and prevention programs and expand their patients’ access to those important programs. CareFirst BCBS’s support to the 11 non-profit health organizations is expected to impact more than 115,000 patients suffering from a substance use disorder.

To ensure positive outcomes, these organizations are required to provide quarterly progress reports and clearly



defined data that can be monitored, compared and compiled. Outcome measures over the lifetime of these grants include, but are not limited to, adherence statistics, decreased substance usage, rates of overdose, rates of heavy or binge drinking, rates of underage substance use and rates of substance use-related mortality.

### PROGRAM IMPACT



- **Expand** outpatient services
- **Add primary care staff** and peer coaches

- **Expand integrated treatment methods** for patients with multiple substance use disorders
- **Train** emergency department personnel

- **Increase** supply of Narcan\* kits
- **Improve telemedicine capabilities** for substance use disorder

\*NARCAN is the registered trademark of ADAPT Pharma Operations Limited, used for identification purposes only, and use of this trademark does not imply endorsement or affiliation with the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

