

SAVE THE DATE

Regrounding our Response

July 25, 2019

9:00 AM to 4:30 PM

The Maryland Department of Health Prevention and Health Promotion Administration's Center for Harm Reduction Services will be sponsoring regional forums on public health and harm reduction approaches to the opioid epidemic, titled *Regrounding our Response*, throughout 2019. This effort aims to address questions regarding harm reduction in different regions of Maryland, bring national experts to Maryland to guide discussion, and feature supportive local leadership. On July 25, we will be in Western Maryland to discuss the challenges public safety and public health face connecting people who use drugs to care.

The event will run from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, with opening remarks at 9:00 AM at the Ramada in Cumberland, Maryland. We anticipate 100 participants, including partners from bordering states West Virginia and Pennsylvania. Considering the frequency with which people cross borders for work, personal, or drug-related reasons, and the rural environment, including providers from other states will allow us to pursue answers to questions about coordination of care in this landscape.

Regrounding Our Response is a community education initiative to address stigma around substance use and improve systems of care for people who use drugs. The goal is to raise awareness and educate providers, decision makers, and front-line responders on the topics necessary for a compassionate, non-judgmental public health approach to the opioid crisis. *Regrounding our Response* curricula include 1) the Stages of Change; 2) the Drug User Health Framework; 3) Adverse Childhood Experiences; 4) Social Determinants of Health; and, 5) Medication- assisted Treatment as overdose prevention. We will be developing curricula, hosting training of trainers on each topic, and providing presentation opportunities to Opioid Intervention Teams throughout the year. Training will align with future regional forum events.