

# OVERDOSE CRISIS

The community sector is responsive in meeting urgent and emergent mental health and substance use needs

Community-based organizations (CBO's) providing mental health and substance use services are **focused on developing social connections** and wraparound services in support of the social determinants of health. The services they provide are relational, non-judgemental, and low barrier.

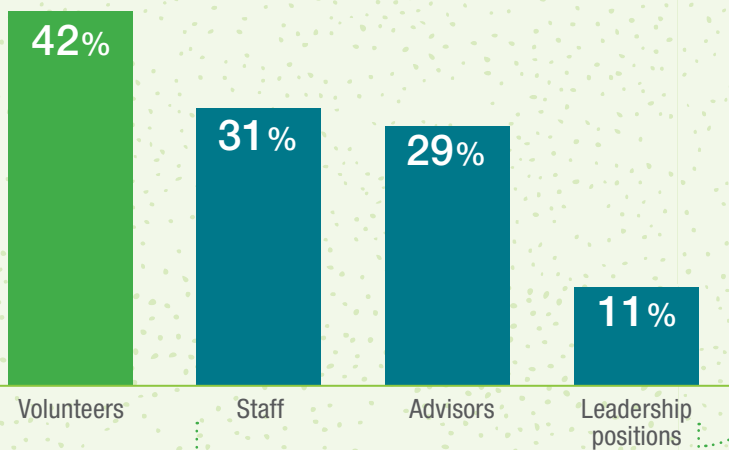


Community organizations are **nimble and innovative**, and work to provide a variety of access points to **reach people where they're at**. CBO's have shown innovation and nimbleness in response to the ongoing drug poisoning crisis.

**98%** of respondents (2018) said their organization has provided **new** services or supports in **response to the overdose crisis**, including:



Peers\* are largely being engaged as **volunteers** (2018)



**54%** of organizations (2018) are **engaging people with lived and living experience** in response to the overdose crisis, yet a majority are engaging peers as volunteers (42%), meaning in 2018 there were relatively few paid positions for peers.

\*Peers are people with lived experience of substance use who are often engaged as experts, and use their lived experience to inform effective health service programming and delivery. Reference: <http://www.bccdc.ca/our-services/programs/peer-engagement>