

# TIMES HAVE CHANGED IT'S TIME RECOVERY DOES TOO

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Pennsylvania is experiencing an unprecedented number of heroin, opioid, and substance use deaths. Championed by Governor Tom Wolf and supported by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has answered the federal call to address our national and local opioid crisis through its Opioid Use Disorder Center of Excellence (COE) initiative.

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**Forty five Opioid Use Disorder Centers of Excellence have been established across the state. Regionally, resources are in place to serve patients in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Susquehanna, Monroe, Wayne and Pike counties.**

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Centers of Excellence help ensure that people with opioid-related substance use disorder stay in treatment, receive follow-up care and are supported within their communities. Treatment is team-based and “whole person” focused, with the explicit goal of integrating behavioral health and primary care.

When visiting a COE, you will find supportive addiction and recovery specialists, social workers and medical providers who can help you break the cycle of addiction and reshape your lifestyle. Every COE has their own treatment methods, yet all are tailored to meet the needs of their patients and are intent on helping their community recover. The Wright Center's COE is not an inpatient rehab program. Our

certified providers are based in Jermyn, Clarks Summit and Scranton positioned to serve over 300 patients in Northeastern PA, regardless of ability to pay.

Addiction is a lifelong disease that makes recovery a lifelong commitment; no two paths of recovery are the same. Through whole-patient care, our team works to ensure that each patient has the tools that they need to reroute the energy of addiction to behaviors that will help them stay well. Whether through counseling alone, or with Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), our team is ready to help patients start life in recovery.

Are you or somebody you know struggling with addiction?  
Call us at 570.230.0019 today.

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**To learn more and meet our team, visit us online at:  
[www.thewrightcenter.org/coe](http://www.thewrightcenter.org/coe)**



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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## How does an Opioid Use Disorder Center of Excellence work?

Unlike a traditional rehab facility, Centers of Excellence (COEs) help those in recovery reshape their lifestyle from the comfort of their own community. When individuals connect with our COE, they will meet with certified recovery specialists, social workers and medical providers. Getting clean is personal, but we do recover together.

**Physical and Behavioral Treatment:** As a Center of Excellence, many of our medical doctors have become certified and approved by the DEA to provide Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) to treat opioid addiction in those who qualify medically. We also provide outpatient physical and behavioral treatment that fits into individuals' daily routines.

**Community Engagement:** Our community-based care management (CBCM) team will actively work with other community agencies to ensure patients' needs are being met. Our CBCM team also works with inpatient drug and alcohol facilities to assure individuals living with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) will transition from that level of care to the COE for ongoing engagement in treatment when they return to the community.

**Motivation and Support:** Our team motivates individuals with OUD to stay engaged in both physical health and behavioral health treatments. Our team members also facilitate recovery by helping individuals find stable housing and employment, navigating insurance barriers, and by helping them to reestablish family/community relationships. Additionally, our team can link patients with groups within the community to help strengthen their peer support network.

## Who can become a patient of the Center of Excellence?

Patients qualify for the Center of Excellence if they have an Opioid Use Disorder (OUD); may have co-occurring behavioral/substance abuse and physical health conditions; need help navigating the healthcare system; and need guidance to stay engaged in treatment in order to avoid relapse.

## How much does it cost?

Center of Excellence services are offered to patients no matter their insurance status or ability to pay. A sliding fee scale is available for those who qualify.

## What if I'm pregnant?

Our new outpatient Opioid Pregnancy Recovery program, led by our team of supportive medical and behavioral support professionals, is available to all. Our program integrates Medication Assisted Treatment, paired with counseling and social supports, to keep expecting mothers and their babies from experiencing symptoms of withdrawal and help them become the leaders in their recovery. Our collaborative goal is to help moms-to-be find a realistic path of recovery with the assistance of our care team, pre- and post-natal care, education and hope, in a way that works for them.

## What is Medication Assisted Treatment?

Medication Assisted Treatment, or MAT, is an option for those in recovery that combines social and medical supports. The medication works through blocking the receptors in the brain that modern opiates are built to connect to, quelling the urge and impulses that those in recovery face. As requirement of our MAT program, patients are connected to a network of providers and community supports who regularly check in on their progress and keep them engaged in care.

## What do you mean when you say 'care team'?

Unlike a traditional doctor's office, The Wright Center functions as a Patient-Centered Medical Home. This means that each patient, no matter the services that they are receiving, belongs to what we call a 'care team'. Everyone's care team will look different depending on their physical, dental and behavioral health teams and is tailored to ensure the continuity and quality of each patient's care.

## What's next?

In July 2018, The Wright Center was awarded a Pennsylvania Coordinated Medication-Assisted Treatment (PacMAT) grant designed to increase access to MAT throughout northeast Pennsylvania. Under the PacMAT initiative, ten existing primary care practices in Lackawanna, Luzerne, Wyoming, Wayne and Susquehanna counties will engage and collaborate to care for individuals with opioid use disorder using The Wright Center's established workflow and model. The Wright Center will serve as the "hub" of the proposed network, sharing best practices to partnering 'spokes' to address unmet treatment needs through prevention, treatment and recovery initiatives. The PacMAT is aligned with our organizational intent to 'pay it forward' and spread our learning into an enriched community network focused on resilience and recovery.