



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

JUNE, 2025

Harm Reduction Newsletter

Featured Resources

Empathy Lens Photography Collection

The Empathy Lens collection, developed by the University of Washington Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute, features free photographs related to drug and alcohol use, prevention, treatment, recovery, and harm reduction. The goal of this project is to reduce stigma against people who use drugs and the services available to support them by encouraging the use of realistic, humanizing imagery in education, media, and other forms of information dissemination. [Click here to learn more and view the collection!](#)

How to Develop a Comprehensive Approach to Prevent Overdose Deaths and Improve the Health of People Who Use Opioids

This guide from the University of Washington Addictions, Drug & Alcohol Institute highlights actionable strategies that work and their evidence base. It also describes how to integrate these strategies within a comprehensive framework to address the holistic health needs, including overdose care, of people who use drugs.

Specific topics include: Evidence-based strategies, priority populations and settings, creating a holistic, opioid overdose response plan, evaluation metrics, examples of essential and innovative programs, examples of existing opioid/stimulant response plans resources. [Click here to view the guide!](#)

U.S. Overdose Deaths Decrease Almost 27% in 2024

Provisional data from the CDC's National Center for Health Statistics indicate there were an estimated 80,391 drug overdose deaths in the United States during 2024—a decrease of 26.9% from the 110,037 deaths estimated in 2023. Annual drug overdose deaths are projected to reach their lowest level since 2019. [Click here to learn more!](#)

Best Practices for Public Safety Leave-behind Naloxone Programs | New York Overdose Response Strategy Team

This is a practical and adaptable guide for public safety agencies looking to implement high-quality Leave-behind Naloxone (LBN) programs that save lives, promote compassionate interactions, strengthen community relations and facilitate connections to person-centered care. It includes step-by-step guidance, sample standard operating procedures and an officer LBN roll-call training that integrates the eight best practices. [Click here to view the resources!](#)

Upcoming Events

Registration Now Open! NYSACHO's 2025 Statewide Harm Reduction Symposium for Local Health Departments

NYSACHO is excited to announce that registration is now open for the 2025 Harm Reduction Symposium! It will take place on **September 11-12, 2025** at the **Marriott Albany**. The theme for this year is, "**Meeting Your Community Where It's At: Addressing Evolving Needs**." LHDs are encouraged to identify two representatives to attend the symposium. Ideally, this would be **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 view more information and register for the symposium until August 15! Please carefully review all details on the landing page, and contact Danielle Pellino (dpellino@nysacho.org) with any questions.

Upcoming Webinars

New York State Overdose Fatality Review Partners Meeting | June 11 at 9:30 AM

The next New York State Overdose Fatality Review Partners Meeting will be on Wednesday, June 11th from 9:30-11am. Please share this information with your partners so they may attend. We will host a panel discussion on Next of Kin Interviewing with Overdose Fatality Review Teams from Oneida, Greene, and NYC highlighting the value, opportunities and innovation the interviews provide. There will also be time for Q&A with the audience. [Click here to register!](#)

Creating Safe Space: What Young People Need in Overdose Prevention | June 11 at 2:30 PM

For youth navigating life's challenges and rising behavioral health needs, feeling safe is a vital first step toward substance use prevention and harm reduction. This webinar, led by Jasmine Nakagawa from the Cypress Resilience Project, will explore practical, trauma-responsive strategies for creating welcoming, supportive spaces that foster trust and engagement — key elements in working with youth. This Web Forum is sponsored by the National Overdose Prevention Network, a program of PHI Center for Health Leadership & Impact and produced by Dialogue4Health. [Click here to register!](#)

The Next Five Years: How Addiction Treatment Has and Will Change in the Decade Since COVID Changed Everything | June 12 at 2:00 PM

The addiction treatment industry was rocked by the COVID-19 pandemic, reworking so many aspects of a vital yet underappreciated industry within the health care sector. Join Behavioral Health Business Senior Reporter Chris Larson, Rachel Sokol, Senior Vice President of payer contracting, Groups Recover Together, John Driscoll, CEO, Caron Treatment Centers, and Jaime Vinck, President, Meadows Behavioral Health, to discuss core learnings from the pandemic and what the industry needs to consider in the wake of a once-in-a-lifetime event.

Webinar discussion points include: The evolution of daily operations, developments in care models and delivery, the progression of telehealth, transforming payer relationships and strategies, and dealing with regulatory uncertainty. [Click here to register!](#)

Tips to Help Public Health Managers Collaborate with Lawyers and Other Partners on Data Use Agreements | June 18 at 2:00 PM

Join the Public Health Law Center for a webinar on how to collaborate effectively with your attorney on

data use agreements for public health surveillance. Speakers will share tips for relationship-building, provide an overview of some relevant laws, and highlight the work that the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services has done to establish clear processes for data sharing and integration both across NCDHHS and with external partners.

This 60-minute session is designed to provide insights for public health program staff who are new to data sharing and data use. [Click here to register!](#)

Federal Actions and Their Impact on Harm Reduction, Public Health Emergencies, and Climate Change: A Preview of the 2025 Public Health Law Conference | June 26 at 1:00 PM

Federal Executive Orders and dramatic cuts to the public health workforce, programs, and infrastructure, as well as policy changes regarding public health priorities have serious and far-reaching implications. This webinar previews two sessions from the upcoming 2025 Public Health Law Conference. Presenters will discuss the current legal landscape in three critical areas. [Click here to register!](#)

Articles and Reports

****Specific to NY**

- (5/29/25) [Oneida County Launches New Smartphone App for Mental Health, Addiction Treatment & Community Resources**](#)
- (5/27/25) [System dynamics modeling to inform implementation of evidence-based prevention of opioid overdose and fatality: A state-level model from the New York HEALing Communities Study**](#)
- (5/15/25) [Proposed Legislation to Boycott Opioid Manufacturers Would Undermine the Public Health Response to Opioid Overdose](#)
- (5/14/25) [Health Department Launches Syringe Redemption Pilot to Safely Tackle Syringe Litter Under Local Law 124**](#)
- (5/14/25) [Drug overdose deaths fell sharply in 2024, as fentanyl cases dropped but meth spiked](#)
- (5/13/25) [Saranac Lake addiction treatment center expands services with opioid settlement funding**](#)
- (5/12/25) [US Children Living With a Parent With Substance Use Disorder](#)
- (5/9/25) [Horizon Health Services holds ribbon-cutting for new recovery center in Orchard Park**](#)
- (5/5/25) [Oral, injectable naltrexone at discharge similarly effective for alcohol use disorder](#)
- (5/5/25) [Oneida County Health Department Will Replace Expired Narcan**](#)
- (5/3/25) [Syracuse wellness center helps people in recovery through fitness, community**](#)
- (4/30/25) [Nothing to Laugh About: Nitrous Oxide Misuse and the Need for a Public Health Response](#)
- (4/29/25) [The impact of news photographs on drug-related stigma: A randomized message testing experiment in a National Sample of US Adults](#)
- (4/27/25) [Buprenorphine for OUD Tied to Better Outcomes for Mother and Baby— Data showed five percentage point reduction in preterm birth](#)
- (4/22/25) [Patient perspectives of jail based MOUD treatment: views of individuals who have returned to the community following incarceration](#)

NYSACHO | 8 Airport Park Blvd | Latham, NY 12110 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!