



Public Health
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Tuscarawas County
Health Department

News Release - For immediate release
10/02/2024

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Tuscarawas County Health Department Marked National Recovery Month With Numerous Activities

DOVER— Every year, August 31st is designated as Overdose Awareness Day, followed by National Recovery Month in September. This year, the Tuscarawas County Health Department (TCHD) participated in many activities to promote both Overdose Awareness Day and National Recovery Month. On August 27th, TCHD launched a new distribution NaloxBox in the lobby of its building at 897 E. Iron Ave, Dover. Between August 27th and September 30th, 30 free naloxone (sometimes known as Narcan) kits were distributed to community members, with no questions asked, thanks to the convenient NaloxBox. TCHD also participated in the Overdose Awareness Day event hosted by Empower Tusc on August 29th on the grounds of the Tuscarawas County Courthouse.


Additionally, through the Integrated Harm Reduction Grant, TCHD partnered with both Carroll and Harrison counties to expand naloxone distribution and help save lives from accidental overdose in the region. Between all three counties over 150 naloxone kits were distributed through special efforts for Overdose Awareness Day and National Recovery month. Finally, TCHD Public Health Educator, Lakyn Craig, and Director of Prevention Services, Natasha Yonley, hosted a *Responding to Addiction* training for the public on September 24th to educate the community on stigma reduction.



According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), National Recovery Month is a national observance held every September to promote and support new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices, the nation's recovery community, and the dedication of communities who make recovery possible. During September, the Empower Tusc Coalition, Tuscarawas County Health Department, and Tuscarawas County Addiction Task Force joined forces for a successful county wide initiative, Project Hope, to encourage the community that treatment works and recovery happens.



The *Responding to Addiction* training was developed by the Addiction Policy Forum to increase knowledge about addiction, improve helping behaviors towards individuals with substance use disorders, and reduce stigma in communities. The program teaches participants about addiction and equips them with the knowledge and tools to understand substance use disorders.

For more information or to request a free naloxone kit, please visit <https://www.tchdnow.org/project-dawn.html> or call (330) 343-5555 x 1780 or email narcan@tchdnow.org.

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