



Community Meeting
-of the-
Drug Overdose
Task Force



GET IN.
INFORMED. INVOLVED. INVESTED.

July 17, 2014



Our Goal:

**Reduce overdose deaths in
Westmoreland County by
25% by 2019**



Thank You

**Community Foundation
-of-
Westmoreland County**

Roles



➤ Task Force

➤ Community Advisory Group

Today's Agenda



- ❑ Updates on Westmoreland County overdose statistics
- ❑ Main themes of our campaign
- ❑ D.O.T.F. developments
- ❑ Review of committees' goals and progress to date
- ❑ Q&A

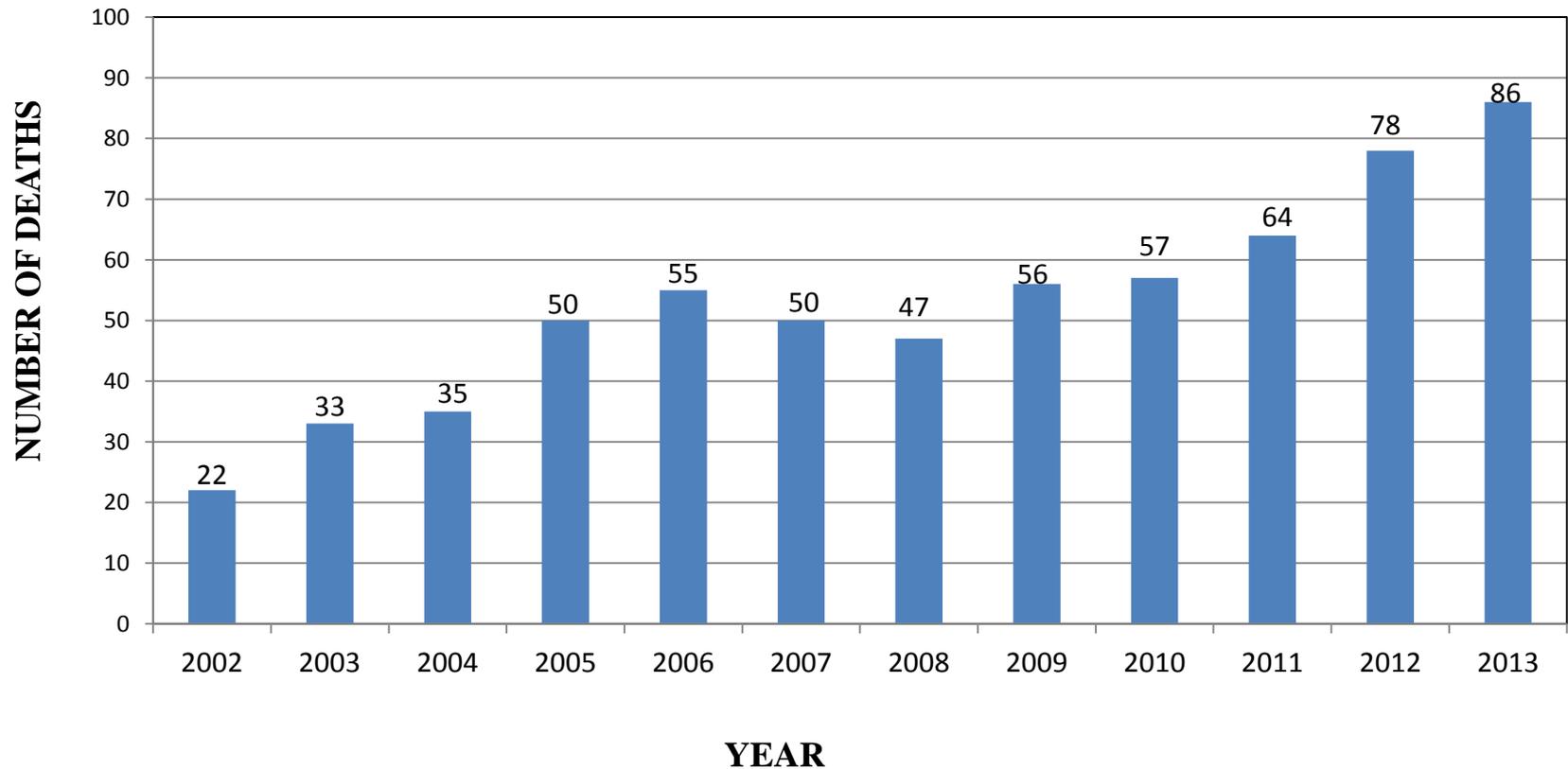


Review of the County's Overdose Problem

**Tony Marcocci,
Westmoreland County Detective**

DRUG AND ALCOHOL OVERDOSES - 2002 TO 2013

2013 OVERDOSE DEATHS: 86

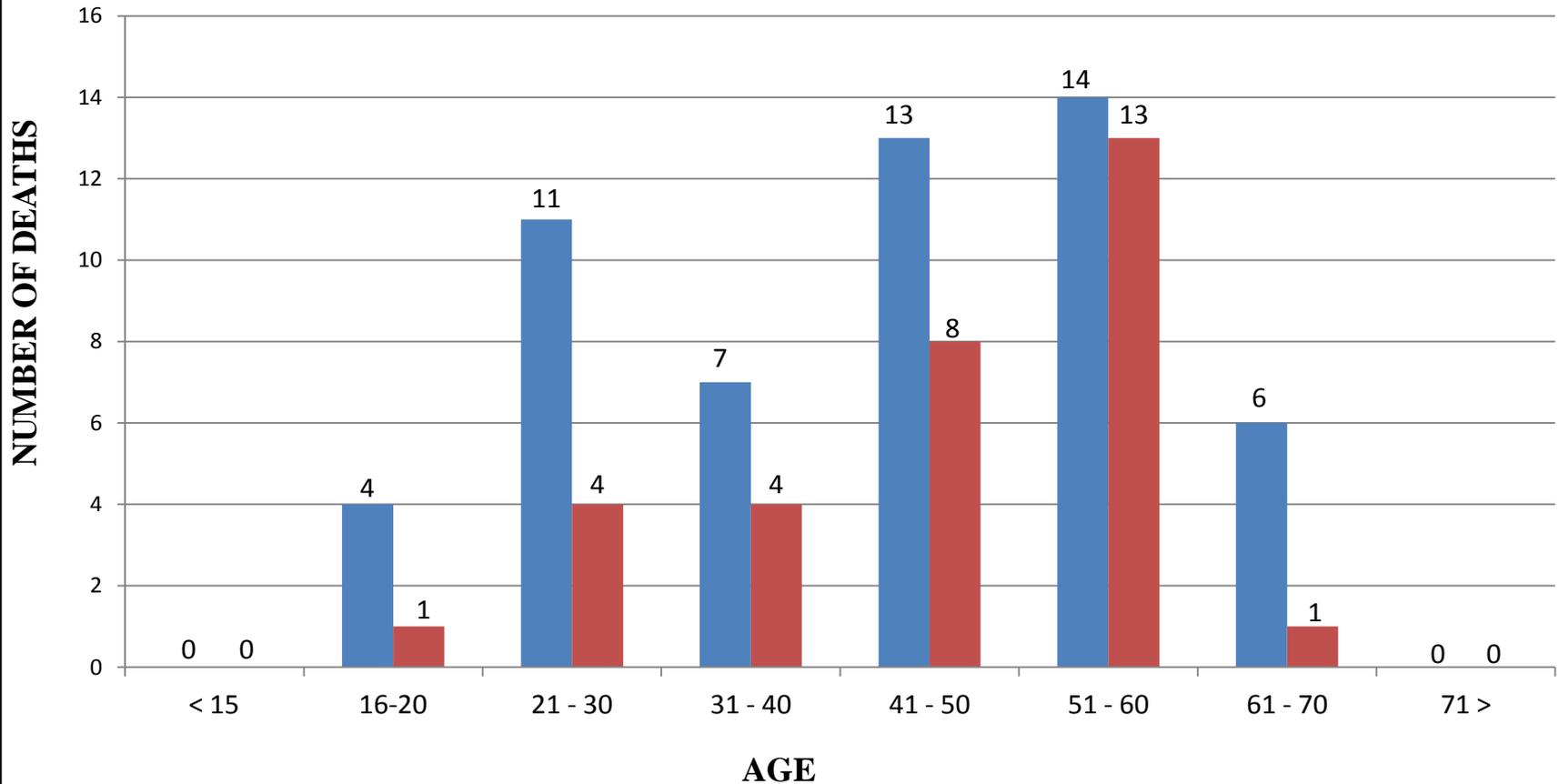




DRUG AND ALCOHOL OVERDOSES BY AGE AND GENDER - 2013

2013 OVERDOSE DEATHS: 86

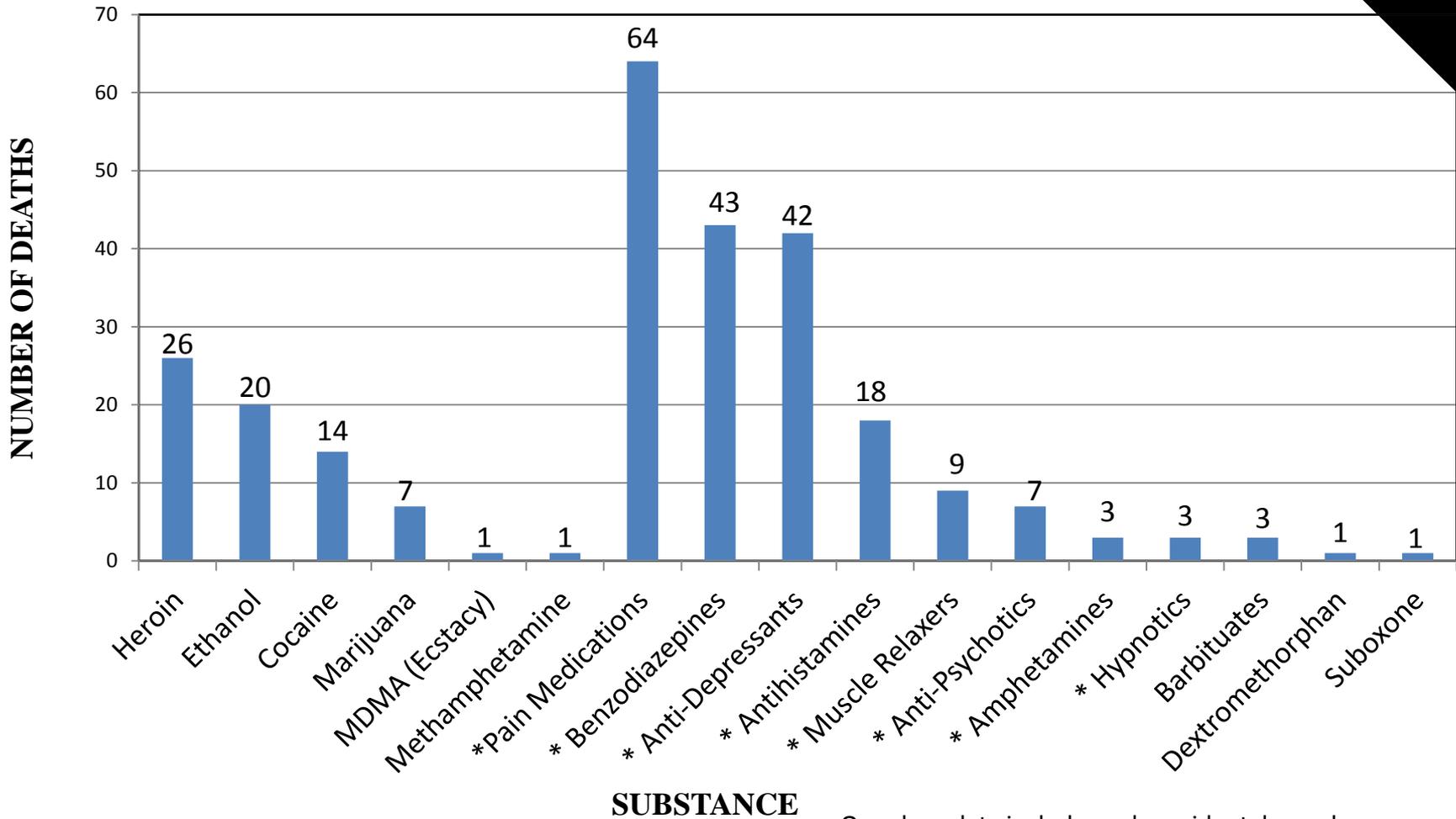
Male Female





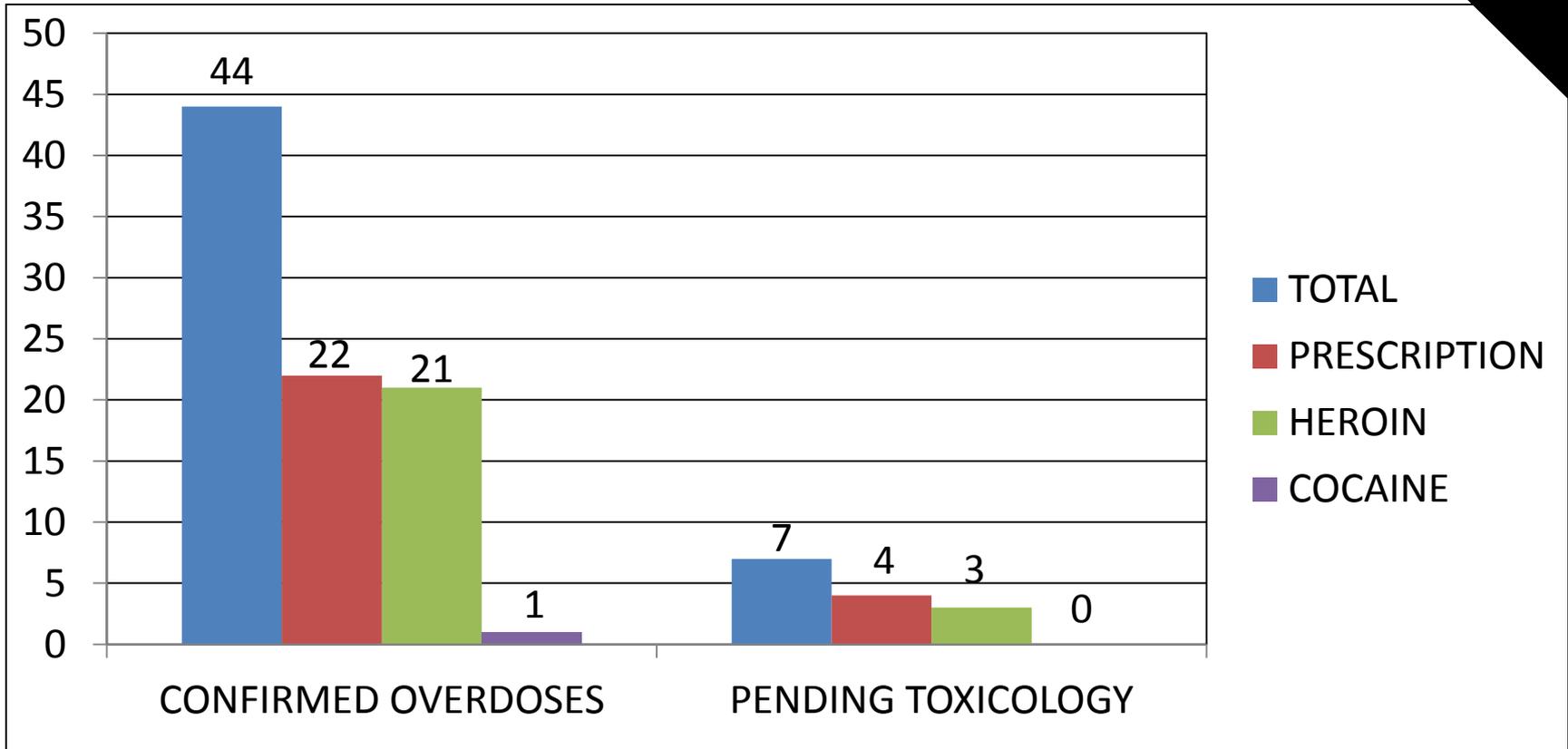
DRUG AND ALCOHOL OVERDOSES BY SUBSTANCE - 2013

2013 OVERDOSE DEATHS: 86



- Overdose data includes only accidental overdoses.
- Fatal accidental overdoses have increased 290% since 2002.

As of July 8, 2014



Total of 51 Overdoses
-26 Prescription
-24 Heroin
- 1 Cocaine

D.O.T.F. Main Themes



- ❑ It's everybody's problem
- ❑ It's a public health problem, not only a law enforcement problem
- ❑ Prescription drugs are the driving force
- ❑ Face of the problem- over 40 years of age
- ❑ There is hope; together we find solutions



Task Force Developments

- Electronic Newsletter
- Root Cause Analysis
- Fundraising Arm

Media: Healthcare Sub-Committee



Goal: Collaborate with medical community to encourage diversion prevention and appropriate prescribing

Actions taken:

- Physician e-mail/CME campaign- Every Excelsa physician & mid-level practitioner
- Nursing Staff Annual Competency Training- All Excelsa personnel with patient contact
- Red Flag Video
- Training for Westmoreland Hospital nursing staff on illicit street drugs--August

Chair: Sue Schropp

Legislative/Advocacy Sub-Committee



Goals:

1. Advocate for passage/blockage of legislative bills
2. Open new lines of communication throughout Westmoreland County and PA
3. Determine the impact of D & A on businesses and corporations

Actions taken:

- SB1180 (Prescription Monitoring) & SB1164 (Naloxone/Good Samaritan)
- Press conference
- Business Survey
- Oppose Marijuana legalization- medicinal and full legalization

Chair: Tay Waltenbaugh



Survey: Impact of the Drug Epidemic on Businesses

112 people responded from Westmoreland County.

“On a scale of 1-4, please share how much substance abuse negatively impacts our business community:”

14 people- <u>No</u> impact	<u>13%</u>	VS.	<u>87%</u>	39 people- <u>Slight</u> impact
				40 people- <u>Large</u> impact
				15 people- <u>Huge</u> impact



Media: Youth & General Public Sub-Committees

Goal: Expand awareness- addicts come from all segments of the community

Actions taken:

- *Get In* social media and *getinwestmoreland.org*
- 10,000 notecards- community events & information racks

Goal: Educate the public that 92% of the drugs involved in overdose deaths are prescribed

Actions taken: *Get In* campaign, Community outreach at June 14th Relay for Life, Latrobe

(Get In funded by the Community Foundation)

Chairs: Tom Plaitano and Deb Ciocco

Criminal Justice Sub-Committee



Goal: Divert low level offenders with D&A disorders from the system

Action taken: Grant applied for: diversion program, coordinators, and Risk Assessment

Goal: Improve system for offenders in need of D&A treatment in prison and as they re-enter the community

Action taken: Partnered with UPG on re-entry plan addressing services, including treatment

Goal: Training for criminal justice/law enforcement staff on addiction, D&A, mental health

Action taken: Mental Health First Aid course and Crisis Intervention Team training provided in 2013 and 2014 with grant funding

Chair: Bruno A. Mediate

Treatment Sub-Committee



Goal: Create a warm and welcoming environment to decrease stigma and fear of rejection.

Actions taken:

- Assessed provider policies and shared best practices
- Examine expectations of staff during initial phone contact and intake
- Engage community & families- addiction is a treatable disease, stigma is a barrier
- Review recent survey data and patient satisfaction surveys

Goal: Enhancement of treatment services to engage individuals through a full continuum of care.

Actions taken:

- Increase awareness of treatment services available
- Use of Mentors and CRS (Certified Recovery Specialist) to improve retention and engagement in treatment/recovery
- Media engagement and DOTF media campaign
- Examine and address gaps in treatment services

Chair: Tim Phillips



Q & A

