

## **SUN PROJECT GOAL**

The Substance Use Network (SUN) aims to develop a compassionate cross-sector collaborative system of compassionate care that uses best practices to support the health, safety, well-being and recovery of pregnant patients with a substance use disorder, their infants, and families.



## **SUN PROJECT PARTICIPANTS**

Eligible participants will receive coordination of compassionate, non-stigmatizing, state-of-the-art prenatal care, behavioral health, and social support services to aid the mother in achieving optimal health outcomes and overall wellbeing. Through the SUN Project, various agencies across the county coordinate services in order to decrease duplication and prioritize the mother's goals and needs while preventing the participant from becoming overwhelmed. Participation is voluntary and patients sign a 'release of information' and 'consent for treatment' form prior to enrollment. The SUN Project facilitates the collaboration between partners for care coordination at no cost to the patient. Separately, patients must consent to care, services, and financial responsibility at individual agencies regardless of participation in the SUN Project.

## **SUBSTANCE USE AND PREGNANCY**

Use of alcohol, illicit drugs, and other psychoactive substances during pregnancy can lead to multiple health and social concerns for both mother and child. Pregnancy presents a critical opportunity and motivator for women to change their patterns of alcohol and other substance use. Professionals providing care for women with substance use disorders during pregnancy need to understand and have resources to address the complex social, mental, and physical challenges of substance use disorders in order to provide appropriate care and support throughout pregnancy and the postpartum period.

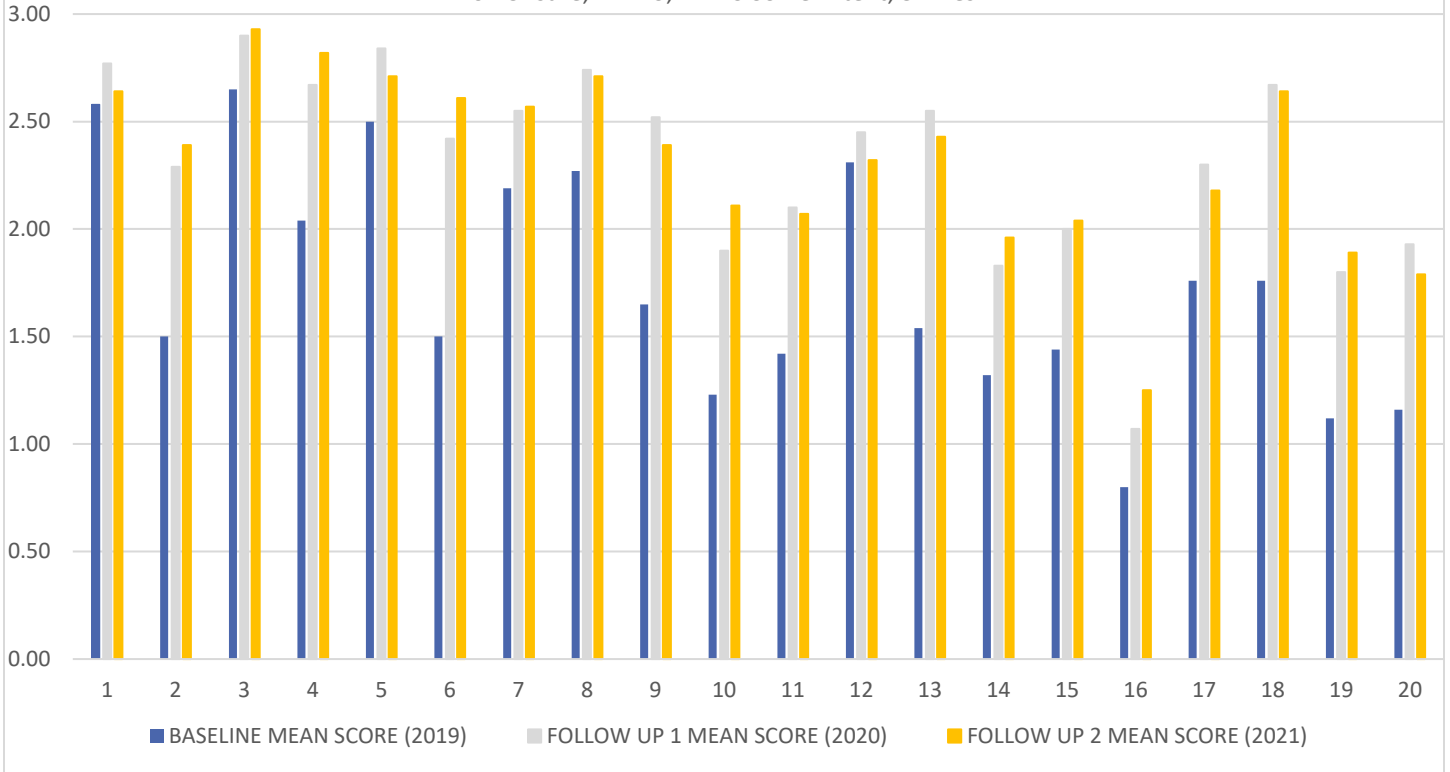
## **SUN PROJECT HISTORY**

The SUN Project uses the SAMHSA *Guide on How to Develop a Collaborative Approach to the Treatment of Pregnant Women with Opioid Use Disorders* to implement best practices for its work. With initial funding from private foundations, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and Smart Start, the project has established the necessary infrastructure to begin system level changes towards more collaborative care for this vulnerable population. Efforts to combat the opioid epidemic, however, require long-term efforts and support. Below is data demonstrating an increase in 100% of the best practices outlined by SAMHSA after a 1-year follow-up assessment of the SUN Project.

## Cross-System Level of Collaboration Assessment

### Mean Scores for Baseline, Follow-up 1, & Follow-up 2

Extent to Which SAMHSA Best Practice in Place:  
0= Unsure; 1 = No; 2 = To Some Extent; 3 = Yes



Pregnant patients using substances please contact:

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