

**DEMAND-SIDE FACTORS INFLUENCING ENDEMIC DRUG USE IN  
AMERICA**

**September 25, 2018  
2:00 PM-EST**

The American drug epidemic has become one of the most devastating public health crises of the past century. Recent investigations into the factors driving the crisis have typically fallen into either supply-side explanations (e.g. increased supply of prescription opioids) or demand-side factors (e.g. employment, mental health, relationships). This webinar focuses on the current research investigating demand-side factors influencing overdose deaths in the U.S. and aims to synthesize the findings into a unified narrative.



**Presented by: [Michael Betz](#), The Ohio State University**

Dr. Michael Betz is an assistant professor in the Department of Human Sciences and an FCS state specialist at The Ohio State University. Professor Betz’s research focus is on how local economic conditions impact a wide range of individual, family, and community wellbeing indicators and is particularly interested in the differences between rural and urban areas. He is currently investigating questions examining the connection between local economic factors and the opioid crisis. He has published in journals such as Energy Economics, The American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Rural Studies, Papers in Regional Science, and

International Regional Science Review. He has received funding for his research from The Ohio State University Institute for Population Research, the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development, and The Appalachian Research Initiative for Environmental Science.

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**Registration:** There is no registration and no fee for attending this webinar.

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