More people now enter detox for heroin than for alcohol. In 2014, overdose deaths from heroin in King County reached 156, the most in 20 years. Among the homeless, overdoses are the leading cause of death.”

“The 32-member task force includes health and treatment providers, law enforcement, social-service agencies, cities and the University of Washington.
Task Force Recommendations: Primary Prevention

- **Raise awareness** and knowledge of the possible adverse effects of opioid use, including overdose and opioid use disorder.
- Promote **safe storage and disposal of medications**
- Leverage and augment existing **screening practices** in schools and health care settings to **prevent and identify opioid use disorder**.

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**County Launches Initiatives To Help Address Trauma, Expand Mental Health Support In Schools**

Last week, King County Executive Dow Constantine launched two new Best Starts for Kids initiatives that will help schools and their partners better address the impacts of trauma, and promote resilience so that children and youth can bounce back after experiencing adversity.

According to officials, the combined $1.46 million in funding will provide 98 partners in 14 school districts with tools and training to support children and young people through experiences of childhood trauma and adversity, and expand mental-health support in 56 King County middle schools.
King County to roll out new treatment program for heroin addiction

By RUBY DE LUNA  •  SEP 12, 2016

Task Force Recommendations: Treatment Expansion & Enhancement

• Create access to buprenorphine for all people in need of services in low-barrier modalities close to where individuals live
• Develop treatment on demand for all SUD treatment services
• Alleviate regulatory barriers placed upon opioid treatment programs, including the number of clients served and siting of clinics
Task Force Recommendations: User Health & Overdose Prevention

• Expand distribution of naloxone in King County

• Establish, on a pilot basis, at least 2 Community Health Engagement Locations where supervised consumption occurs for adults with SUD in Seattle and King County.
  – The pilot program should have a provisional time limit of 3 years.
  – Continuation beyond that time should be based on evidence of positive outcomes.

King County Opioid Deaths, 1997-2016

- Total opioid
- Heroin
- Rx opioid
“The most detailed study ever shows people in wealthier areas of King County live 14 to 18 years longer than those in poorer areas...”
Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are a significant risk factor for substance use disorders... (SAMHSA)

- $400 million, 6 years
- 85% invested in promotion, prevention and early intervention programs for children and pregnant women

Best Starts for Kids
Putting every child and youth in King County on a path toward lifelong success

Promoting healthier, more resilient children, youth, families, and communities