In 2018, the Heroin and Prescription Task Force, working with partners across our region, took action to prevent opioid misuse, improve access to treatment and save lives.

**THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDED PROMOTION OF SAFE STORAGE AND SAFE DISPOSAL OF MEDICATIONS TO PREVENT OPIOID MISUSE.**

- King County Secure Medicine Return has **100+** SECURE MEDICINE RETURN BOXES throughout King County.
  - www.medicinereturn.org

- In 2017: **39,160 POUNDS OF MEDICINE** were collected via King County Secure Medicine Return (MED-Project) drop-box sites and mail-back envelopes.

- Equivalent to the weight of **10 cars**

- In 2018: Developed the campaign “Don’t Hang on to Meds”

  - Increased awareness of the Medicine Return program and drop-box locations.
  - Promoted reasons why it is important to securely store and dispose of medications.
  - Provided tools for prescribers, pharmacists, and substance abuse prevention partners.

**THE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDED LOW-BARRIER ACCESS TO BUPRENORPHINE FOR ALL PEOPLE IN NEED OF SERVICES, IN LOW-BARRIER MODALITIES CLOSE TO WHERE INDIVIDUALS LIVE.**

- In 2018, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) access points grew from 45 to 104 sites.

- **20,311 NALOXONE KITS DISTRIBUTED**

- **5,086 OVERDOSES REVERSED** in 2018.

**USER HEALTH**

Focuses on keeping people alive and improving their health.

- **2017**
  - MAT SITES: 45
  - MAT SITES: 104

- **2018**
  - MAT SITES: 104

- MAT REDUCES OVERDOSE DEATHS BY APPROXIMATELY **50%**

**INCREASING THE NUMBER OF MAT SITES BY **231%**

- **FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT:** www.kingcounty.gov/opiate