



Natick's Response to the Opioid Crisis

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Executive Director

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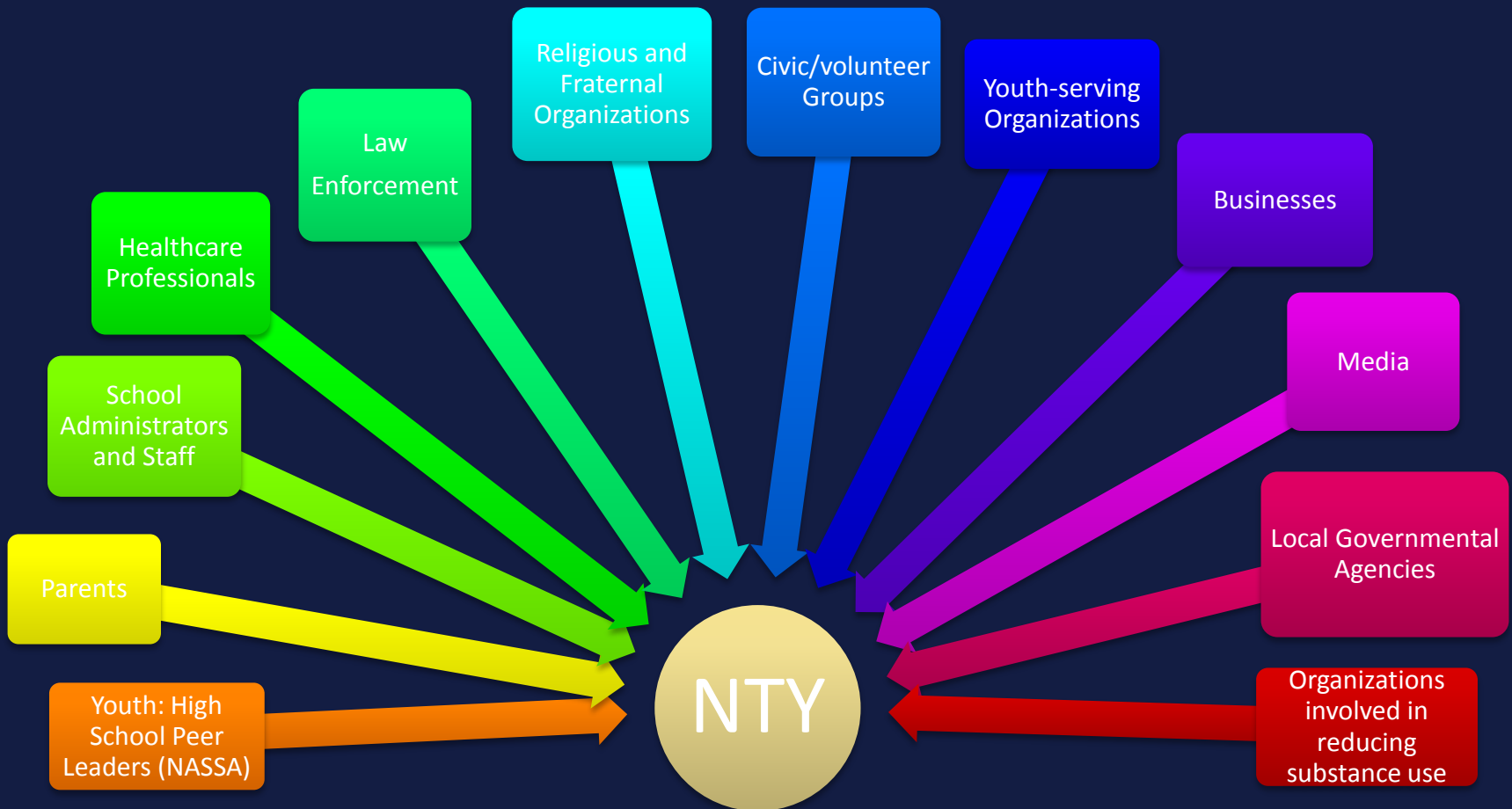
What is NTY?

- Natick Together for Youth (NTY) is a community-based coalition with a **mission** to promote a safe, healthy, and drug-free community through the collaboration of public and private groups, organizations, and individuals, using proven, effective strategies to reduce risk factors and increase resiliency among youth.
- NTY's **vision** is of a community where strengthened substance use disorder prevention and treatment efforts lead to improved health and safety among our residents.

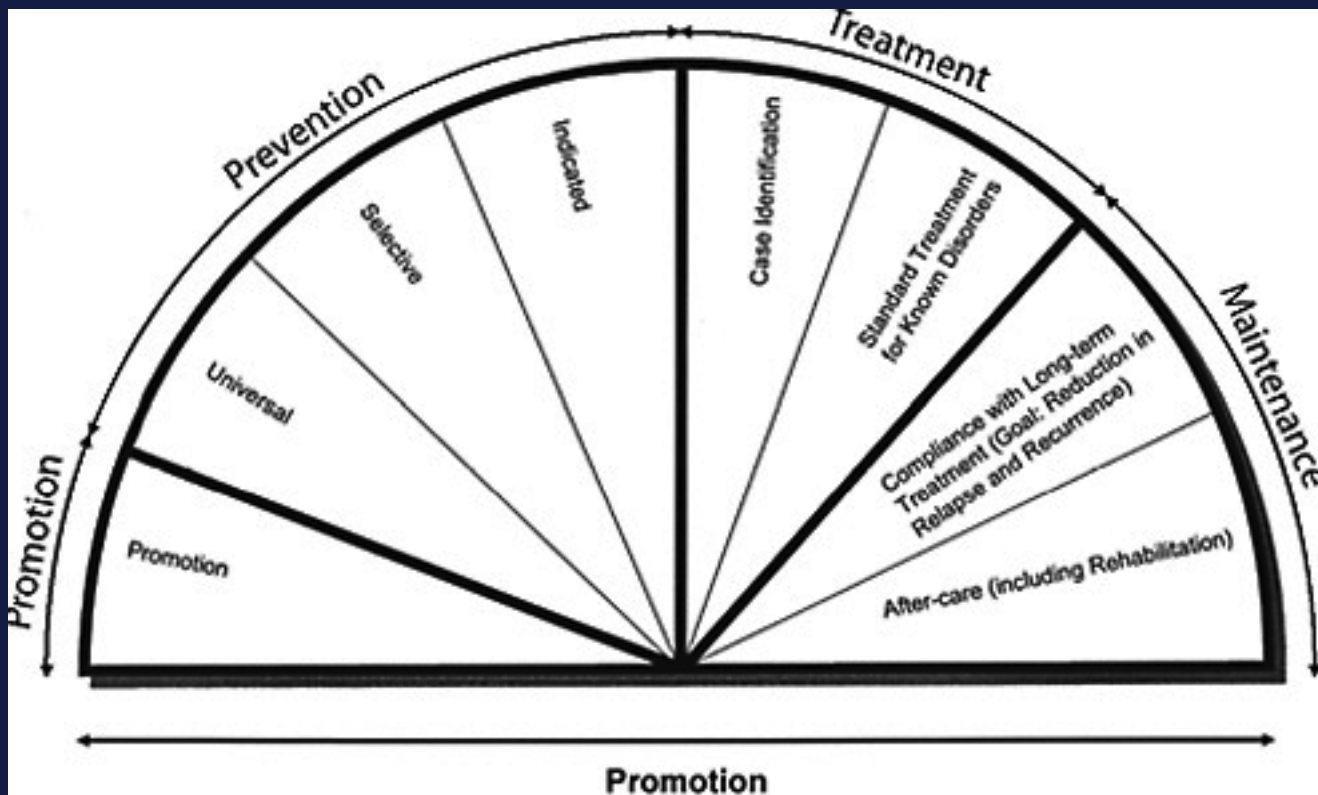
NTY Funding and Administration

- A federal Drug Free Communities DFC grant currently funds NTY staff positions (currently a 1.0 FTE Executive Director and a 0.13 FTE Research Coordinator) and operational budget.
- DFC funding ends in September 2016. An application for an additional five years of funding was submitted in March 2016, but notice of awards will not go out until August or September.
- NTY is a program of the town of Natick, with Natick Public Schools serving as its fiscal agent.

NTY Membership



Prevention Best Practices: The Behavioral Health Continuum of Care



Regional Collaborations Focused on SUD Prevention

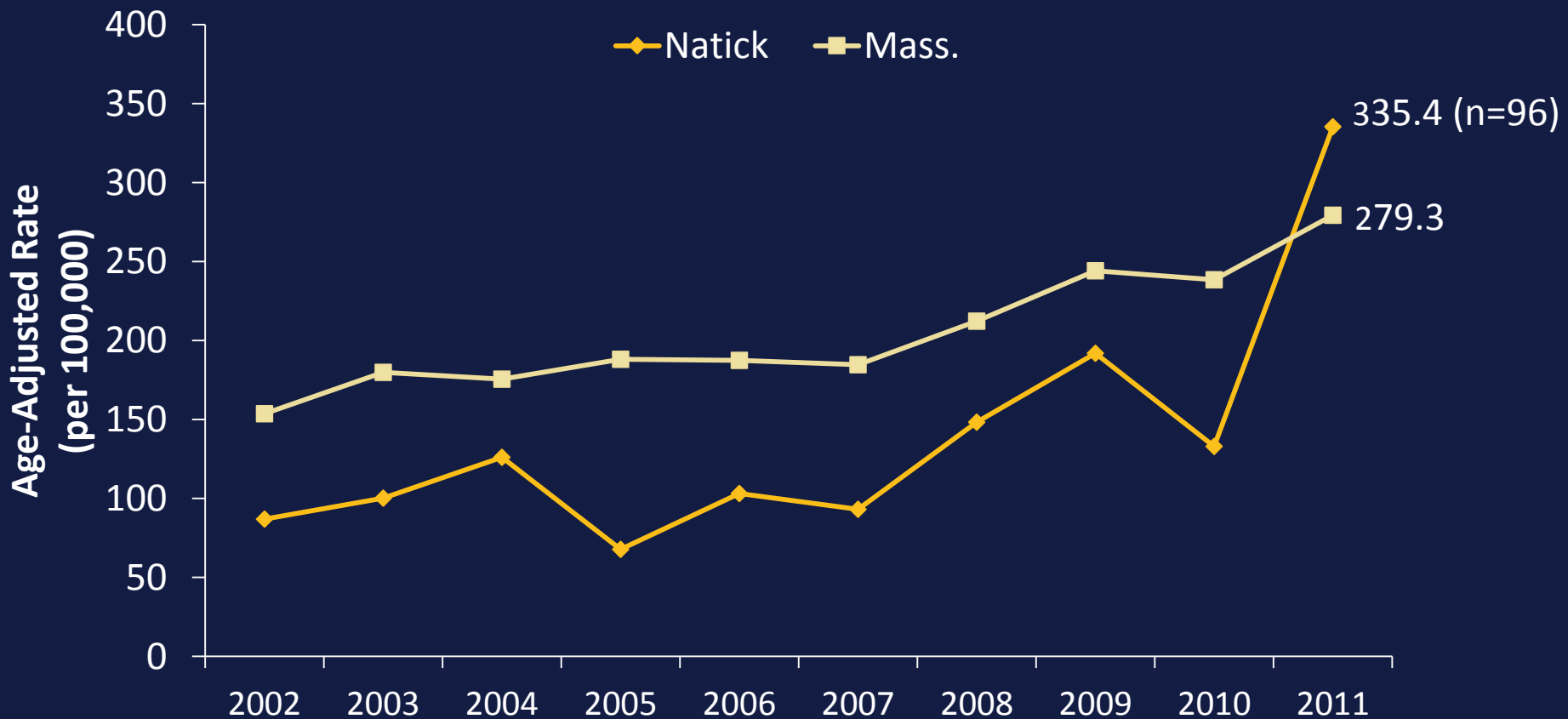
- MetroWest MOAPC (MA Opioid Abuse Prevention Collaborative) Grant: Framingham is lead (i.e., holds grant), includes Natick and Ashland
- MetroWest Substance Abuse Prevention Collaborative (SAPC) Grant: Hudson is lead, includes Natick, Ashland, Framingham, Northborough and Southborough

Regional Collaborations Focused on SUD Prevention (Cont.)

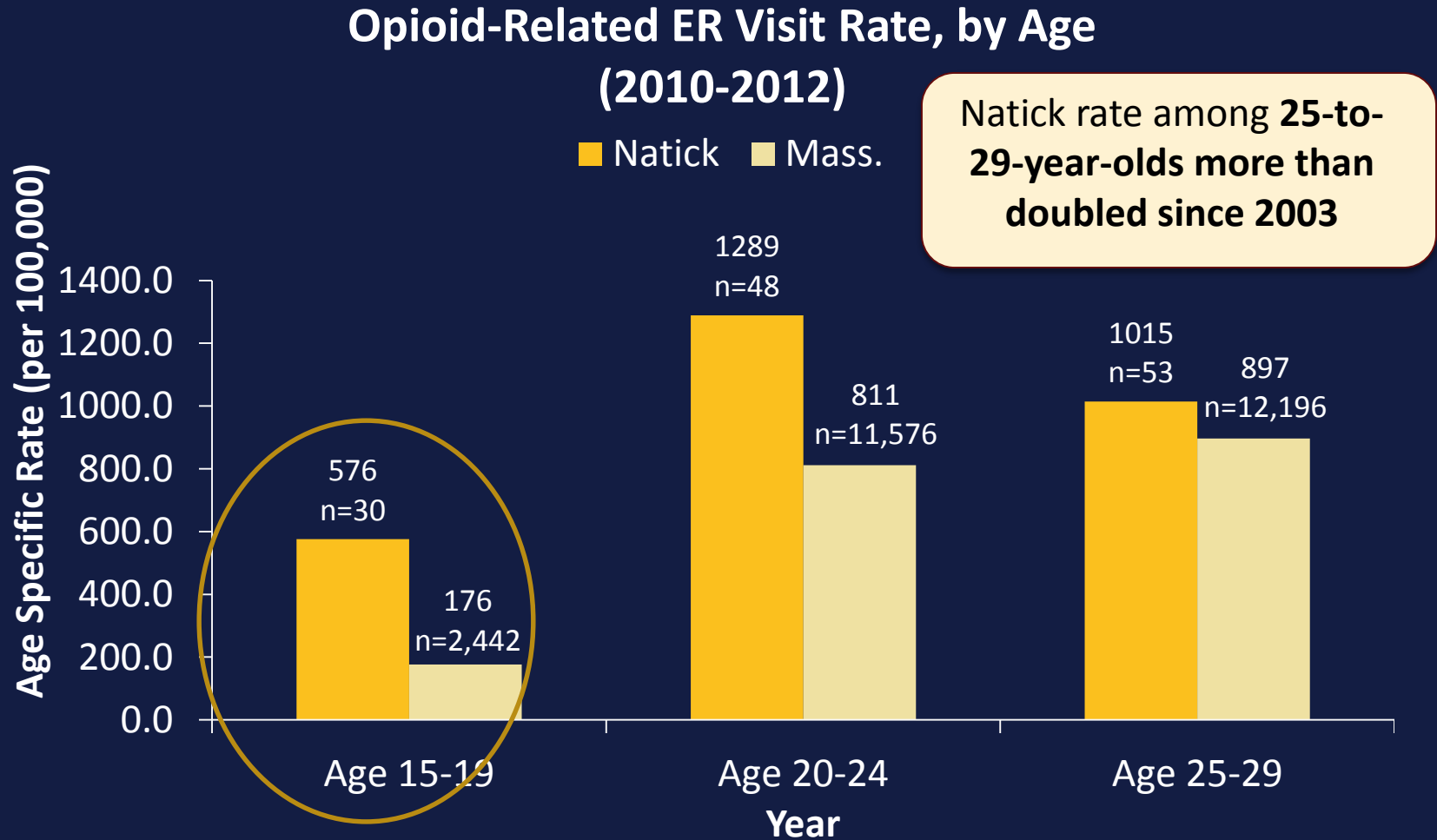
- **MetroWest Substance Abuse Prevention Alliance:** Alliance of 10+ community coalitions in MetroWest
- **Central/South Middlesex DA's Opioid Task Force:** Comprised of stakeholders from around MetroWest, looking at countywide issues and strategies

Natick Opioid-Related ER Visits Increasing, 20% Higher than MA

Opioid-Related ER Visit Rate (2002-2011)



Natick Opioid-Related ER Visits Twice State Rate for Teens, Increasing for Young Adults



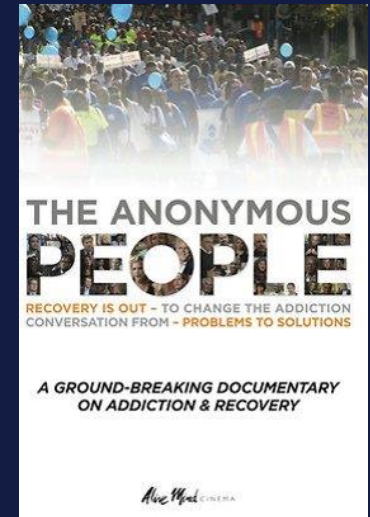
Overview of Opioid Prevention Efforts

- Education & Community Awareness
- Policy & Enforcement
- Access to Resources, Programs & Services
- Community Connection & Collaboration



Education & Community Awareness

- Special presentations to youth and adults:
 - Chris Herren
 - Dr. Ruth Potee
 - Screening of *Anonymous People*
 - Annual NTY Forum
 - Hidden in Plain Sight
- Opioid overdose prevention trainings (March 2014 & June 2016)



Education & Community Awareness (Cont.)

- Participated in 2016 NPS health curriculum audit
- Ongoing dissemination of educational materials and information at community and school events
 - Natick Days
 - Red Ribbon Week
 - Earth Day Festival
 - National Drug Facts Week
 - National Prevention Week
 - NHS Wellness Fair



Education & Community Awareness (Cont.)

- Currently planning targeted trainings for:
 - NHS athletes and their parents
 - NPD officers and town staff who may be contacted by members of the public seeking help



Policy & Enforcement

- NFD ambulance carries intravenous Naloxone (a.k.a. Narcan)
- As of August 2015, intranasal Naloxone available in all NPD vehicles
- Semiannual Rx medication takeback days and establishment of permanent medication disposal dropbox at the NPD in partnership with the Natick Health Department
- All NPS nurses' offices equipped with Naloxone as of 2015-2016 school year
- NTY representatives have spoken with Sen. Warren, Rep. Clark's staff, and are participating in the Middlesex DA's Central/South Opioid Task Force

Access to Resources, Supports Services

- First responder resource pamphlet for families
- SBIRT screenings in 7th & 9th grades ('Screening, Brief Intervention & Referral for Treatment')
- Substance awareness/diversion program support for youth 14-18 years old
- INTERFACE referral line—now available community wide
 - Only available Mon.-Fri., 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
 - Only able to make referrals for outpatient services

Community Connection & Collaboration

- Annual Interfaith community vigil for those who have lost a loved one to addiction
- Engagement of recovery and family communities—SOAR Natick, MOAR
- Respond to school and community requests for assistance in seeking treatment/recovery resources
- Participation of NTY Director on various NPS committees, as well as regional collaboratives and task forces



Challenges & Opportunities for NTY

- Funding and overall sustainability
- Assess and clarify NTY's role within the town's organizational structure
- Increase community awareness of NTY and a better understanding of the 'coalition' model
- Community members are in need of assistance in treatment navigation and accessibility