



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

December, 2024

Harm Reduction Newsletter

Featured News & Resources

Supporting Local Decision Makers Managing Opioid Settlement Funds: A Public Health Approach

The Opioid Settlement Resource Compendium by The Prevention Institute and Big Cities Health Coalition is an online resource hub for policymakers, health departments, advocates, and service providers. It offers a curated set of resources to guide changemakers as they consider policies and programming to establish using opioid settlement dollars. [Check it out here!](#)

Rates of Overdose Death Declining, but We've Got to Stay the Course

On November 20, 2024, The Times Union published a commentary piece featuring NYS Commissioner of Health, Dr. James McDonald. [Read what he has to say about the work still left to be done even as we see declining overdose rates here!](#)

St. Lawrence County Public Health Department Launches Innovative Overdose Dashboard

On November 20, 2024, St. Lawrence County Public Health Department issued a press release announcing the launch of their Overdose Dashboard which provides the public with county-specific data on drug overdoses. [Click here to read the press release and access their data dashboard!](#)

Steuben County Unveils New Narcan Location Map

On November 19, 2024, Steuben County Public Health announced the launch of their new Narcan Location Geographic Information System Map. The map is a user-friendly interactive tool that shows the location of Narcan wall box units across the county where individuals can access the lifesaving medication for free. [Click here to access the map!](#)

Upcoming Events

The Double-Edged Screen: Navigating Social Media and Threats to our Youth | December 10, 2024 at 11:00 AM

Join the NY Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) Team and NY/NJ HIDTA Quarterly Stakeholders' Learning Session! In today's hyperconnected world, social media has become a powerful force that shapes our behaviors, relationships, and even our choices. But beneath the surface of viral trends and influencer culture lies a darker side that many users overlook. This 60-minute interactive workshop will explore the potential dangers of social media, from digital addiction to online methods of purchasing alcohol and drugs, and even the hidden meanings behind seemingly innocent emojis. [Click here to learn more and register!](#)

Health and Housing Partnerships to Support Individuals Living with or at-risk for HIV/AIDS | December 10, 2024 at 2:00 PM

Join the Corporation for Supportive Housing for a webinar on fostering partnerships between health centers and housing providers to address housing needs, improve access to resources, and enhance engagement with high-risk populations, including individuals with a history of homelessness and/or substance use disorder, and other risk factors. [Click here to register!](#)

Shattering the Stigma of Substance Use Disorders | December 11, 2024 at 2:30 PM

Unlike other chronic diseases, substance use disorders (SUD) are often seen as a moral failing. This stigma deeply impacts everyone including individuals, families, and communities. It also presents major barriers to ensure access to life-saving overdose prevention services and treatment. Join the National Overdose Prevention Network to learn from Leslie Alfaro, the National Stigma Initiative Program Manager at Shatterproof. [Click here to register!](#)

From Practice to Policy: A Roundtable on Equitable Community Compensation | December 13, 2024 at 1:00 PM

Community expertise is essential for effective public health initiatives, yet equitable compensation for community members remains a challenge for many health departments. Join NACCHO for this 90-minute roundtable that will feature insights from Pima County (AZ), Lake County (IL), and Vermont health departments, highlighting the importance of fair compensation, its impact on engagement, and strategies for overcoming challenges to foster authentic, respectful community partnerships. [Click here to register!](#)

Screenings and Assessments for Substance Use Disorders to Support Successful Reentry | December 17, 2024 at 1:30 PM

Screening and assessing for substance use disorders (SUDs) within the justice system is essential for early intervention, reducing recidivism, and supporting long-term recovery. Join SAMHSA's webinar to learn about standardized tools for identifying SUDs, how they enhance treatment planning and reentry support, and their role in promoting recovery-focused outcomes. [Click here to register !](#)

Funding Opportunities

REMINDER: COSSUP's Reaching Rural: Advancing Collaborative Solutions Initiative | Applications due December 16, 2024

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR), in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the State Justice Institute (SJI), has announced the Reaching Rural: Advancing Collaborative Solutions initiative. This year-long program focuses on learning from rural practitioners and fostering collaboration among rural communities. Participants will receive coaching, engage in workshops, and have access to mentorship and a broad network of rural professionals. At the end of the initiative, participants may apply for an implementation grant to launch projects addressing substance use and misuse among

justice-involved individuals in rural areas.

[Click here to learn more about the initiative](#) and [here to access the full solicitation!](#)

Articles and Reports

****Specific to NY**

- [\(11/15/24\) Unused facility to house crisis stabilization and drug treatment center in Tompkins County**](#)
- [\(11/12/24\) CMS Waivers for OUD Alone Didn't Move the Needle on Overdoses, MAT Utilization](#)
- [\(11/12/24\) The recovery community says it offers refuge from opioid addiction. But it's still hostile to lifesaving addiction medications](#)
- [\(11/11/24\) As the Pandemic Deepened, Americans Kept Drinking More](#)
- [\(11/8/24\) Addiction treatment legislation advances in Cortland County**](#)
- [\(11/7/24\) Looking Ahead: Drug Policy in the Next Trump Administration](#)
- [\(11/7/24\) MMWR Notes from the Field: Ketamine Detection and Involvement in Drug Overdose Deaths — United States, July 2019–June 2023](#)
- [\(11/7/24\) 12 States Promised To Open the Books on Their Opioid Settlement Funds. We Checked Up on Them](#)
- [\(11/6/24\) Marijuana Has 'Great Deal of Potential' To Treat Opioid Use Disorder, Study Finds, Predicting It'll Become More Common In Treatment](#)
- [\(11/6/24\) Q&A with the Founder of Medication-Assisted Recovery Anonymous \(MARA\)](#)
- [\(11/5/24\) Implantable device reverses opioid overdose in animals & Peer reviewed article here](#)
- [\(11/3/24\) People in recovery from substance use hope to change the political landscape by running for office](#)
- [\(11/3/24\) He Fell into Addiction as a Teen, and Then Found a Novel Way to Help Thousands of Other People Recover](#)
- [\(11/1/24\) Supreme Court Rulings Shape County Responses to the Housing and Opioid Crises](#)
- [\(11/1/24\) Study on opioid poisoning in children points to prevention strategies & Study here](#)
- [\(11/1/24\) The US overdose crisis: the next administration needs to move beyond criminalisation to a comprehensive public health approach](#)
- [\(10/31/24\) FDA Approves Protega Pharmaceuticals' Roxybond for Severe Pain Management](#)

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