In the State of Indiana, approximately 90 percent of individuals with addictions begin using illicit drugs since the age of 18. The number of opioid poisoning deaths has increased by 500 percent from 1999 to 2015. The increase in substance use and opioid poisoning deaths has brought the state to the level of a large-scale health epidemic.

Addressing this need, Governor Eric Holcomb assigned an Executive Director for Drug Prevention, Treatment, and Enforcement to coordinate the fight against this epidemic at the state level. MPH supports the Executive Director’s data efforts by joining data from multiple agency silos, enabling key decision makers in the Executive Branch to have access to real-time substance trends in the state.

MPH partners with executives and researchers to prepare data for specific policy questions related to substance abuse, arming decision makers with valuable insight and enabling them to be proactive rather than reactive.

An early result of this statewide collaboration is five new opioid treatment centers placed in key areas around the state. These centers offer needed treatment resources to put those addicted to opioids on the road to recovery.

To find out more about what MPH is doing or to get involved: data.IN.gov

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