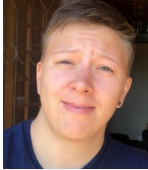


TA Newsletter



OMNI is pleased to introduce you to Lynnette Schweimler, the newest member of our OMNI TA Team! Lynnette holds an MA in International Human Rights from the University of Denver and a BA in International Affairs from the University of Colorado. Lynnette (or 'T') joins us fresh from Madagascar and the Peace Corps after serving there for the past 3+ years. T and the rest of our TA team will be in touch with many CSB's as we work on data entry planning for the new fiscal year. Welcome aboard, T!

Permanent Drop Box Data Entry

Many CSBs across Virginia have engaged in (or are currently engaged in) efforts to install permanent drug drop boxes in their communities. The appeal with permanent drug drop boxes is simple - they provide communities with an easily accessible place for safe disposal of medications in order to reduce the supply of opioids and other medications. These permanent dropboxes essentially provide a Drug Take Back event every day, rather than just during isolated events throughout the year.

DBHDS would like to have a better understanding of how many permanent drop boxes have been installed with the help of CSB staff and grant funding such as SOR, as well as the pounds of medications these local drop boxes are collecting. To serve that purpose, **all communities that have leveraged grant funding (SOR, BG, OPT-R, PFS) to install permanent drug drop boxes will be required to record these efforts as a strategy in PBPS.** This applies to communities that already have drop boxes established under OPT-R or a prior year of BG/PFS funding, or those who are in the process of setting up drop boxes in the localities they serve under SOR. OMNI TAs will ask about permanent drug drop boxes while finalizing data entry plans to ensure we are capturing this information accurately in PBPS.

For data entry in PBPS, you will record the pounds of medication collected in each drop box. There is a new field in PBPS where you can enter this number. If the drop box is not currently monitored by your CSB, this may require reaching out to the community partner who is responsible for emptying the drop box regularly to get the number of pounds collected so you can enter that in PBPS.

The end result of this data collection in PBPS is very exciting: at the end of the SOR grant cycle, DBHDS will be able to report on how many pounds of prescription medications were removed from circulation through a coordinated effort across CSBs. Please contact [OMNI Support](#) if you have questions, or feel free to bring up questions during data entry plan conversations.

Please note that any permanent drug dropboxes that were installed without leveraging grant funding from BG, PFS, OPT-R, or SOR do NOT need to be recorded in PBPS. That means that local drug dropboxes installed through other funding sources or organizations (such as CVS, Walgreens, or other unrelated organizations) do NOT need to be recorded in PBPS. If you have any questions or aren't sure if a dropbox in your community should be recorded, please reach out to OMNIsupport@omni.org.





As we begin the Block Grant/SOR data entry planning for the new 2019-20 fiscal year, it is important to set up all your cohorts and campaigns in the Plan Channel correctly. More importantly, you want to **ensure an OMNI TA approved the Plan Channel before you begin entering activities in the Implement Channel**. Below are a few tips to ensure your Plan Channel is in good shape for entering activities:

- Do not add cohorts to the Plan Channel until they are up and running, and you are able to add the actual number of participants and their demographics. This is to avoid entering placeholder data in the Plan Channel that would need to be changed later.
- Do not enter any demographics for Campaigns in the Plan Channel.
- The number of sessions for Counter Tools or other Merchant Education strategies represents the number of retailers you plan to visit in the fiscal year.
- The number of sessions for Permanent Drug Boxes represents the number of times you plan to empty and/or measure the pounds of medications collected.
- Select the Media Type or Media Format in order to fill in the IOM Target for media campaigns.
- Avoid making changes once strategies in the Plan Channel are approved. This will prevent extra work in making revisions later as OMNI reviews implementation activities.

All strategies entered in the Plan Channel should follow your CSB data entry plan. If you need to add a strategy to your Plan Channel, please contact [OMNI Support](#) to review and approve these changes.

Important Reminders and Deadlines!

The 2018-19 Block Grant fiscal year ended on June 30th. This is a busy time for all, but we ask you to please keep the following dates, deadlines, and processes in mind:

- Be on the watch for important TA emails with lots of information about 2019-20 Data Entry Planning! Please read through the emails and note the steps and timelines of the process.
- The new [Data Entry Guidelines for Block Grant and SOR](#) (for 2019-20) has many helpful links to a number of other supporting TA documents we have prepared through this past year. Prior newsletter links are included. Please check out these resources!
- Review your rejected activities frequently in PBPS, and correct any rejected Block Grant activities as soon as possible.
- **As of Thursday, August 1st: All 2018-19 cohorts and campaigns will be locked;** no further revisions or additions will be allowed in the system!
- **August 15th** is the deadline for entering all new FY 2019-20 cohorts and campaigns into the Plan Channel. *NOTE! Please wait to enter until OMNI has approved your Data Entry Plan!*



Please reach out to [OMNI Support](#) if you have any questions regarding how to enter data for your CSB strategies, or how to make corrections for any rejected activities, to avoid additional corrections to a rejected activity.

Quick Links

- [OMNI Support email](#)
- [Virginia Prevention Works Portal](#)
- [Virginia Social Indicator Dashboard](#)
- [CPG's PBPS](#)
- [BG & SOR 2019-2020 Master Data Entry Plan](#)
- [Data Entry Guidelines for 2019-2020](#)
- [Downloadable Demographics Calculator](#)

Important Dates

- [July 15th](#): All BG data entered in PBPS
- [July 16th-July 31st](#): Correct rejected BG activities
- [August 1st](#): 2018-19 BG strategies locked in PBPS
- [August 15th](#): 2019-20 cohorts & campaigns registered in PBPS