

Salem Board of Health

Narcan Distribution & Awareness in the Community

Rebecca O'Rourke
Healthcare Studies

Introduction

The Salem Board of Health delivers public health services to residents, businesses, and visitors to benefit the culturally diverse population of the city of Salem.

- Resources are available through the Salem board of health regarding vaccine clinics at North Shore community health center.
- Formed the Salem Food Policy Council, assesses the city's food landscape by identifying how and where residents are able to access nutritious and affordable food, and makes evidence-based recommendations to promote food justice and health equity in the Salem community.
- Provides various resources for substance abuse disorder and overdose prevention.



Public Health
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Salem Board of Health



Internship Project Objectives

The objective of my project is to spread awareness in the community on safer drug use, and using evidence-based reduction strategies and practices.

Implications of the Study

- The goal of this project was to teach and spread awareness on effective ways to use narcan to keep people in the community safe.
- I have done this by researching and observing narcan usage and overdose statistics in the city of Salem to determine what everyday people in the community needed to be educated on for proper prevention.
- Working closely with Board of Health staff on PowerPoints and meetings to present to the community for opioid awareness and narcan distribution.

Materials and Methods

- Created interactive graphic for distribution machine on the first floor of the Salem Board of Health.
- Advertised the statistics of narcan and how it has been successful in preventing opioid overdoses.
- Created QR code on machine that will link interested persons to an education website on how to use narcan, and when to use it. QR code will show after individual selects "Get Free Narcan".

As of 2017, Naloxone has prevented fatality in 93.5% of individuals experiencing an overdose.

| | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 53,000 | 368,000 | 300,000 |
| Reported lives saved | Naloxone units distributed | Individuals trained |



GET FREE NARCAN

Data & Observations

- More than 450,000 units of Naloxone has been distributed between October 2017-March 2023.
- At least 60,000 lives have been saved in this timespan due to Naloxone distribution.
- Regional overdose prevention specialists operate in 13 divisions across the state of Tennessee.
- First responders are a primary group of the regional overdose prevention specialists.
- As are individuals that are high risk of overdose, their families, and their friends.
- Agencies and organizations that are involved that provide treatment and recovery services and/or community services.
- Training through the regional overdose prevention specialists includes harm reduction, addressing stigma, and increasing public awareness.

Related Literature

Addiction by Wiley Blackwell volume 116, issue 1.

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References

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