

## **COMPREHENSIVE ADDICTION RESOURCES EMERGENCY (CARE) ACT**

### **Chairman Elijah E. Cummings and Senator Elizabeth Warren**

Chairman Cummings and Senator Warren have introduced the Comprehensive Addiction Resources Emergency (CARE) Act to finally begin treating the devastating opioid crisis like the critical public health emergency it is.

Life expectancy in the United States has now dropped for three years in a row—and drug overdoses are the single biggest reason why. In 2017, more than 70,000 Americans died from drug overdoses—the highest rate of drug overdose deaths **ever** in the United States. Opioids were a cause of 47,600 of these deaths—67% of all drug overdose deaths. Yet, only about 10% of those in need of specialty treatment for substance use disorders are able to access it.

This crisis does not discriminate based on politics. It affects families and communities in red states, blue states, and purple states.

This is not the first time we have faced a public health crisis of this scale. During the 1980s and 1990s, deaths from HIV/AIDS grew rapidly, and the country's medical system was ill-equipped to provide effective, evidence-based care. In 1990, Congress passed the bipartisan Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act to provide funding to help state and local governments combat this epidemic.

The CARE Act is modeled directly on the Ryan White Act, supporting local decision-making and federal research and programs to prevent drug use while expanding access to evidence-based treatments and recovery support services.

The CARE Act would provide \$10 billion per year over ten years to fight this crisis, including:

- **\$4 billion to states, territories, and tribal governments**, including \$2 billion to states with the highest levels of overdoses, \$1.6 billion through competitive grants, and \$400 million for tribal grants;
- **\$2.7 billion to the hardest hit counties and cities**, including \$1.43 billion to counties and cities with the highest levels of overdoses, \$1 billion through competitive grants, and \$270 million for tribal grants;
- **\$1.7 billion for public health surveillance, biomedical research, and improved training for health professionals**, including \$700 million for the National Institutes of Health, \$500 million for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and regional tribal epidemiology centers, and \$500 million to train and provide technical assistance to professionals treating substance use disorders;
- **\$1.1 billion to support expanded and innovative service delivery**, including \$500 million for public and nonprofit entities, \$500 million for projects of national significance that provide treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services, \$50 million to help workers with or at risk of substance use disorder maintain and gain employment by

providing grants and supporting research, and \$50 million to expand treatment provider capacity; and

- **\$500 million to expand access to overdose reversal drugs (Naloxone)** and provide this life-saving medicine to states to distribute to first responders, public health departments, and the public.

The costs of the opioid epidemic are staggering. President Trump’s Council of Economic Advisers estimates that the opioid crisis cost the nation more than \$500 billion in 2015 alone. In addition, a new study in the Journal *Medical Care* estimates that the federal government lost \$26 billion in tax revenue between 2000 and 2016 due to the opioid crisis.

Congress could fund this bill in a number of ways, including by rolling back just a fraction of the massive tax cuts recently granted to opioid manufacturers and other drug companies who played such a key role in creating this crisis.

### **CARE Act of 2019 Endorsements**

1. A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing)
2. Achieving Recovery Together, Inc.
3. Addiction Haven
4. Advocates for Recovery Colorado
5. AIDS United
6. American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry
7. American Art Therapy Association
8. American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work
9. American College of Medical Toxicology
10. American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians
11. American College of Physicians
12. American Dance Therapy Association
13. American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
14. American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
15. American Federation of Teachers
16. American Group Psychotherapy Association
17. American Medical Association
18. American Medical Student Association
19. American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine
20. American Psychological Association
21. American Public Health Association
22. American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM)
23. amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research
24. Anxiety and Depression Association of America
25. Apricity
26. Association for Behavioral & Cognitive Therapies
27. Association for Behavioral Healthcare
28. Association of Persons Affected by Addiction
29. Association of Recovery Community Organizations

30. Baltimore City Health Department
31. Big Cities Health Coalition
32. California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals
33. Center for Law and Social Policy (CLASP)
34. Center for Popular Democracy
35. Center for Recovery and Wellness Resources
36. CFC Loud N Clear Foundation
37. Chicago Recovering Communities Coalition (CRCC)
38. Cities Thrive Mental Health Coalition
39. Communities for Recovery
40. Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America
41. Community Catalyst
42. Connecticut Community for Addiction Recovery
43. Continuum Care Center
44. Coweta F.O.R.C.E.
45. Darjune Recovery Support Services & Café
46. DC Recovery Community Alliance
47. Detroit Recovery Project
48. Drug Policy Alliance
49. Faces & Voices of Recovery
50. Families USA
51. FAVOR Grand Strand
52. FAVOR Greenville
53. FAVOR Low County
54. FAVOR Pee Dee
55. FAVOR SC
56. FAVOR Tri-County
57. Fellowship Foundation Recovery Community Organization
58. Floridians for Recovery
59. Foundation for Recovery
60. Friends Committee on National Legislation
61. Friends of Recovery New York
62. George B. Crane Memorial Center
63. Georgia Council on Substance Abuse
64. GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD)
65. Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice
66. Great Bear Recovery Collective
67. Hansen Recovery Resource Center
68. Harm Reduction Coalition
69. Hope for New Hampshire Recovery
70. Housing Works
71. iHOPE Inc.
72. Indiana Addiction Issues Coalition
73. International Association of Machinists
74. International Certification & Reciprocity Consortium (IC & RC)
75. International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
76. International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers

77. Jackson Area Recovery Community
78. Laborers' International Union of North America
79. Lambda Legal
80. LifeHouse Recovery Connection
81. Living Proof Recovery
82. Long Island Recovery Association (LIRA)
83. Lost Dreams Awakening, Inc.
84. Maine Alliance for Addiction Recovery
85. Many Paths One Destination
86. March of Dimes
87. Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
88. Massachusetts Medical Society
89. Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery (MOAR)
90. Message Carriers of Pennsylvania, Inc.
91. Middlesex County Recovery Community Center
92. Midlands Recovery Centers
93. Minnesota Alternatives
94. Minnesota Recovery Connection
95. Missouri Network for Opiate Reform and Recovery
96. Missouri Recovery Network
97. NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals
98. National Alliance for Medication Assisted Recovery
99. National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors
100. National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health
101. National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
102. National Association of County & City Health Officials
103. National Association of Community Health Centers
104. National Association of Counties
105. National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
106. National Association of Social Workers
107. National Board for Certified Counselors
108. National Center for Transgender Equality
109. National Council for Behavioral Health
110. National Council of Urban Indian Health
111. National Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health
112. National Health Care for the Homeless Council
113. National Indian Health Board
114. National Nurses United
115. National Safety Council
116. National Recovery Gwinnett
117. Native American LifeLines
118. Navigating Recovery of the Lakes Region
119. New Jersey Coalition for Addiction Recovery Support
120. North America's Building Trades Unions
121. Ohio Citizen Advocates for Addiction Recovery
122. Oklahoma Citizen Advocates for Recovery & Treatment Association (OCARTA)
123. Papa Ola Lōkahi

124. Peer Coach Academy Colorado/Embark
125. Peer360 Recovery Alliance
126. Peers Empowering Peers
127. Pennsylvania Recovery Organization – Achieving Community Together (PRO-ACT)
128. Pennsylvania Recovery Organizations Alliance (PRO-A)
129. People Advocating Recovery
130. People Living in Recovery
131. Portland Recovery Community Center
132. Public Citizen
133. Public Defender Association/LEAD National Support Bureau
134. Reality Check, Inc.
135. Rebel Recovery FL
136. Reboot Jackson
137. Recover Wyoming
138. Recovery – Friendly Taos County
139. Recovery Alliance El Paso
140. Recovery Café
141. Recovery Communities of North Carolina
142. Recovery Community Connection
143. Recovery Community of Durham
144. Recovery Consultants of Atlanta
145. Recovery Epicenter Foundation, Inc.
146. Recovery Force of Atlantic County
147. Recovery is Happening
148. Recovery Organization of Support Specialist
149. RecoveryATX
150. Rhode Island Communities for Addiction Recovery Efforts (RICARES)
151. ROCovery Fitness
152. Sandusky Artisans Recovery Community Center
153. School Social Work Association of America
154. Seattle Indian Health Board
155. Sheet Metal Air Rail and Transportation International Union
156. Sheet Metal Occupational Health Institute Trust
157. SMART Recovery
158. Soberkerrville/Lotus Peer Recovery
159. Society for Public Health Education
160. Society of Physician Assistants in Addiction Medicine
161. Society of Behavioral Medicine
162. Solano Recovery Project
163. Solutions Recovery, Inc.
164. SOS Recovery Community Organization
165. SpiritLife Recovery Community Center
166. SpiritWorks Foundation
167. Springs Recovery Connection
168. Student Coalition on Addiction
169. Students for Sensible Drug Policy
170. Sunrise Community for Recovery & Wellness

171. The AIDS Institute
172. The Bridge Foundation
173. The Courage Center
174. The DOOR – Dekalb Open Opportunity for Recovery
175. The Kennedy Forum
176. The McShin Foundation
177. The Law Enforcement Action Partnership
178. The Phoenix
179. The RASE Project, Central Florida
180. The RASE Project, Harrisburg, Carlisly Lancaster, Lebanon, York, Hanover
181. The Serenity House of Flint
182. There is No Hero in Heroin
183. Tia Hart Recovery Community Program
184. Treatment Communities of America
185. Trilogy Recovery Community
186. Twin Cities Recovery Project
187. U MARC (United Mental Health and Addictions Recovery Coalition)
188. United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States, Canada
189. United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund
190. Utah Support Advocates for Recovery Awareness (USARA)
191. Vermont Recovery Network
192. Voices of Hope for Cecil County
193. Voices of Hope Lexington
194. Voices of Recovery San Mateo County
195. WAI-IAM, Inc. and Rise Recovery Community
196. Washtenaw Recovery Advocacy Project (WRAP)
197. WEcovery (Formerly Beyond Brink)
198. Will's Place
199. Wisconsin Recovery Community Organization (WIRCO)
200. Wisconsin Voices for Recovery
201. Young People in Recovery