

## PROmoting School-community-university Partnerships to Enhance Resilience (PROSPER Ohio)

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### The Opioid Epidemic in Ohio

In 2019, 3,957 people died from an accidental drug overdose, a 5% increase from 2018

- In 2018, 3,764 Ohioans died from unintentional opioid overdoses, which was the first decrease since 2009
- In 2018 Ohio had the fourth highest rate of drug overdose deaths involving opioids in the U.S. (NIDA, 2020), and between 92,000 to 170,000 of its citizens struggle with a drug use disorder (Rembert et al., 2017)
- 19.96% of Ohioans between the ages of 12 and 25 have a diagnosis of Substance Use Disorder

### What is PROSPER?

An evidence-based delivery system that delivers programs designed to

- Reduce risky youth behaviors
- Enhance positive youth development
- Strengthen families

### Delivery System

PROSPER links university-based prevention researchers with two local program delivery systems:

- The **Cooperative Extension System** at The Ohio State University
- Local **public-school systems**

### Key Components:

- **Family-based curriculum**
  - *Strengthening Families Program 10-14*
- **School-based curriculum**
  - *Botvin LifeSkills*

### A System That Works

The three-tiered structure of

- Community Teams
- Prevention Coordinators and Extension Educators
- State Management Team

This system creates a feedback cycle through which Community Teams receive technical assistance that is tailored to their specific needs.

Each State Partnership is part of the National Network and receives ongoing support and expertise from the Network Team at Iowa State University.

### Community Teams

**An Extension Educator co-leads the Community Team**, knows the community and is a trusted educational resource

**A Public-school system teacher co-leads the Community Team**, provides access to students, and teachers seeking to positively impact the lives of their students

The community teams meet regularly to:

- Provide support, guidance and engage in community prevention awareness activities and sustain their programs through local financial support, volunteerism and in-kind donations
- Work towards sustainability of the program in future years
- Promote community buy-in to identify and implement local priorities
- Represent community-based partners including youth and family service provider

### Prevention Coordinators

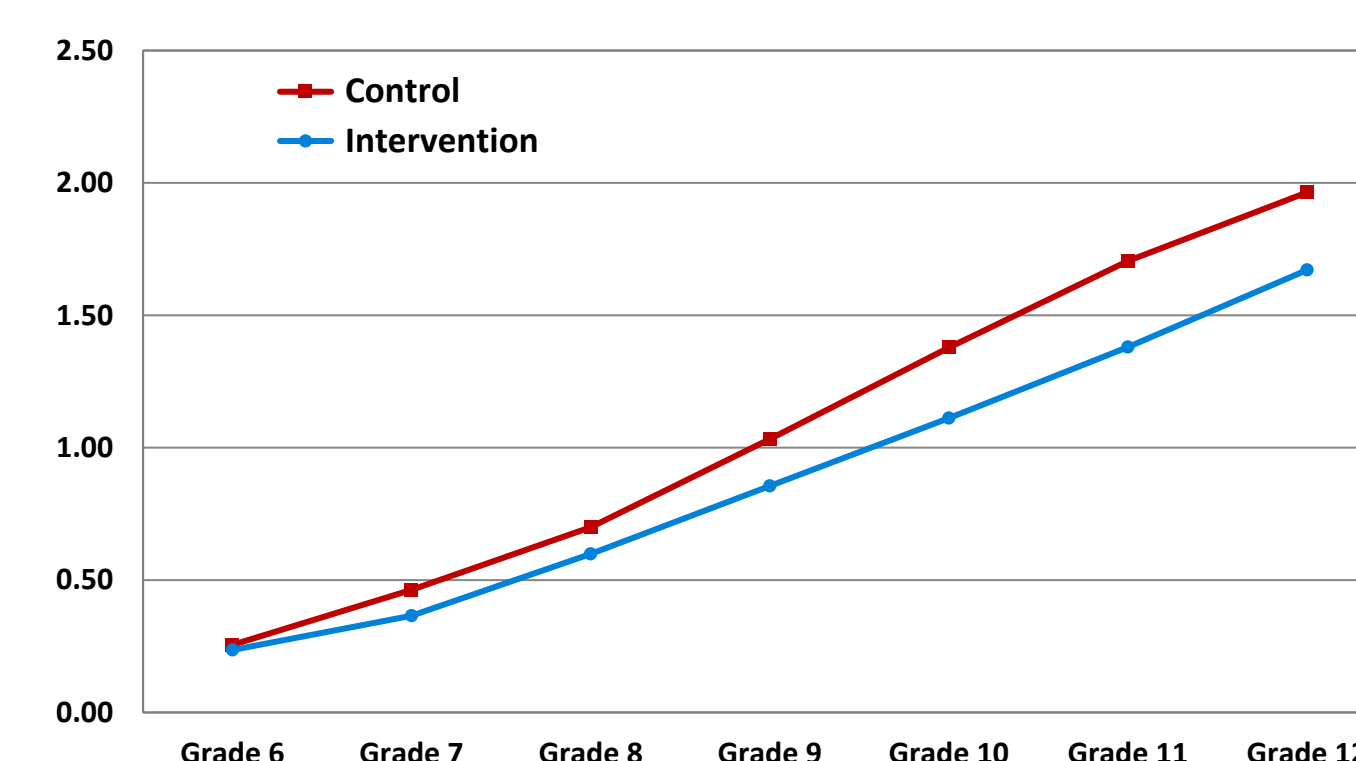
- Extension-based technical assistance providers
- Serve as a link between the community team and State Management Team
- Provide frequent regular technical assistance to Community Teams
- Facilitate communication between all partners and the university-based State Management Team

### State Management Team

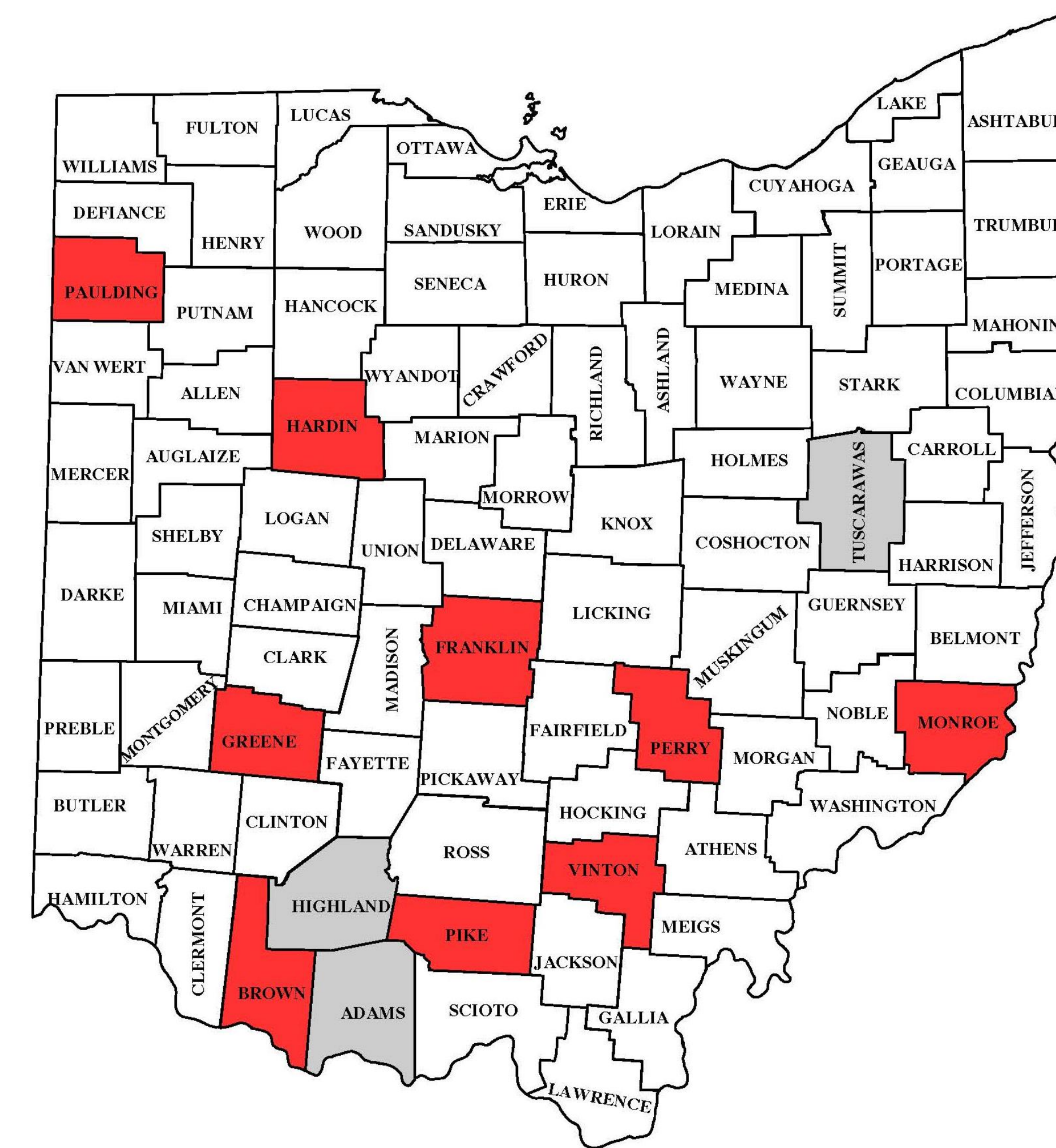
- Extension administrators and faculty
- Provide administrative oversight and guidance
- Oversee local data collection and share results

### Long-term Impact on Illicit Substance Use

Reduced growth in use 6½ years past baseline



Sum of six lifetime illicit use measures including Ecstasy, Vicodin, inhalants, meth, prescription drugs and other illicit drug use



### Success and statistics

46 families enrolled in **SFP 10 – 14** (some cohorts were postponed due to Covid-19)  
601 students completed **LifeSkills**, and 85 began the program, which was postponed due to Covid-19  
152 students completed **Generation Rx** training

### Additional community programs available:

- Mental Health First Aid©
- Youth Mental Health First Aid©
- Generation Rx

### Ways to get involved

- PROSPER Community Teams (if you are in a PROSPER county)
- Advocate for teaching LifeSkills in schools
- Support Strengthening Families 10 – 14 classes in your community
- Teach Generation Rx®
- Get certified in Mental Health First Aid© and Mental Health First Aid for Youth©
- Host a Mental Health First Aid class in your community
- See what other classes, resources and trainings your county Extension Office offers

### The Future of PROSPER Ohio

Developing a hybrid model of in-person and virtual program delivery

Planning to expand into three new rural counties in Ohio

- Adams
- Highland
- Tuscarawas

### Citations:

Columbus Dispatch. Ohio Drug Overdose deaths back on the rise. Retrieved July 21, 2020  
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Rembert, M., Betz, M., Feng, B., Partridge, M. (2017). Taking Measure of Ohio's Opioid Crisis. Columbus, Ohio. Ohio State University

Spoth, Redmond, Shin, Greenberg, Feinberg, Schainker (2013). PROSPER community-university partnership delivery system effects on substance misuse through 6½ years past baseline from a cluster randomized controlled intervention trial. Preventive Medicine, 56, 190-196.

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[For more information:](https://go.osu.edu/prosperohio/)

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