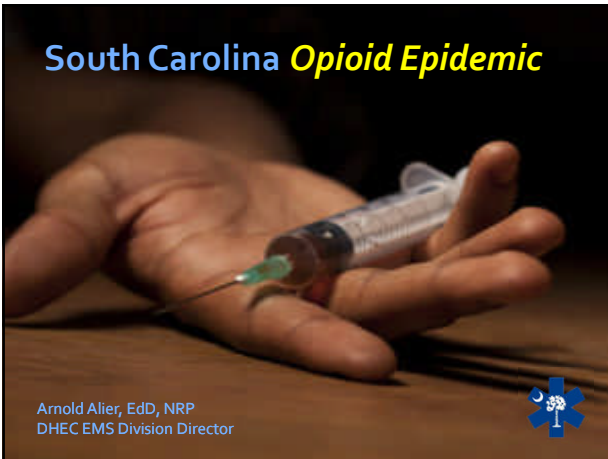




South Carolina Opioid Epidemic



Arnold Alier, EdD, NRP
DHEC EMS Division Director




Prescription & Opioid Abuse



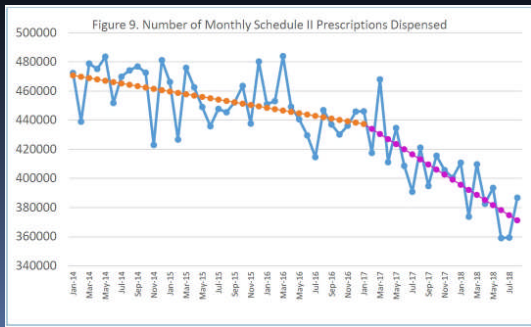
- Drug overdose is currently the **leading** cause of accidental death in the U.S., with **70,237** lethal drug overdoses in **2017** or an average of one life every **7½** minutes.
- **67.8%** of all drug overdose deaths are opioid related
- In **2017** there were **4.3** million opioid Rx dispensed in South Carolina (population = 5.021 million).
- In **2017** there were **749** opioid deaths in South Carolina.

Prescription & Opioid Abuse

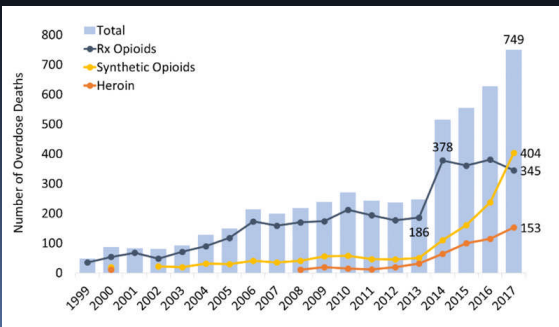


- While still high Rx opioids in South Carolina, the new Rx laws have caused numbers to decline
- Opioid overdoses and fatalities are still on the rise
- South Carolina EMS (911) transports approximately 80% of all opioid overdoses admitted to hospital
- Only about half of those transported for suspected opioid overdoses get Narcan
- Of the 6,730 opioid victims given Narcan only **3.5%** statewide were "repeater overdoses"

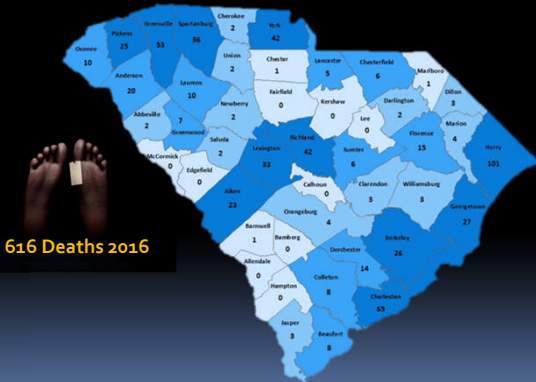
SC Opioid Rx Rates

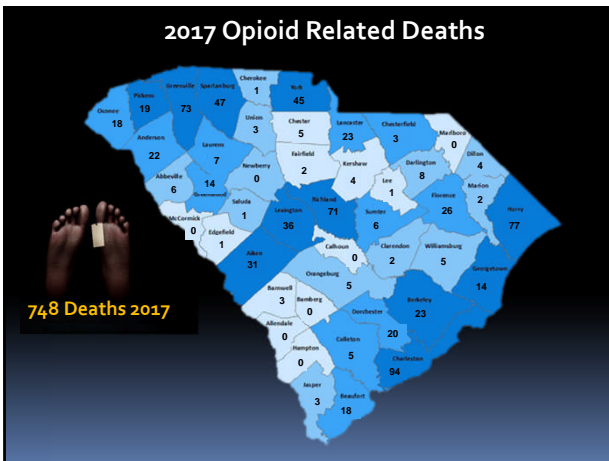


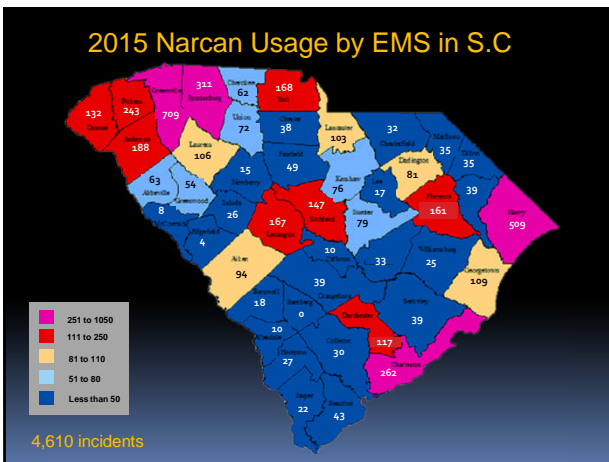
Rx & Elicit Opioid Fatalities

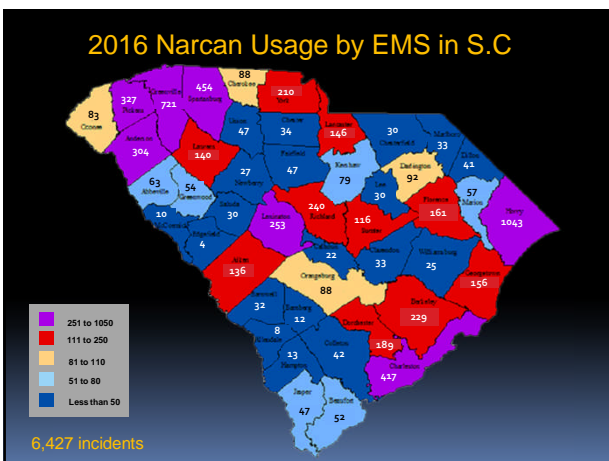


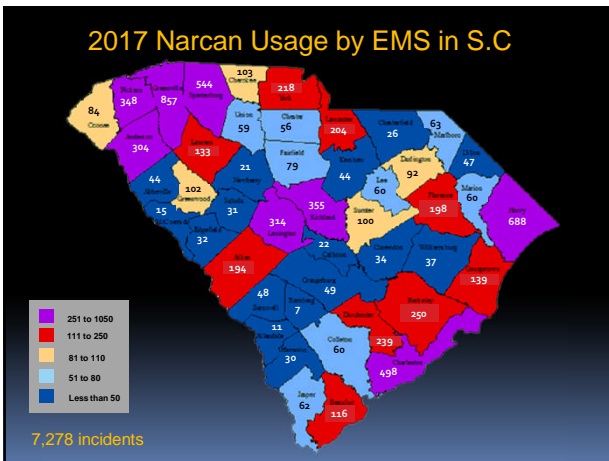
2016 Opioid Related Deaths

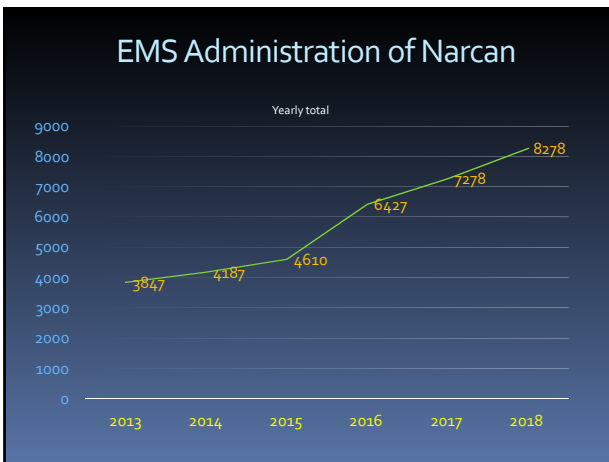












South Carolina Project:

• LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER •

NARCAN **LEON**

DHEC Bureau of EMS DAODAS 743



