

CASE STUDY

How Huntington, WV  
Reduced Overdoses  
by **52%** with **Quick  
Response Teams**  
powered by **Cordata**





“First responders are the first point of contact after an overdose event — if you don’t utilize those individuals, you’re really missing an opportunity.”

-**Connie Priddy**, Huntington Quick Response Team Program Coordinator

## Contents

The Challenge	3
Huntington’s Solution	3-4
Timeline and Results	5
Expanding QRT Deployment	6
Contact Cordata	7

# The Challenge in Huntington

The US has been facing an opioid addiction crisis since the 1990s. In that timeframe, **nearly half a million lives have been lost**, and billions of dollars have been spent within healthcare and first responders to respond to this issue.

Huntington, WV is one community that has been hit hard by this crisis. On one particularly devastating day in **August 2016**, the community **saw 28 overdoses in a 4-5 hour period**.

While EMS, police, fire, and other services responded quickly and prevented any fatalities that day, they later learned that **not a single individual who overdosed that day had gotten treatment for addiction after the fact**.

By 2017, the community was experiencing an average of close to **6 overdoses a day**, amounting to nearly **2000 overdoses over the course of the year**. It was clear that they were facing a significant problem, and the missing piece was getting people the help they need to truly recover from the cycle of addiction.



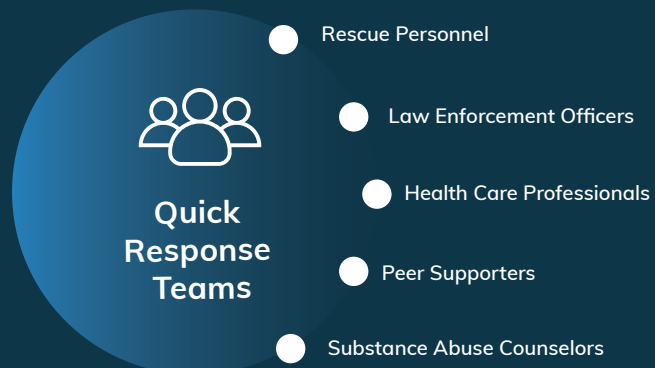
## Huntington's Solution

### A Collaborative Solution

Cabell County EMS saw this rising trend in overdose calls and the effect it was having on the entire community, and pulled together everyone involved. Representatives from law enforcement, fire, EMS, local hospitals, businesses, and public offices came together in one room to collaborate on a solution.

After looking at options, they found the Quick Response Team (QRT) model, which helps combat opioid addiction and deflect more individuals to treatment rather than incarceration.

A Quick Response Team (QRT) is an integrated first responder or community paramedicine unit consisting of:



## Goals of a QRT:



Connecting individuals with addiction and mental health disorders to treatment



Reducing overdose recidivism by providing encouragement to seek care



Reducing crimes related to addiction and mental illness



Creating a network of community resources to direct at-risk individuals to treatment and supportive services



Improving community-police relations

## The Emergence of Huntington's QRT

Cabell County created their Quick Response Team in the Fall of 2017, and applied for two federal grants to fund the program for their community. These grants were approved in October 2017, and the team made their first follow-up visit to an individual on December 4, 2017.

Huntington's QRT consists of team members from EMS, police, the faith community, and a peer recovery coach. By having representatives from different parties and different walks of life, these representatives are able to offer different perspectives and connect to the people they serve on the QRT. With personal connection being a vital part of a QRT, this has allowed them to foster better outcomes by finding common ground and relating with more of the individuals they serve.



## Huntington's QRT Infrastructure

With the scope of the challenge faced in Huntington, the team needed a sophisticated solution to track individuals they were visiting. Just keeping track of data on a spreadsheet wasn't going to cut it. They couldn't afford to have anyone slip through the cracks or any information be forgotten.

Huntington's QRT turned to Cordata, a community navigation platform, to solve this challenge. The Cordata platform supports first responding organizations to help people out in the community. Cordata streamlined data collection by making it easy to collect and enter data even out in the field and on the go.

In Cordata, the team collects information such as an individual's history with substance abuse, a record of each of the follow up visits the QRT had made with them, what treatment options they've tried, and any notes about their experiences that can help better inform their next decisions and actions to help that person get into treatment.





# Timeline



## Results from the Cabell County Evaluation of QRT:

In 2017-2018...

**24%**  
decrease in  
fatality rates

**40%**  
reduction in  
overdose calls

**\$375,000**  
saved from reduction  
in ambulance calls

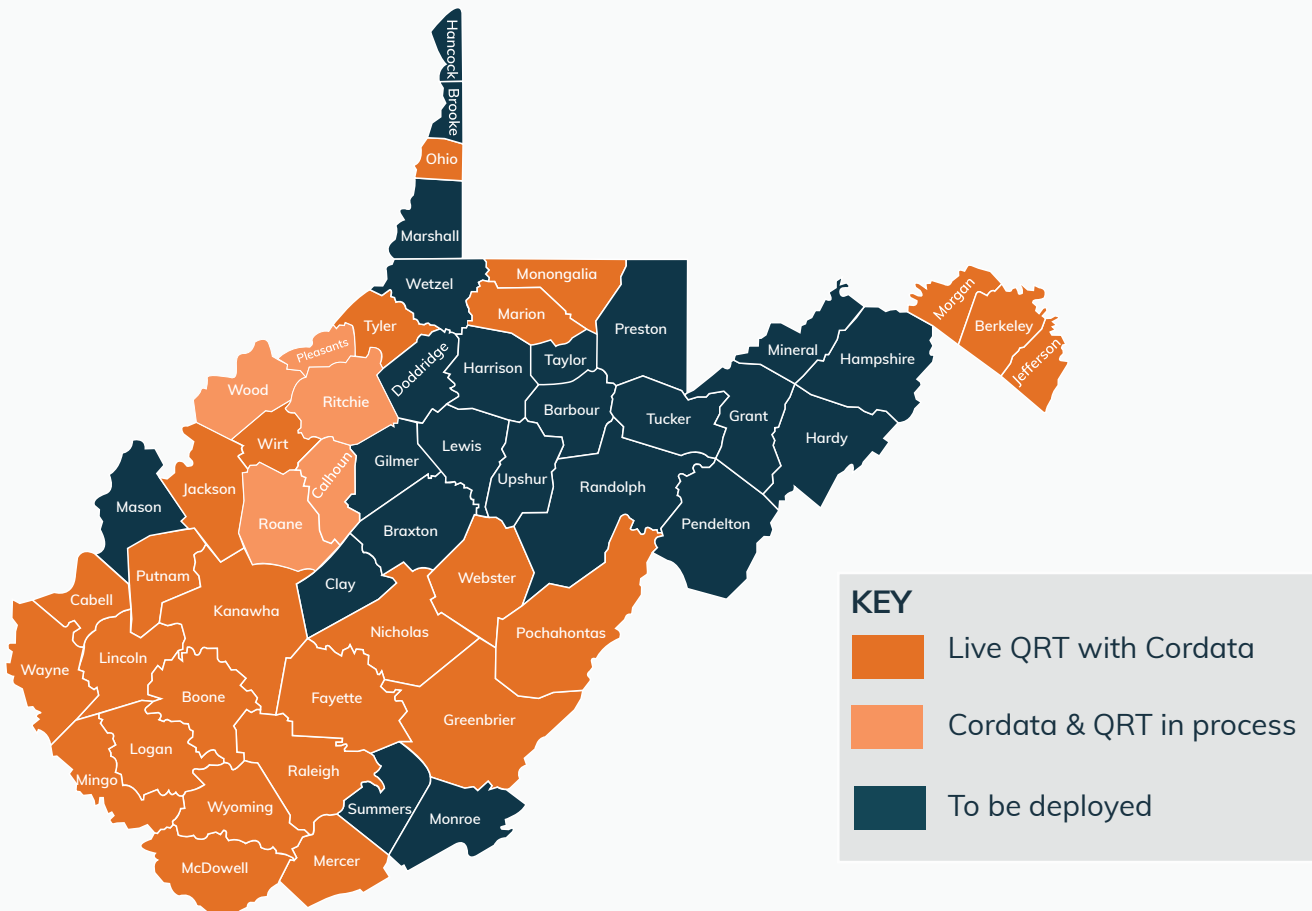
In 2017-2019...

**52%**  
reduction in  
overdose calls

**30%**  
of people entered  
into overdose  
treatment

# Expanding QRT Deployment

## West Virginia QRT Adoption Status



Today, **26 counties** in West Virginia have deployed QRTs with Cordata, the technology backbone of the program, which provides comprehensive care navigation for QRTs, as well as data and reporting for program evaluation and efficacy.

The implementation of Cordata has helped QRTs like Huntington's make better, more informed decisions based on shared data from all stakeholders in the programs, such as law enforcement, emergency rooms, healthcare professionals, and treatment centers.



## Take the Next Step



The only comprehensive technology that connects deflection and diversion programs focused on addiction and mental health.



### Talk to a Team Member

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### Schedule a Demo

[cordatahealth.com/deflection/schedule-demo](https://cordatahealth.com/deflection/schedule-demo)



### Learn More

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