Maryland's Office of Overdose Response

OPT Quick Facts (required by EO)
- Shift in focus from opioids to all overdoses
- In order to receive funding from the Office, counties must host these meetings at least quarterly and report to the Office on annual basis
- OPTs must include representatives from:
  - Health
  - Social services
  - Education
  - Public safety agencies, including law enforcement, fire service, and emergency services
  - Harm reduction programs **(new)**
  - Recovery support programs **(new)**
  - Treatment providers **(new)**
  - Community and faith-based organizations
- OPTs will remain the entities responsible for allocating block grant funding from our office

Expectations for meetings
- Chaired by representative from health department, and co-chaired by representative from community organization or local government agency
  - Emergency management will no longer be a required co-chair, but is welcome to continue doing so
- Block grant applications MUST be discussed with the OPT at large to solicit feedback
  - OPT chairs should send out an email to all OPT members notifying them what meeting the block grant will be discussed in, so that members can be sure to attend and contribute
- Must comply with the [open meetings act](#)
  - Agenda must be published publicly 24 hours prior to meeting, and recordings and notes must also be published after the meeting
- If a jurisdiction wishes to combine their OPT meeting with any meeting other than an LDAAC, they must first discuss this with MOOR
  - If the OPT is combined with another meeting but an hour of the meeting is dedicated to the OPT, no permission from MOOR is required
    - For example, the OPT can be the first hour then transition to OFR/MHAC, etc.

- Meetings should reserve at least 15 minutes for community member comments and updates
- OPTs should receive action items from the jurisdiction's Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) team and work to implement those recommendations
- If meeting in person, OPTs must have hybrid option for attendance
    - If you do not have hybrid capable technology for the meeting, please include funding for such a device in your FY25 block grant proposal
- The OIT survey will be moving from quarterly updates to twice a year. This survey is currently undergoing changes to make it more reflective of current needs for SUD services
    - There will be a new annual report OPTs will be expected to complete, guidance is forthcoming