Opioid Crisis on Cape Cod
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Problem
Cape Cod, Massachusetts is home to some of the highest rates of opioid abuse in the country, with blue-collar workers being at the highest risk of usage.

Rate of Opioid-related deaths in 2016

- US: 19.8
- Massachusetts: 39.5
- Cape Cod: 37.3

Blue-collar Workers are at 2 times greater risk of overdosing than other occupations due to Seasonal economy, Occupational injuries, Pressure to return to work

Community of focus
Cape Cod's vocational-technical high school students will feed into the blue-collar population, putting them at high risk, in combination with preexisting mental health and emotional problems compounded by stress of academics and choosing a trade.

Our Solution
We will develop an educational program that aims to reduce the risk of opioid abuse, with mentors from the blue collar workforce and that better utilizes available school counselors.

Educational program
- Make students aware of counselors, support groups, hotlines, and mental wellness classes
- Identify and discuss causes and effects of drug use among the school community
- Career planning and college readiness

1st trimester

2nd trimester

3rd trimester

Blue collar worker guest speakers give insight into career and risks

Collaborate with Gosnold

Assessment
Obtain qualitative data from students about the program through surveys and monitor opioid statistics

Implementation

Create
- Compile a curriculum

Partner
- Form subdivision within School Based Programs through Gosnold

Present
- Meet with the schools and present solution with Gosnold

Reference: