



NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY HEALTH OFFICIALS

Leading the Way to Healthier Communities

October 2025

Harm Reduction Newsletter

Featured Resources

New NACCHO Resource | Increasing Harm Reduction Capacity Through Education and Community Collaboration

This new resource from NACCHO is designed to support local health departments, community-based organizations, and/or harm reduction service organizations that are establishing formal harm reduction-focused academic detailing campaigns to educate both traditional and non-traditional AD partners. The guide also walks practitioners through the process of creating and delivering action-based key messages, engaging in outreach, and evaluating results, all with the goal of encouraging and establishing positive behavioral changes. [Click here to view the guide!](#)

StreetCheck Drug Trends Dashboard

StreetCheck lets users explore real-time drug checking data from communities across the U.S. It's a powerful tool for advocates, harm reduction programs, and policymakers to stay alert to what's emerging in the local drug supply. [Click here to check it out!](#)

Recovery-Ready Families Guide & Framework

When addiction touches a family, everyone feels the impact. A new guide from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing and Facing Fentanyl recognizes that families aren't just affected by substance use disorder — they're essential to recovery. The guide offers compassionate, adaptable principles to help families support their loved ones, strengthen connections, and play a vital role in prevention, treatment, and healing. [Click here to download and view the guide!](#)

New NACCHO Resource | Communications Campaigns to Address Overdose, Injury, and Violence Prevention

LHDs play a vital role in keeping communities informed about overdose, injury, and violence prevention. Yet with staff stretched thin, creating tailored communications campaigns on every issue can be costly and time-intensive. To help, NACCHO's Overdose, Injury, and Violence Prevention workgroup has released a new resource featuring a curated, regularly updated list of evidence-based campaigns that can be adapted and rebranded to meet local needs. [Click here to access the resource!](#)

HEALing Communities Study Communications Campaign Toolkits

The HEALing Communities Study (HCS) has developed free, ready-to-use communication toolkits to raise awareness about substance use disorders and promote effective prevention, treatment, recovery, and overdose response strategies. These resources can be shared through social media, radio, print, and more to help reduce stigma and save lives in your community.

Campaign topics include:

- Naloxone education
- Fentanyl facts and risks
- Medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD)
- Anti-stigma messages and awareness

[Click here to learn more and access the toolkits!](#)

Upcoming Webinars

Cannabis Use and Psychosis: from Risk to Treatment | October 21 at 3PM | [Register Here!](#)

Join the Yale Center for the Science of Cannabis and Cannabinoids (YC-SCAN2), for a webinar as part of their series examining cannabis and brain development across the lifespan. This session will feature Dr. Marta Di Forti, MD, MRCPsych, PhD, Professor of Drug Use, Genetics and Psychosis at King's College London and leader of the UK's first Cannabis Clinic for Psychosis and she will focus on the complex relationship between cannabis use and psychosis.

Dr. Di Forti will share research on how high-potency cannabis increases psychosis risk, influences illness onset, and leaves lasting biological effects. She will also discuss how cannabis use interacts with genetic and environmental factors to identify those most vulnerable, and the implications for early intervention. In addition, she will highlight clinical insights from the Cannabis Clinic for Psychosis, where tailored cannabis reduction strategies are being integrated into psychiatric care.

Transforming SUD Treatment: The Science, Policy, and Practice of Recovery Incentive Programs | October 30 at 1PM | [Register Here!](#)

Join Alexandra Plante, Senior Advisor at the National Council for Mental Wellbeing, for a panel on how recovery incentive programs are being integrated into treatment alongside therapy, medications for SUD, and recovery supports. The session will explore the evidence behind structured reward systems, their real-world impact on retention and overdose prevention, and how new funding models and growing support are helping scale this life-saving intervention.

Funding Opportunities

OJJDP FY25 Mentoring for Youth Affected by Opioid and Other Substance Use | Applications due by October 23 and 30

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is soliciting applications for funding to enhance and expand mentoring services for children, youth, and families affected by opioids and other substance use. Mentoring services may include one-on-one, group, or peer mentoring, or a combination of these approaches.

This program may also support supplemental activities that align with the proposed mentoring model. Up to 20 percent of total funds may be allocated for non-mentoring direct services, such as mental health or substance use treatment, or other supportive services consistent with the project design. Funding will be available for both local project sites and statewide or regional initiatives.

Key Dates (Opportunity ID: OJJDP-2025-172446):

RFA Release Date: September 15, 2025

Grants.gov Deadline: October 23, 2025 at 11:59 PM ET

[Click here to download the full Notice of Funding Opportunity!](#)

OJJDP FY25 Community and Schools Youth Drug Prevention Program | **Applications due by October 27 and November 3**

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs (OJP), Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is soliciting applications for funding to support the delivery of youth substance use prevention programs in schools and extracurricular settings. Projects must be implemented in coordination with local law enforcement and community coalitions and may include:

- Comprehensive prevention programs for students (preschool–grade 12) encompassing education, early intervention, mentoring, and treatment referrals.
- Family engagement strategies to prevent or address substance use.
- Training for school personnel, parents, law enforcement, and community members.
- Establishing “safe zones of passage” for students.

Key Dates (Opportunity ID: O-OJJDP-2025-172454)

RFA Release Date: September 18, 2025

Grants.gov Deadline: October 27, 2025 at 11:59 PM ET

Application Due (JustGrants): November 3, 2025 at 8:59 PM ET

[Click here to download the full Notice of Funding Opportunity!](#)

Articles and Reports

*****Specific to NY***

(10/2/25) [Livingston County Introduces Opioid Awareness & Education PSA Campaign**](#)

(9/30/25) [Attorney general settles with Indivior over opioid overdose drug**](#)

(9/29/25) [Substance Use Prevention and Harm ReductionHarm Reduction Legal Project](#)

[Paying People to Refrain from Drug Use Works. Recent Policy Changes Have Eased the Legal Barriers to this Promising Practice.](#)

(9/25/25) [Protect Your Brain: Pilot Study Released](#)

(9/24/25) [‘I won’t make it without this program’: the impact of safer opioid supply program closures in Ontario](#)

(9/21/25) [Opinion: Leading the charge in the fight against opioid addiction**](#)

(9/5/25) [Study Shows Community Coalition-Prioritized Strategies Increased Naloxone Education and Distribution in Jails](#)

(9/2/25) [Fewer Than 1 In 3 Adolescents With Past-Year Opioid Use Disorder Received Substance Use Treatment, 2022–23](#)

(8/29/25) [Gender differences regarding interest in opioid agonist treatment with hydromorphone: a cross-sectional study of syringe service program participants](#)

(8/22/25) [“They won’t prosecute, but they will though:” the continuing struggle between criminalization and harm reduction within the criminal justice system in the context of an opioid overdose crisis](#)

(8/19/25) [Act With Hope: 8 Takeaways to Empower Peer Support](#)

(2025) [A novel naloxone distribution intervention among persons experiencing unsheltered homelessness: acceptability of naloxone training and distribution during an annual point-in-time count](#)



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