

# Onondaga County Sheriff's Office News

## Eugene J. Conway

Sheriff

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## Sheriff's Office Receives One of the Largest Grants to Combat Substance Abuse

**Onondaga County, New York-** The Onondaga County Sheriff's Office has been awarded a \$1.3 million federal grant to help support justice-involved individuals with substance use disorder.

Over 6,000 individuals are taken into custody with the Onondaga County Sheriff's Office annually, with an average incarceration period of 28 days. The current average daily population is approximately 530 incarcerated individuals. An estimated 40% of individuals taken into custody have indicators of a substance use disorder, of which the office estimates that 30% are clinically appropriate for medication-assisted treatment (MAT). With the rise in opioid abuse and related deaths, the Sheriff's Office began building a MAT program in 2016. In an effort to enhance the program, the Sheriff's Office began exploring available funding opportunities to assist with building a strong coordination between in-custody and community-based treatment centers, which would include a peer recovery support service for individuals leaving jail and transitioning back into the community.

After applying for the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program (COSSAP) grant, the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) awarded the Sheriff's Office with 1.3 million dollars. The funding will also be utilized to create partnerships with researchers to assist with ongoing problem analysis, identification of evidence-based responses, strategic planning of interventions, implementation assessment and an impact evaluation.

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