

**Addressing the Opioid Crisis  
in Communities of Color**

ASPE Generic Information Collection Request  
OMB No. 0990-0421

**Cover Sheet**

**Submitted:** January 13, 2020

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**DOCUMENTATION FOR THE GENERIC CLEARANCE  
FOR THE COLLECTION OF QUALITATIVE RESEARCH &  
ASSESSMENT**

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**TITLE OF INFORMATION COLLECTION:** Addressing the Opioid Crisis in Communities of Color

**INTERVIEWS**

**SMALL DISCUSSION GROUPS**

**FOCUS GROUPS**

**QUESTIONNAIRES**

**OTHER (EXPLAIN)**

**DESCRIPTION OF THIS SPECIFIC COLLECTION**

1. **Intended purpose:** Exploratory study to collect qualitative information from human services administrators and service delivery staff, and substance use treatment administrators and staff about disparities in treatment of substance use disorders (SUD) in communities populated by people of color (Blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and Native Americans/Alaska Natives), including how human services programs are impacted by and are responding to the opioid crisis and the extent to which human services are integrated into treatment efforts that target minorities.
  
2. **Need for the collection:** This exploratory study is needed to inform the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)'s and the Office of Minority Health (OMH)'s understanding of treatment-related disparities and treatment models targeting race and ethnic minority populations. After a review of the literature, a study of this nature currently does not exist. This study is not a repeat of current or past research that we are aware of. This exploratory study will also help to identify potential promising strategies for integrating substance use treatment with human services programs. This information will lay the foundation for future research on ways to better address service disparities through the implementation of effective programs and practices, and of training and technical assistance.
  
3. **Planned use of the data:** The qualitative data will be analyzed to identify findings within and across sites about individual, organizational, community, societal, and public policy factors that may promote or impede SUD interventions for communities of color, including the role human services programs could play in effective treatment. The results will be summarized and reported to ASPE and OMH to inform these offices' understanding of these essential issues.
  
4. **Date(s) and location(s):** Interviews will be conducted at eight sites across the country. Sites may range from specific neighborhoods, to a city, county, multi-county area, or state where a program or policy has been implemented. APSE and OMH will select sites with input from the Urban Institute based on site selection criteria. The site selection criteria have been developed from the findings of ASPE's [previous work](#) on the opioid crisis and the child welfare system. Site selection criteria include places with a high SUD prevalence, high drug-overdose rates, high drug-mortality rates, and geographic, urban/rural diversity. Data collection will occur between March and May 2020.

5. **Collection procedures:** Urban Institute staff will conduct site visits with interviews, which will occur on-site and also via telephone or webinar. The Urban Institute has extensive experience conducting interviews with program staff and other stakeholders, and has a contract with ASPE and OMH to conduct and report on this data collection. Of the eight site visits, six will be conducted in-person and two will occur virtually via telephone or webinar. A discussion guide (see Attachment A) will be used to guide the semi-structured interviews, which are estimated to last 1.5 hours.

6. **Number of collections (e.g., focus groups, surveys, sessions):** Each study participant will be asked to participate in one interview. We will conduct an average of eight interviews per site for a total of 64 interviews across all eight sites.

7. **Description of respondents/participants:** Participants will include substance use and human services administrators and caseworkers as well as other relevant stakeholders.

8. **Description of how results will be used:** The Urban Institute staff will summarize key themes and report them to ASPE and OMH. The results are expected to inform ASPE and OMH on future research and policy proposals that may address racial and ethnic disparities in SUD treatment and potential promising practices for integrating human services with SUD treatment.

9. **Description of how results will or will not be disseminated and why or why not:** Depending on the themes identified in the interviews and findings from other research, we expect that this work may inform interest among federal and state staff on substance use treatment disparities among people of color.

#### **AMOUNT OF ANY PROPOSED STIPEND OR INCENTIVE – NONE**

**BURDEN HOUR COMPUTATION** Estimated Annualized Burden Hours and Costs to Respondents – Estimates for the average hourly wage for respondents are based on the Department of Labor (DOL) 2018 National Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates ([https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes\\_nat.htm](https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes_nat.htm)). Table A-1 shows estimated burden and cost information.

Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Average Burden per Response (in Hours)	Total Burden Hours	Hourly Wage Rate	Total Respondent Costs
Substance Use Treatment Administrators	16	1	1.5	24	\$50.99	\$1,223.76
Substance Use Treatment Caseworkers	16	1	1.5	24	\$20.64	\$495.36
Human Services Administrators	16	1	1.5	24	\$50.99	\$1,223.76
Human Services Caseworkers	16	1	1.5	24	20.64	\$495.36
<b>TOTALS</b>	64	1		96		\$3,438.24

**LIST OF ATTACHMENTS – Cover Sheet**

Note: Attachments are included as separate files as instructed.

- Attachment A-Discussion Guide

**OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

**REQUESTED APPROVAL DATE:** January 31, 2020

**NAME OF CONTACT PERSON:** Annette Waters

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**DEPARTMENT/OFFICE/BUREAU:**

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services