

Maryland Overdose Prevention Plan

Drug overdoses related to opioids have become a huge issue not only for the country, but for the state of Maryland. The Maryland Opioid Overdose Prevention Plan is a statewide strategy intended to curb the number of overdose deaths and other bodily harm related to the use of opioids.

According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) approximately 3 out of 4 people who use heroin started off by misusing prescription opioids.

“In 2014, nearly two million Americans either abused or were dependent on prescription opioid pain relievers.”

- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration,
National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2014

To Register for Naloxone Training:

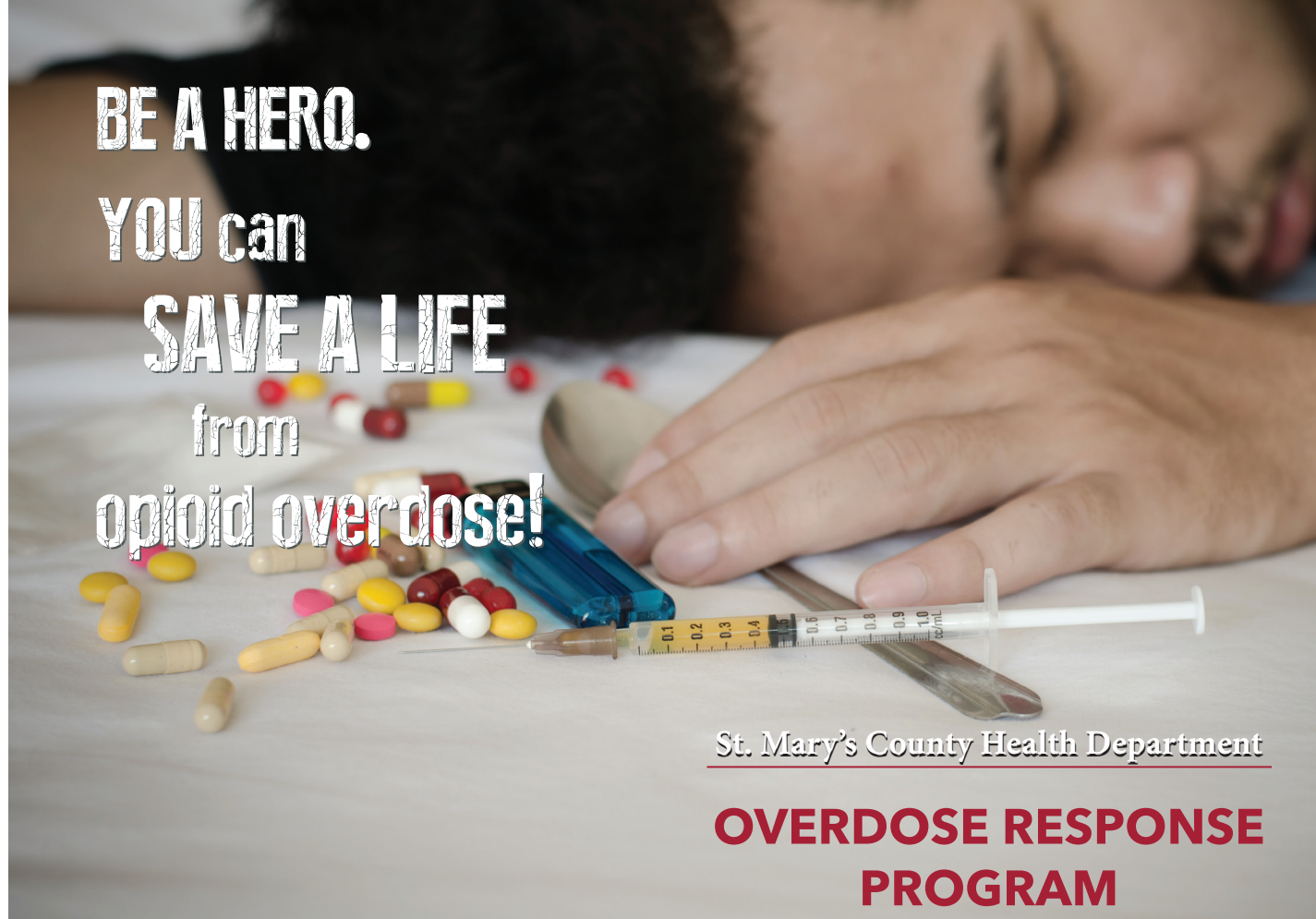
The St. Mary's County Health Department offers this **FREE** training in the use of naloxone. Trainings are held once per month at the Health Department. To view a schedule of upcoming trainings and to register for a class please visit:

www.smchd.org/overdose

For further information about the program or to ask any questions, please contact the Health Department at 301-475-4330.

SMAR_xT Medicine
Only as prescribed.

**BE A HERO.
YOU can
SAVE A LIFE
from
opioid overdose!**



St. Mary's County Health Department

OVERDOSE RESPONSE PROGRAM

FREE Naloxone Training

Phone: 301-475-4330

Fax: 301-475-4350

smchd.healthdept@maryland.gov

www.smchd.org/overdose



P. O. Box 316
21580 Peabody Street
Leonardtown, MD 20650

301-475-4330

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Rev. 08/19



NALOXONE TRAINING CAN SAVE A LIFE

Maryland's Overdose Response Program (ORP)

This program was formed in 2014 to combat both heroin and prescription opioid overdoses, both of which are on the rise in Maryland. Certain medications or combinations of medications greatly increase the risk of overdose and death - this issue is no longer confined to the world of illegal drugs. We provide training on how to recognize an overdose situation and respond appropriately. Early administration of naloxone has the potential to save a person's life, but is NOT a substitute for medical treatment.

Candidates complete a 1 hour training program in naloxone administration. This medication can quickly restore breathing to a person who has overdosed on heroin or any prescription opioid medication.

Who Should Participate in Naloxone Training?

- Anyone who has reasonable expectation to have exposure to overdose situations due to use of opioids by family, friends, or through volunteer work
- Anyone who currently receives prescriptions for Opioids
- Anyone using opioids concurrently with antidepressants, benzodiazepines, or alcohol
- Anyone using opioids that has a history of major organ dysfunction--renal (kidney), hepatic (liver), cardiac (heart), or pulmonary (lungs)
- Anyone receiving treatment for a substance abuse disorder
- Anyone who has a known history of IV or prescription drug abuse or misuse, or has been previously hospitalized for such a condition
- Caretakers of older adults - who are often at risk of overdose from medication interactions or overprescribing

Why Should People Participate in this Program?

- Overdose is one of the leading causes of accidental death in Maryland
- Accidental poisonings from medication can affect both children and adults
- EVERYONE has the potential to overdose on prescription medications or illegal drugs
- EMS providers may not always arrive quickly enough to save the person experiencing the overdose

This training has already helped save multiple lives in our community!

The Maryland Good Samaritan Law (effective October 1, 2015) provides protection from arrest as well as prosecution for certain specific crimes and expands the charges from which people assisting in an emergency overdose situation are immune. If someone calls 911 in an effort to help during an overdose crisis, or they are experiencing an overdose, their parole and probation status will not be affected, and they will now not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for the following misdemeanors:

- Possession of a controlled dangerous substance
- Possession or use of drug paraphernalia