Impacts of Substance Use on Families

- From 1999 to 2017, unintentional poisoning deaths in N.C. have increased over 700%
- Between 2004 and 2017, rates of drug withdrawal in newborns have increased by more than 900% in N.C.
- In 2017, approximately 15% of N.C. high school students reported using prescription drugs without a doctor’s order
- The impacts of substance use on families is displayed in a variety of ways and solutions require comprehensive approaches
- A few preventive measures include addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and focusing on proper medication disposal and medication storage techniques

Average Charge* in 2017 = $51,392

*Charges do not reflect what the care actually cost the hospital or what the hospital received in payment. Charges typically negotiated with insurance providers;
Source: N.C. State Center for Health Statistics, Hospital Discharge Dataset, 2004-2017, Birth Certificate records, 2004-2017; Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (PRAMS), N.C. 2016; NOTE: 2015 ICD 9 CM coding system transitioned to ICD10 CM. Data collected after transition is not comparable to prior years; 2014 data structure changed to include up to 95 diagnosis codes - impact on surveillance is unclear; Analysis by Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit
Of children entering foster care in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 17/18, 41.7% had parents with substance use as a factor for out-of-home placement.

Simultaneously, more grandparents are becoming responsible for raising grandchildren. In 2017, 44% of N.C. grandparents were responsible for their grandchildren.

Additional Resources

N.C. Department of Social Services
www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/dss

N.C. Governor's Institute
www.governorsinstitute.org

N.C. Women's Health Branch
www.whb.ncpublichealth.com

N.C. Harm Reduction Coalition
www.nchrc.org

N.C. Department of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse Services
www.ncdhhs.gov/divisions/mhddzas

N.C. Recovery Courts
www.nccourts.gov/courts/recovery-courts

N.C Attorney General's Office
www.ncdoj.gov

N.C. Department of Public Instruction
www.ncpublicschools.org

N.C. Opioid Action Plan (OAP)
Information on the OAP can be found here

For additional substance use data visit:
www.injuryfreenc.ncdhhs.gov

Self-reported lifetime use of prescription drugs has decreased from 2013-2017, and past 30 day use of alcohol and marijuana have also decreased from 2011-2017 among N.C. high school students.

Source: NC Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) 2017; N.C. Department of Public Instruction; Analysis by Injury Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit