The opioid epidemic is a national crisis that affects everyone in one way or another. Overdoses are becoming more and more prevalent; the number of opioid-related overdoses in Monroe County are 20 times higher than they were five years ago. In Monroe County in 2016 there were:

- 169 opioid-related deaths (Medical Examiner)
- 537 opioid-related overdoses (NYS DOH)

Local Context
This is a 3-year project located in Northeast Rochester, a diverse community with many resources that has also been a hotspot for heroin sales for decades.

Objectives
1. What are the problems associated with heroin sales and use in this neighborhood?
2. How do we design a study at the neighborhood level to understand and intervene in this problem?
   a. What outcomes do we want to impact?
   b. What data is available and accessible to us? What do the data tell us?
   c. Who are the local stakeholders?
   d. How do we meaningfully engage residents?
3. How do we collaborate with local stakeholders?
4. What interventions should be implemented?

Research Components

I. Historical Description of the Problem
   a. Why is the open-air heroin market in this neighborhood?
   b. Why has this area always been known as a spot to get drugs?

II. Consequences
   a. What are the consequences and problems associated with the open-air drug market?

III. Interaction and Involvement
   a. What are residents’ interactions with drug users? Drug dealers? Overdoses?
   b. How has resident, law enforcement, and public health involvement changed over time?

IV. Responses and Solutions
   a. What has been done so far?
   b. What recommendations do stakeholders have for solutions?
   c. What best practices are found in drug market and community problem-solving research?