

Ohio's Strategic Plan on Opioid & Stimulant Use Disorder

Community Action Plan for Expanding Access to Naloxone and Fentanyl Test Strips

The Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services (OhioMHAS) continues to work with statewide partners, state agencies, and Governor DeWine's RecoveryOhio initiative to reduce unintentional overdose deaths and promote harm reduction practices.

Consistent with Ohio's Strategic Plan on Opioid & Stimulant Use Disorder, OhioMHAS has several opportunities for Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Boards, behavioral health treatment providers, and community partners to positively impact the opioid epidemic. Unintentional drug overdoses are preventable, and the practice of harm reduction offers evidence-based strategies that reduce the risk of dying from an overdose.

Naloxone Distribution as a Project DAWN Program

Naloxone (sometimes referred to by the brand name Narcan) is a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug (heroin, fentanyl, or prescription pain medications). When administered during an overdose, naloxone blocks the effects of opioids on the brain and quickly restores breathing. **ADAMHS Boards and treatment providers are strongly encouraged to [register to become Project DAWN \(Deaths Avoided With Naloxone\)](#) programs, which would enable them to freely obtain and distribute large amounts of naloxone for their community.**

Fentanyl Test Strip Distribution

Fentanyl test strips give persons using any drug the ability to test for fentanyl products. Fentanyl test strips have been proven to change drug use behavior among some people using drugs, and they have the potential to minimize the extreme risk associated with fentanyl use. **Registering as a Project DAWN site would allow access to free fentanyl test strips for ADAMHS Boards, treatment providers, and community partners; free strips may also be obtained from your local Project Dawn program.**

Media Campaigns

Part of Ohio's plan for harm reduction is essential messaging to reduce overdose death. The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has developed [OH Against OD](#), a harm reduction campaign communities can use to help others understand the issue and share information about resources. ADAMHS Boards and treatment providers can take advantage of the free [help and resources](#) developed as part of this campaign for their local communities. Materials are available in several languages and for high-risk communities.