Characteristics

Consider the characteristics below and how they influence your perspective of the overdose epidemic:

- Gender
- Sexual identity
- Race/ethnicity
- Marital status
- Age/generation
- Socio Economic Status (SES)
- Education level
- Education specialty/Subject Matter Expertise (SME)
- Housing status and history
- Employment status and history
- Personal health history; experience with chronic pain; experience with opioid pain relievers
- Personal and family history of use of legal and illicit substances
- Personal and family history of incarceration
- Personal and family history of mental health or illness
- Personal and family history of trauma
- Personal life directly impacted by overdose
- Direct work with target population(s)
- Demographically represent target population(s)
- Grew up or live in affected geographic area(s)
- Perspective of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) as biologically based vulnerability vs a moral failing
- Punishment vs harm reduction perspectives

Discussion questions:

1. This is a long list of characteristics. Which ones surprised or were new to you?
2. Which ones do you think are the most important for doing this work well?
3. Which ones seem less important?
4. What gaps do we see on our team based on these prompts? Are we missing any perspectives?