

## Director of Opioid Overdose Prevention

The opioid epidemic in Baltimore affects far too many across the city. The number of fatal overdoses in 2016 rose to 694 - a 19% increase from 2013 - and the number of fentanyl-related overdoses has increased exponentially. These are trends that mirror the epidemic of opioid addiction across the nation. In Baltimore, Health Commissioner Dr. Leana Wen has declared opioid overdose to be a public health emergency.

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is the oldest health department in the country, with over 1,000 employees and an annual budget of \$130 million. In March 2015, under the leadership of Dr. Wen, BCHD, in close partnership with the city's behavioral health authority, Behavioral Health System Baltimore (BHSB), launched a citywide overdose prevention and response plan. The plan is a three-pronged strategy to:

- Prevent overdose and save lives
- Increase access to on-demand and long-term recovery support
- Provide education to reduce stigma and prevent addiction

This strategy has gained national attention including recent acknowledgment by President Barack Obama and U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy.

The Director of Opioid Overdose Prevention (the "Director") will work to implement BCHD's opioid overdose prevention strategy and other harm reduction initiatives. The Director will report to the Deputy Chief of Staff of BCHD.

Developing and advancing this plan has been a top priority for the City. A successful Director will coordinate with partners including Behavioral Health System Baltimore, hospitals, Federally-Qualified Health Centers, and other health care providers, city agencies including the Baltimore Police Department and Baltimore City Fire Department, and other diverse partners to maintain the momentum that has been achieved and proactively work to develop innovative approaches to prevention, treatment, and recovery.




### **Duties & Responsibilities:**

- The Director will oversee, manage, and coordinate all overdose-related work including that performed by the Community Risk Reduction Services, Overdose Fatality Review, the Fentanyl Task Force, and other staff who may work in the field of overdose prevention and response.



*Catherine E. Pugh, Mayor, City of Baltimore*  
*Leana S. Wen, M.D., M.Sc., Commissioner of Health*

1001 E. Fayette Street • Baltimore, MD 21202

@Bmore\_Healthy   
@DrLeanaWen   
@BaltimoreHealth   
[health.baltimorecity.gov](http://health.baltimorecity.gov)

- Lead implementation of and manage all efforts to implement Baltimore's overdose response strategy, which will be carried out by BCHD, BHSB, and other governmental and civic entities.
- Manage the work of Baltimore's Citywide Fentanyl Task Force and Overdose Fatality Review Team, chaired by the Health Commissioner.
- Serve as primary and direct contact and manage communications regarding all overdose efforts for Baltimore City, including all governmental and nongovernmental entities (state and federal government, private partners, foundations, provider community, etc.).
- Manage efforts to provide overdose and treatment related public education to Baltimore City residents.
- Strategically organize, oversee, manage, and coordinate teams of staff and volunteers at BCHD and partners to carry out the city's overdose response objectives.
- Identify sources of funding, direct grant applications, and lead fundraising efforts to support overdose prevention and treatment expansion work.
- Maintain a strict timeline and meet deadlines in a timely fashion.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree (BA or BS) required; Master's degree preferred (willing to consider exceptional candidate with requisite work experience).
- Strong administrative and project management skills. Across projects, the position will need to manage and coordinate the activities of 20-30 individual partners.
- Excellent oral and written communication skills required; must have ability to be both direct and diplomatic as needed, must lead through influence.
- Must be results-driven and have demonstrated ability to lead people towards meeting organizational vision, mission and goals.
- Must have sense of urgency and exceptional ability to deliver efficiently.
- Experience with grants and contracts management and financial management preferred.
- Experience with management in a start-up or changing organization preferred.

\*\*\*

Salary is commensurate with education and experience, and includes an excellent benefits package.

Interested candidates should submit a cover letter and resume specifically addressing the applicant's experience relevant to the position to:

Gabriel Auteri, Deputy Chief of Staff  
Baltimore City Health Department  
[Gabriel.auteri@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:Gabriel.auteri@baltimorecity.gov)

**Baltimore City Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer**