



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

March, 2025

Harm Reduction Newsletter

Featured Resources

Otsego County Overdose Data and Harm Reduction Resources

Otsego County has launched a new harm reduction story map! This interactive tool centralizes essential information, including overdose data and harm reduction resources, to support local stakeholders and practitioners in identifying the most affected populations and tailoring interventions accordingly. [Click here to check it out!](#)

New TEDx Talk: Breaking the overdose stigma | Jennifer Skolaski | TEDxOshkosh

Amid the overdose epidemic, innovative solutions are essential. In Winnebago County, an Overdose Fatality Review (OFR) Team brings together 35 agencies to uncover the root causes of overdose deaths and drive meaningful change. Led by Jennifer Skolaski, Ph.D., this team has evolved from historical case reviews to proactive community engagement under the motto “We Heart You.” Through public service announcements, events, an app, and stigma-reduction efforts, they are making progress in saving lives. Join this session to learn how OFR can be a powerful tool in overdose prevention and community impact. [Click here to watch!](#)

New York State Harm Reduction Association Advocates for Legislative Priorities

On February 11, 2025, dozens of New York State Harm Reduction Association (NYSHRA) members from NYC to Buffalo to Rochester to Glens Falls and beyond came together at the State Capitol in Albany to carry the message of NYSHRA's 2025 legislative priorities to legislative offices. [Check out NYSHRA's budget and legislative priorities here!](#)

Upcoming Events

SAVE THE DATE!

REGISTRATION
OPENS JUNE 2,
2025!



SEPTEMBER 11-12, 2025



ALBANY MARRIOTT

STATEWIDE HARM REDUCTION SYMPOSIUM

Meeting Your Community Where It's At: Addressing Evolving Needs

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

LHDs are encouraged to identify one LHD staff, and one community partner that you work with on overdose prevention and response activities to attend the symposium (e.g., syringe exchange program or harm reduction agency staff, people with lived/living experience, peers, law enforcement, mental health, etc.).

NYSACHO will provide lodging for two representatives from each county.

 **Contact:** Danielle Pellino, dpellino@nysacho.org



Webinars and Training Opportunities

2025 OFR National Forum Encore Event Skills Training: Essential Elements for Facilitation | March 12, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Join the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) for a free skills-based webinar session! This interactive, introductory session is designed to equip OFR facilitators with four fundamental skills needed to effectively facilitate OFR meetings. This training requires attendees' full participation in group discussions, group activities, and role playing.

Space is limited. This session is intended for OFR facilitators only. If you are a facilitator, [please register here for a limited spot!](#)

2025 OFR National Forum Encore Event Skills Training: Case Selection | March 19, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Join the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) and Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Program (COSSUP) for a free skills-based webinar session! This session is designed to assist overdose fatality reviews in using aggregate data to help understand the who, where, and what of overdose trends to identify a theme for case review. This training requires attendees' full participation in discussion and group activities. Participants do not need to have any formal training in data analysis or interpretation to attend. [Click here to register!](#)

NEW NYSACHO WEBINAR!

Leveraging the ORS Team: Strengthening Public Health and Safety Partnerships to Support

Join NYSACHO for an insightful webinar featuring the New York State Overdose Response Strategy (ORS) Team. Lisa Worden, Public Health Analyst, CDC Foundation, and James Hawley, Drug Intelligence Officer, NY/NJ HIDTA, will provide an overview of the ORS Team and its role in supporting local health departments (LHDs) in their overdose prevention and harm reduction efforts.

Learn how the ORS Team has collaborated with LHDs across the state, explore real-world examples of their impact, and discover ways they can be a valuable asset in your community's response to the overdose crisis. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your understanding of the ORS program and its resources for local health initiatives. [Click here to register!](#)

Fentanyl Facts and Overdose Risk: An Addiction Policy Forum Course

The Addiction Policy Forum, in partnership with the Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network (JCOIN) at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), developed an eCourse, Fentanyl Facts and Increased Overdose Risk, to raise awareness of the risks associated with fentanyl and other synthetic opioids among practitioners, law enforcement, public health officials and families.

The eCourse takes approximately 30 minutes to complete, and features top practitioners in the field. Whether you're a healthcare professional, community advocate, or simply want to stay informed, this course is a must. [Click here to enroll!](#)

Articles and Reports

****Specific to NY**

(3/1/25) [Trends and characteristics in ketamine use among US adults with and without depression, 2015–2022](#)

(2/24/25) [FDA approves rapid initiation of Sublocade for opioid use disorder](#)

(2/21/25) [Help is Available for Those Struggling with a Crisis in Oswego**](#)

(2/20/25) [Saratoga County program to help people with addiction hits big milestone**](#)

(2/19/25) [Students Learned About Overdose and Drug Use Prevention at a recent Narcan Training Session**](#)

(2/19/25) [New Study Shows Emergency Physician Prescribed Buprenorphine Effectively Helps Patients Struggling with Opioid Addiction get Started on Path to Long-Term Recovery](#)

(2/19/25) [Addressing Identity and Recovery in Veterans](#)

(2/13/25) [State Child Abuse and Mandated Reporting Policies for Prenatal Substance Use and Congenital Syphilis Case Rates: United States, 2018-2022](#)

(2/13/25) [Greene County starts awareness campaign around edible cannabis products and children**](#)

(2/10/25) [Westside Community First program works to reduce overdoses, deaths in Syracuse**](#)

(2/10/25) [Putnam County Reveals New Harm Reduction Vending Machine**](#)

(2/6/25) [Attorney General Pam Bondi's Comments on Addiction and Reentry Services during Senate Confirmation Hearing](#)

(2/4/25) [Ohio Launches Innovative Overdose Early Warning Dashboard](#)

(2/1/25) [Responding to Immigration Enforcement: A Guide for Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs](#)

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