



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

JULY 2025

Harm Reduction Newsletter

Featured Resources

Over-the-Counter Naloxone Messaging Guide

The National Council for Mental Wellbeing created the "Over-the-Counter Naloxone Messaging Guide" to help you educate the public on the importance of carrying naloxone. The guide covers key topics such as drafting effective messages, partnering with community resources and evaluating your communication efforts. [Click here to download a quick guide or a full message guide!](#)

Hope & Help: County-led Opioid Abatement Campaigns

This episode of the New York State Association of Counties' (NYSAC) podcast, County Conversations, focuses on how counties can fight the opioid epidemic and reduce stigma around substance use disorders. NYSAC Multimedia Specialist Kate Pierce-Nimz is joined by Cheryl Moore, Independent Consultant at Opioid Consulting, and Amanda Lucchino, Director of Business Development at . They discuss how counties can effectively engage residents in opioid abatement efforts through personalized, data-driven public awareness campaigns. [Click here to listen!](#)

Emerging Drug Trends: Nitazenes, Tianeptine, and Synthetic Benzodiazepines

Substance use patterns are always changing. Drug use waxes and wanes over time, partly due to availability, price, attitudes, access, and the non-medical determinants of health. This brief focuses on nitazenes, tianeptine, and synthetic benzodiazepines. They are not the only emerging substances in the United States, and they may never reach national or regional prominence, but they have shown clear and dramatic increases over the past several years. Identifying emerging trends and addressing use before it becomes widespread can help reduce the scope and severity of drug epidemics. [Click here to read the issue brief!](#)

Harm Reduction Vending Machines: A Tool for Distributing Harm Reduction Equipment

Check out this new resource on harm reduction vending machines, created by the National Harm Reduction Coalition (NHRC) in collaboration with RTI International and the North American Syringe Exchange Network. The fact sheets, in Spanish and English, highlight the experiences of 12 Syringe Services Programs (SSPs) that have implemented vending machines. The fact sheets include information about funding sources, challenges and opportunities, advantages, and more. [Click here to view the fact sheets!](#)

Upcoming NYSACHO Events

NEW NYSACHO WEBINAR!

Reframing Overdose Response Through a Lens of Structural Compassion | July 23 at 10:00 AM

Join this NYSACHO webinar where Erin Russell, MPH, Health Management Associates, will share a reframing of overdose response grounded in structural compassion. Drawing from her article "A Call for Compassion in Overdose Response", published in the *International Journal of Drug Policy*, she explores the overdose continuum of care through journey mapping, highlighting opportunities to reduce harm for everyone involved in overdose events. Erin challenges the overreliance on biomedical and technological interventions, emphasizing that the most necessary response is emotional. Compassion, she argues, is not a policy afterthought- it must be foundational, structural, and aligned with harm reduction principles. [Click here to register!](#)

NEW NYSACHO WEBINAR!

Leveraging Technology for Post-Overdose Response Initiatives: Carteret County's Experience with Goldie Health | July 29 at 12:00 PM

Join this NYSACHO webinar to hear from Carteret County, NC, who, like every other county in the nation, faced a serious overdose problem. As a vacation-destination community, Carteret also had visitors overdosing during their stay at their beaches. To address the issue, they launched a post-overdose response team. In less than two years, the overdose death rate dropped by 47% and EMS calls for overdose dropped by 87%. In this webinar, learn about the response team Carteret has deployed and the results achieved. You will also learn about their technology platform, Goldie, and see the analytics used to track and improve their results. [Click here to register!](#)



**MEETING
YOUR COMMUNITY
WHERE IT'S AT:
ADDRESSING
EVOLVING NEEDS**



STATEWIDE HARM REDUCTION SYMPOSIUM

September 11-12, 2025 | Albany Marriott



**NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION
OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS**
Leading the Way to Healthier Communities



**Department
of Health**



**AIDS
Institute**

Registration is currently open for NYSACHO's 2025 Statewide Harm Reduction Symposium! Local health departments (LHDs) are encouraged to identify two representatives to attend the symposium- one LHD staff, and one community partner you work with closely on overdose prevention and response activities. NYSACHO will provide lodging for these two representatives from each county.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#) Registration will close on August 15. Please carefully review all details on the landing page, and contact Danielle Pellino (dpellino@nysacho.org) with any questions.

Upcoming Webinars

Implementing Communications Campaign: Part 2 of the Building Effective Public Health Communications Campaigns Webinar Series | July 10 at 1:00 PM

Join the Addiction Policy Forum for a webinar where presenters will focus on implementing communication campaigns with strategies for tailoring materials for distinct communities and audiences. They will showcase a suite of print and digital materials used by HCS that feature non-stigmatizing

imagery and language, along with strategies for tailoring materials to local “faces and places” for cultural relevance and authenticity. Attendees will gain insights into grassroots dissemination strategies across various community settings and best practices for engaging audiences, building trust, and fostering community ownership of campaign messages. [Click here to register!](#)

[Click here to view information about the webinar series, including the recording of Part 1!](#)

Integrated Care in the Perinatal Period: A Peer-driven Recovery Support Model | July 10 at 3:00 PM

Pregnant and postpartum women with substance use disorders (SUDs) often face stigma, fragmented care, and limited access to coordinated support. Moms Do Care, an initiative of the Massachusetts Bureau of Substance Addiction Services, offers a trauma-informed, integrated care model that connects women to medical, behavioral health and social services. Central to the program are peer support specialists — women with lived experience who build trust and help participants navigate complex systems of care.

Join the Center of Excellence For Integrated Health Solutions to learn how the Moms Do Care model improves maternal engagement, birth outcomes and family stability while addressing persistent workforce challenges that impact the sustainability of integrated care efforts. [Click here to register!](#)

Shifting the Narrative: Schools on the Frontline: Early Identification, Intervention, and Support | July 14 at 3:00 PM

Join the National Council for Mental Wellbeing for a webinar that will discuss the critical role schools play in prevention, early detection, and wraparound support for students impacted by familial or personal substance use, and explore partnerships that break down referral barriers. [Click here to register!](#)

The State of the Recovery Housing Literature | July 15, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Although recovery housing is one of the most well-researched types of recovery support services, there are still key gaps in the recovery housing literature. This webinar presents findings from a scoping review stimulated by questions posed by members of Community Boards involved with the Justice-Involved and Emerging Adult Populations (JEAP) Initiative. The webinar will highlight what is known about recovery housing and identify areas in which additional research is needed. [Click here to register!](#)

Articles and Reports

*****Specific to NY***

- (6/26) [Drug Checking is Effective: More States Should Stop Criminalizing It](#)
- (6/23) [U.S. Funding Cuts and Their Impact Worldwide: Insights from the Harm Reduction International Conference](#)
- (6/18) [New Report: U.S. drug overdose deaths rise again after hopeful decline](#)
- (6/14) [Social safety net programs: the relationship with drug treatment among women](#)
- (6/14) [Transforming Opioid Overdose Prevention in the United States: Leveraging FDA’s Narcan Approval to Foster a Culture of Health](#)
- (6/13) [Cannabis Legalization and Opioid Use Disorder in Veterans Health Administration Patients](#)
- (6/11) [Reducing Personal Shame and Stigma Helps With Recovery](#)
- (6/10) [Navigating Methadone Modernization, the Shifting Regulatory Space of SUD Treatment](#)
- (6/5) [State opioid settlement cash to help fund new methadone clinic at Huther Doyle in Rochester](#)******
- (6/5) [Denver mental health program contributes to significant decrease in overdoses, jail bookings](#)
- (6/4) [Opioid Settlements Fund Tompkins County Supportive Housing Program](#)******
- (6/1) [New study maps psychological pathway from childhood abuse to adolescent addiction](#)
- (6/1) [Prescription Stimulant Use, Misuse, and Use Disorder Among US Adults Aged 18 to 64 Years](#)
- (5/20) [Majority of Youth Overdose Deaths from 2018 to 2022 Were Driven by Fentanyl Alone](#)

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