



# Governor Dan McKee's Overdose Task Force

## October 9, 2024

Richard Leclerc; Director, Rhode Island Department of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals

Jerome Larkin, MD; Director, Rhode Island Department of Health

Ana Novais, MA; Assistant Secretary, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Richard Charest, MBA; Secretary, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services

Thomas Joyce, LCDP, CPRS; Task Force Community Co-Chair

Cathy Schultz, MPH; Task Force Director, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services

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# Welcome and Announcements

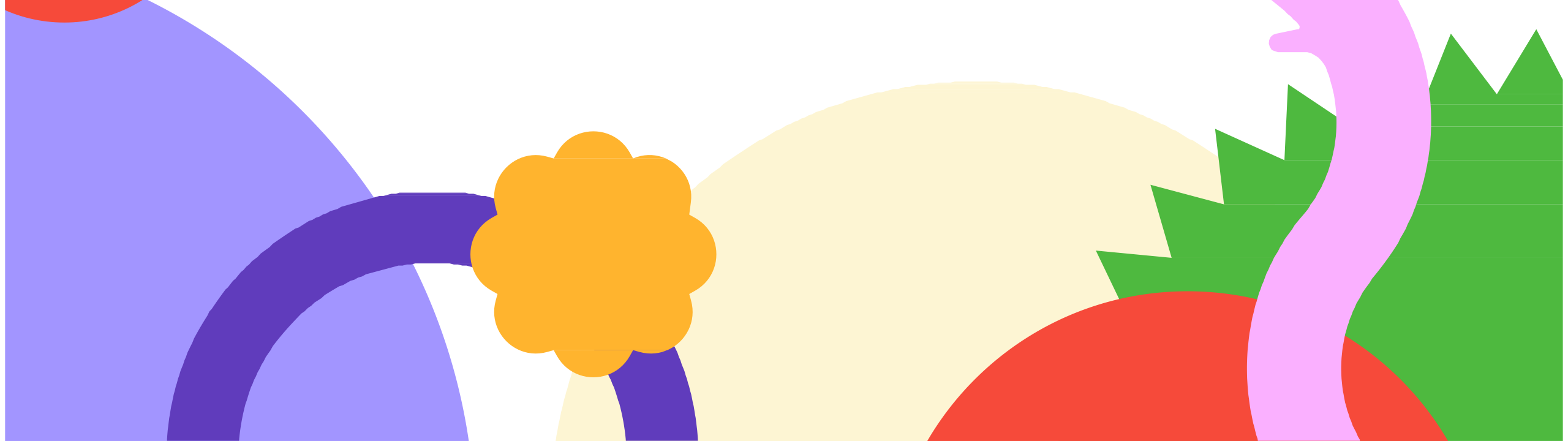
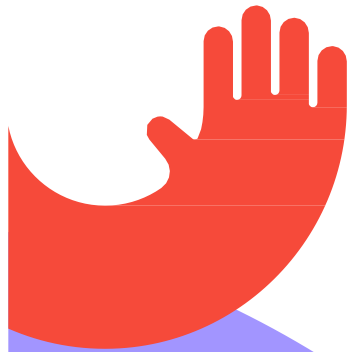
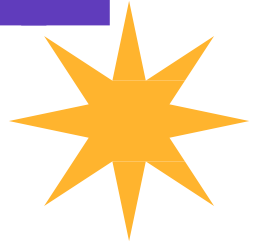
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# Rally 4 Recovery RI

2024 Summary

Abbie Knapton





# An Incredible Effort



- 87 total volunteers
- Smoothest setup and breakdown ever
- 10 Planning Committee Members who dedicated time from January to September





# 77 Tables of Providers in the Recovery Expo

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**3,500 attendees**

# Rally4Recovery: Looking Forward

- The Rally4Recovery RI is a 501c3, which was created for this one-day event. We will be retiring the entity by the end of the year.
- The board voted to turn operations of the Rally 4 Recovery to the Rhode Island Communities for Addiction Recovery Efforts (RICARES). As Rhode Island's independent recovery community organization, RICARES has the infrastructure to oversee the Planning Committee and volunteer efforts needed.
- The Rally will maintain its identity as Rhode Island's Rally 4 Recovery and the Planning Committee will remain involved in the effort moving forward.



Please reach out with any questions!

**Thank you!**

[abbie@rally4recoveryri.com](mailto:abbie@rally4recoveryri.com)



# Fall 2024 Behavioral Health Public Awareness Updates

## October 9, 2024

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Ashley G. O'Shea; Director of Strategic Communications, Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS)

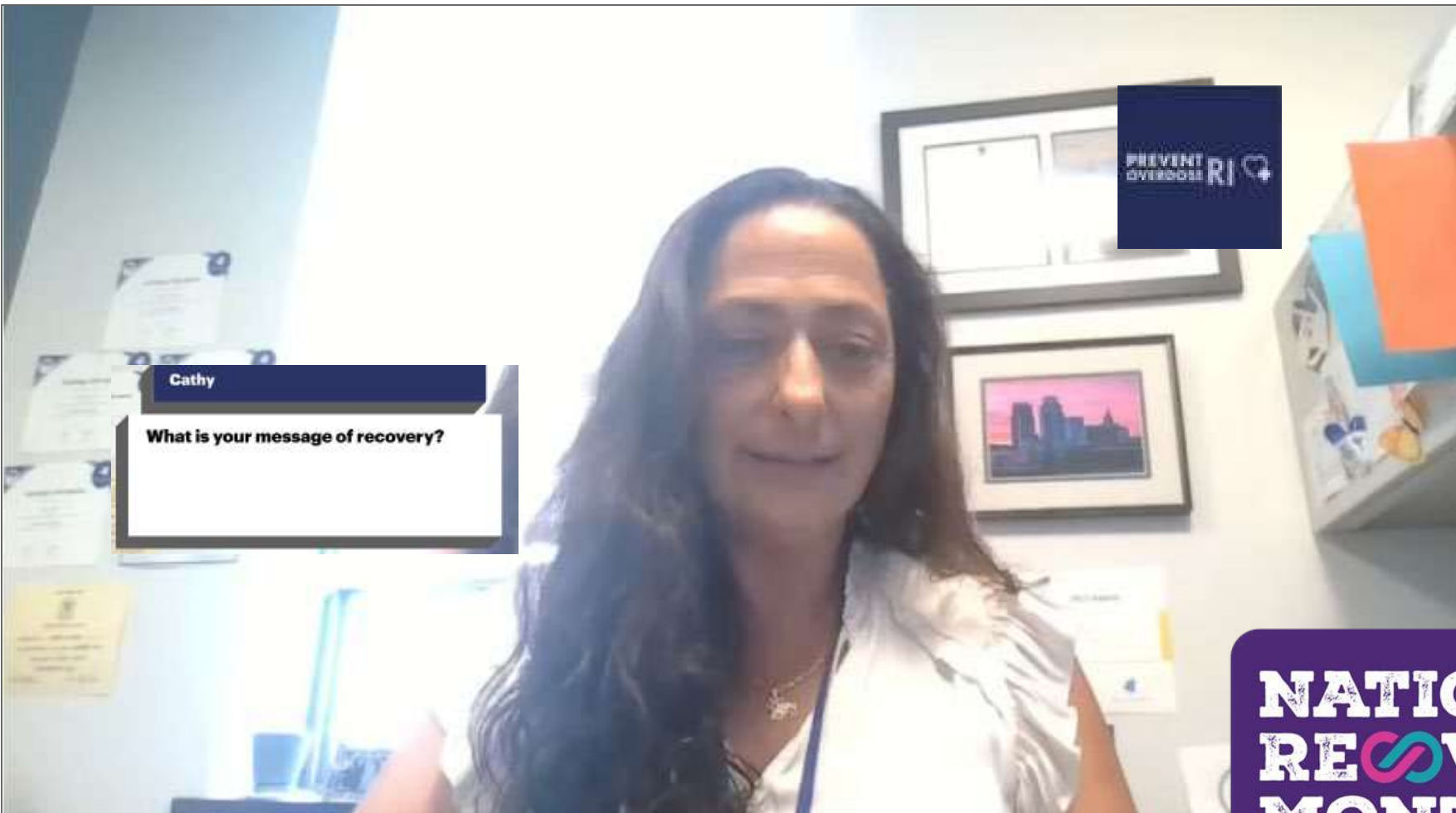
Rachael Elmaleh; Substance Use Communications Manager, Center for Public Health Communication, Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH)

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# A Call for Messages of Recovery: Cathy Schultz



Cathy

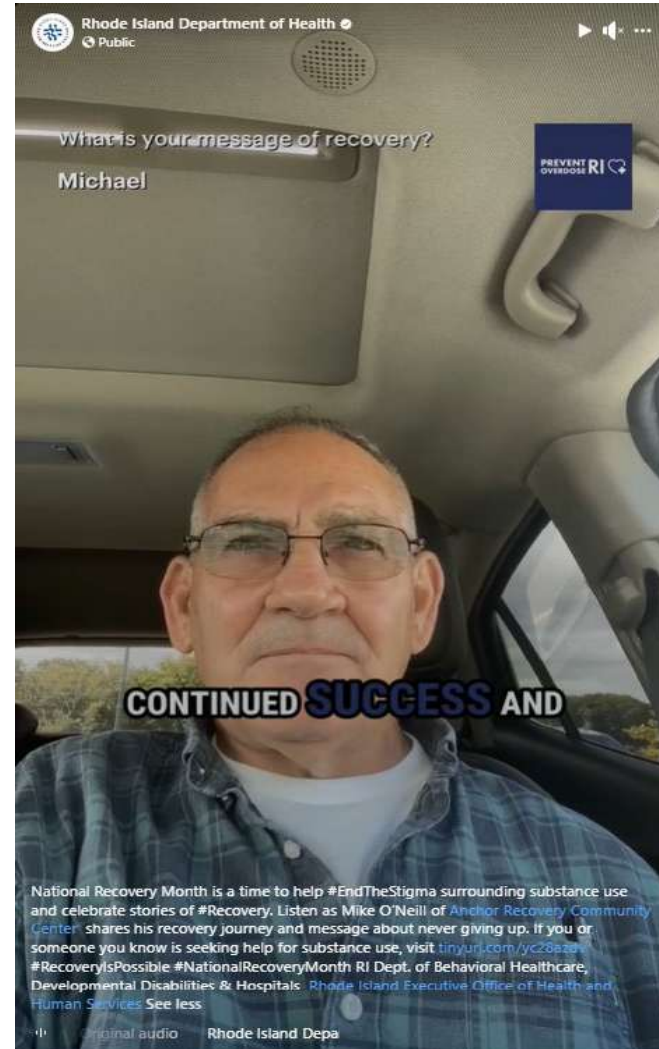
What is your message of recovery?



# Hope for Recovery – Even If It's a Winding Journey



**Mike O’Neil** of Anchor Recovery talks about how his recovery journey began during his teenage years and continued throughout adulthood. He emphasizes: “Never give up.”

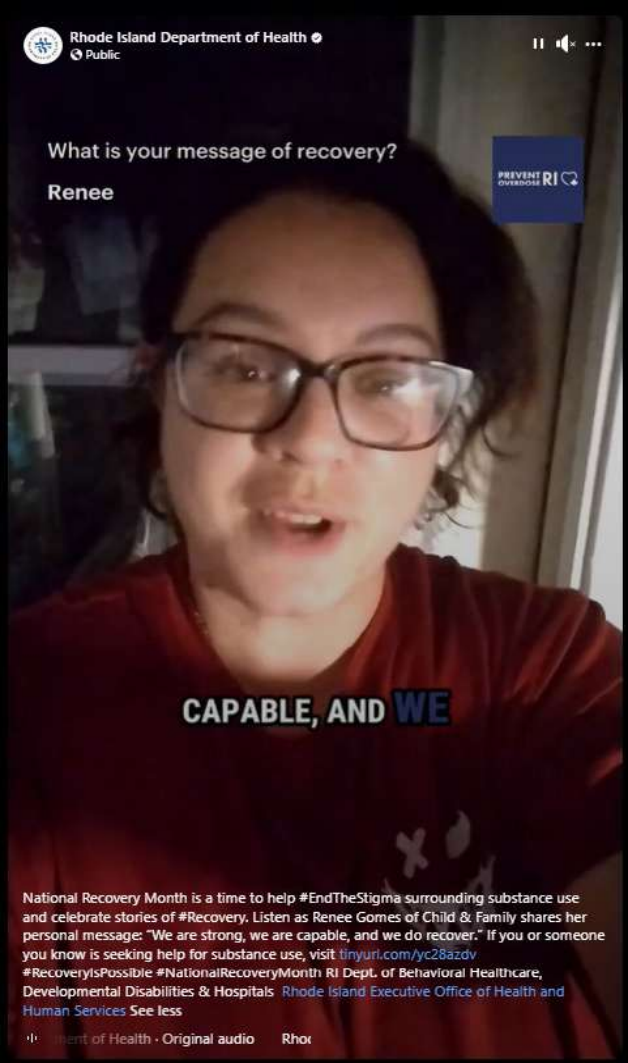






# We Are Strong, We Are Capable, and We Do Recover.

**Renee Gomes** of the Child and Family Center Treatment Program offers an inspirational message to those who are living with a substance use disorder.





# Recovery Is Possible – You Are Worth It.

**Carlene Fonseca,**  
Co-Chair of the Racial  
Equity Work Group for  
the Overdose Task  
Force, encourages  
people to put themselves  
first in choosing recovery.

A video player interface showing a woman, Carlene Fonseca, speaking. The video title is "What is your message of recovery?" and the name "Carlene" is displayed below the title. The video player includes a play button, volume icon, and a "PREVENT OVERDOSE RI" button. Below the video, there is a caption and a link to resources.

Even though National Recovery Month has ended, the important work of ending the stigma surrounding substance use and celebrating #recovery continues. Listen as Carlene Fonseca, co-chair of the Racial Equity Work Group of the Governor's Overdose Task Force, shares a personal message that "recovery is possible, no matter your cultural or family background."

If you or someone you know is seeking help for substance use, visit [preventoverdose.org/recovery-resources](https://preventoverdose.org/recovery-resources) #RecoveryIsPossible RI Dept. of Behavioral Healthcare, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services See less

Rhode Island Department of Health · Original audio





# Importance of Having and Using Naloxone


**Ana Novais**, EOHHS Assistant Secretary, and **Monica Tavares**, RIDOH Education and Outreach Coordinator, speak to the Cape Verdean community about the importance of having naloxone on hand in case of an emergency.



# New Behavioral Health Services Information for Children and Youth on kids.ri.gov



Home Resources



## Reason to worry, or simply a teen?

### Behavioral Health Services for Children

Many Rhode Island parents and caregivers find that they need to help a child in their care handle a wide range of struggles, such as interpersonal challenges, challenges at school, using substances, etc. If you're experiencing this, know that you are not alone — and know that helpful resources are available.

Helping a child can be overwhelming. Behavioral health professionals, and other professionals, can help. Families don't have to start from scratch.


Please use this information to guide you in finding support, resources, and answers to many of your questions.

#### Resources

[kids.ri.gov/behavioral-health/index.php](https://kids.ri.gov/behavioral-health/index.php)

Home Resources

## Getting Help With Substance Use



- What do to in an emergency or crisis
- What's behind your child's behavior?
- Knowing what to look for: What are the signs?
- Communicating with your pediatrician or family doctor
- Connecting with a parent support group
- Getting an evaluation and care plan, if needed
- Working with your child's school
- Finding a counselor or therapist for your child
- Creating a crisis plan
- Getting help with substance use**
- Insurance and other ways to pay for help
- Learn more

Dealing with substance use in children or teenagers can be really tough for parents and caregivers. But it's important to know there are many resources available to help you. These resources can give you advice on how to talk to your child, provide information about counseling, or connect you with support groups in your community. The goal is to help you understand and address substance use in a way that makes a positive difference in your child's life.

#### What to look for

and what to avoid when searching for a treatment program.

VISIT SITE

#### What questions to ask

when searching for a substance use treatment provider.

VIEW PDF

IN A CRISIS?

[kids.ri.gov/behavioral-health/substance-use](https://kids.ri.gov/behavioral-health/substance-use)



# 2024 Statewide Behavioral Health Campaigns



IF IT'S NOT YOUR PRESCRIPTION,  
**ASSUME FENTANYL**  
EVERY PILL. EVERY TIME.

**Testing for fentanyl can save a life.**

Never use alone.  
Carry naloxone and know how to use it.

Get test strips at  
[PreventOverdoseRI.org](http://PreventOverdoseRI.org)

Si alguien te da una pepa, o sea una pastilla, es muy posible que contenga fent@nilo.

There is hope.

**988 SUICIDE & CRISIS LIFELINE**

This is not a good place to keep prescriptions.

**STORE DRUGS OUT OF REACH**

LOCK THEM UP & KEEP KIDS SAFER

**Crack**  
Potencial de adicción

¿Embarazada?  
¿Consumiendo?  
Podemos ayudarle.

Liámenos o envíenos un mensaje de texto hoy al **401-895-6592**

Somos especialistas certificados en apoyo a la recuperación y sabemos por lo que está pasando. Si actualmente está consumiendo o en recuperación, estamos aquí para ayudarle. Sin costo, sin juzgar.

**PREVENT OVERDOSE RI** [esperanzaxsanarmadresRI.com](http://esperanzaxsanarmadresRI.com)

- Polysubstance Use
- Youth Accidental Poisonings
- 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline
- Pregnant? Using? We Can Help.
- If It's Not Your Prescription, Assume Fentanyl. Every Pill. Every Time.
- Three Words Can Make a Difference. Are You OK?





# Statewide Behavioral Health: FACTS Campaign

There are currently six behavioral health paid campaigns actively addressing overdose prevention, treatment, harm reduction, and other facets of this critical public health issue. Campaigns cover subject matter including Unintentional Youth Poisonings, Polysubstance Use, Small Amount (fentanyl), 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, Three Words, Substance-Exposed Newborns, and Toxic Drug Supply.

Specific to the latter, there was both need and opportunity to develop new creative assets to be integrated into the existing Toxic Drug Supply paid media campaign. The new messaging focuses upon the latest Rhode Island overdose data released by RIDOH in July 2024 and found here: [www.ri.gov/press/view/47787](http://www.ri.gov/press/view/47787).

Our aim is to feature compelling facts that present a picture of overdose in a way that hits home among at risk populations and Rhode Islanders at large. For continuity we employed some of the same design elements from the earlier, active campaign of Toxic Drug Supply (color schemes, typefaces) to ensure alignment.

Four conceptual directions were presented to EOHHS, RIDOH, and Department of Behavioral Health, Developmental Disabilities & Hospitals (BHDDH) leadership that offered varying directions. This vibrant text-based campaign rose to the top, though all concept were well received - and another concept may eventually be brought to life and activated in a subsequent paid campaign.



# Statewide Behavioral Health: The Facts Campaign

The following assets include advertisements such as social media and digital display banners, bus kings, digital bus interiors, and radio. All assets will be trans-created to Spanish.

**Fact:**  
Cocaine  
is a  
factor in **58%**  
of overdose deaths.

**The fact is, the facts can change.**  
Let's change them for the better.

[LEARN MORE](#)

**Fact:** **84%**  
of overdoses occur  
in the home.

**The fact is, the facts can change.**  
Let's change them for the better.

[LEARN MORE](#)

**Fact:**  
Fentanyl  
is the  
cause of **78%**  
of overdose deaths.

**The fact is, the facts can change.**  
Let's change them for the better.

[LEARN MORE](#)



# Statewide Behavioral Health: The Facts Campaign

Campaign assets drive people to **PreventOverdoseRI.org**. QR codes have been included on digital public transportation bus interiors for quick mobile viewing.

**Fact:**  
Fentanyl causes **78%** of overdose deaths.

**The fact is, the facts can change.**  
Let's change them for the better.


Learn more at [PreventOverdoseRI.org](http://PreventOverdoseRI.org).

Example of a Bus King advertisement



**Fact:**  
**84%** of overdose deaths occur in the home.

**The fact is, the facts can change.**  
Let's change them for the better.

 Learn more at [PreventOverdoseRI.org](http://PreventOverdoseRI.org).

Bus Interior with QR code





# Statewide Behavioral Health: The Facts Campaign

Approved audio script examples for 15- and 30-second advertisements will run on Spotify. These radio ads will be trans-created to Spanish language.

**Fact: In Rhode Island, fentanyl causes 78% of overdose deaths.**

**Fact: Cocaine is a factor in 58% of overdose deaths across the state.**

**Fact: 84% of overdose deaths in Rhode Island occur in the home.**

**The fact is, the facts can change.**

**Let's change them for the better.**

**Learn more at [PreventOverdoseRI.org](https://PreventOverdoseRI.org).**

**Fact: Cocaine is a factor in 58% of overdose deaths in Rhode Island.**

**The fact is, the facts can change.**

**Let's change them for the better.**

**Learn more at [PreventOverdoseRI.org](https://PreventOverdoseRI.org).**





# Questions?

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## **Governor's Overdose Task Force Prevention Strategy Work Group Updates**

Tara Cooper; Chief, Center for Health and Promotion, RIDOH  
Obad Papp; Providence Human Services Division Office, Regional  
Coalition Director

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# Governor's Overdose Task Force Prevention Strategy Work Group

The mission of the Prevention Strategy Work Group is to prevent overdoses, overdose deaths, and opioid misuse by identifying, developing, and evaluating multi-level strategies and interventions.

The Prevention Strategy Work Group is a collaboration of efforts between State and community partners.

- Meets on the fourth Thursday of every month from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- State Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Farrar, BHDDH, and Tara Cooper, RIDOH
- Community Co-Chair: Obed Papp, Human Services Division Office; City of Providence

# Strategic Plan: Supporting Comprehensive Prevention

## Core Strategies

**Core Strategy 1:** Implement evidence-based primary prevention in schools, professional settings, and high-risk communities.

**Core Strategy 2:** Increase trauma-informed services, focusing on toxic stress, adverse experiences, and community/family sexual violence.

**Core Strategy 3:** Incorporate prevention for workplace injuries, disability leaves, and rehabilitation services.

**Core Strategy 4:** Prioritize prevention activities that recognize race equity and eliminate structural and racism disparities.

**Core Strategy 5:** Prevent overprescribing and ensure appropriate prescribing and dispensing of opioids.

# Prevention Strategy Work Group: Making Connections

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Under a Rhode Island Foundation and EOHHS grant, the following organizations will share funding in the Community Prevention Services for Youth Opioid Mitigation category, which supports evidence-based or evidence-informed community-based opioid prevention services targeted towards children and youth up to age 21.

- Coastline Employee Assistance Program
- Providence Children and Youth Cabinet
- Rhode Island Sports Union
- The Rhode Island Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
- Woonsocket Prevention Coalition
- Jim Gillen Teen Center
- Youth Pride, Inc.
- Substance Use and Mental Health Leadership Council
- VICTA Life



If you are interested in joining the Prevention Strategy  
Work Group, contact Carol Stone  
[Carol.Stone@health.ri.gov](mailto:Carol.Stone@health.ri.gov)

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### Co-Chairs

Elizabeth Farrar [Elizabeth.Farrar@bhddh.ri.ov](mailto:Elizabeth.Farrar@bhddh.ri.ov)

Tara Cooper [Tara.Cooper@health.ri.gov](mailto:Tara.Cooper@health.ri.gov)

Obed Papp [OPapp@providenceri.gov](mailto:OPapp@providenceri.gov)

**S.W.A.G**  
*Student  
Wellness  
and Growth*

**Presented to the Governor's Overdose Task Force  
on October 9, 2024**

**Presented by: Lisa M. Carcifero, MSW, LICSW, ACPS**

**Regional Director, Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition**

***This program is supported by a grant  
funded through Opioid Settlement  
funds from the Rhode Island  
Foundation in partnership with EOHHS***



# The Community

## **Woonsocket**

Strong, tight-knit community, rich in history,  
heritage and culture

Faced with public health and health equity challenges

## *The Youth of Woonsocket*

- \$44,083 median family income (\$87,553-RI)
- 9,467 children live in Woonsocket
- 29.5% live in poverty
- 28.5% child abuse & neglect
- 26% differently-abled
- 14% multi-language learners
- #20 training school (12% of RI)
- 20.7% incarcerated parent
- 18% mobility rate
- Housing affordability gap (income to cost of housing)
- Highest rate of overdose deaths in Rhode Island

2020 Census; 2022 Kids Count; 2022 RISS; and PreventOverdoseRI.org (PORI)

## *Youth Voice*

“We just want:

- ▶ A safe place to hang out.”
- ▶ A place to drop in for extra homework help.”
- ▶ To help our community...be part of the solution.”
- ▶ A place outside of school to be with our friends...and have snacks.”

# Goals and Objectives

GOAL: Engage 20 high school youth from WED and Beacon Charter School to participate in opioid overdose prevention efforts within their schools and the community.

## OBJECTIVES:

1. Outreach/recruit youth with a focus on Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) youth;
2. Engage youth in a six-week, 12-session leadership development program: Introduction to Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition (BVPC) and public health, health equity, social justice; Media Development and Advocacy; Mental Health; Art & Mocktails/Substance-Free activities; Cultural Awareness/DEI; Community Health; Financial Literacy, self-care, sustaining themselves.
3. Provide advocacy skill development and peer engagement techniques, so that they will serve as ambassadors in outreach to their peers for participation in opioid overdose prevention and community engagement efforts.
4. Engage youth in developing and participating in public health and community service projects.



# Recruitment

## Objective 1: Outreach/recruit youth with a focus on BIPOC youth

### SWAG Outreach

Direct contact with youth at schools and community events

Morning announcements in schools, teacher referrals through flyers

Superintendent newsletter

Social Media

Radio

Community partners

Tabling events

Local faith organizations



**SWAG WE'RE HIRING!**  
YOUTH PREVENTION ADVOCATES

- + 6-WEEK SUMMER PROGRAM EVERY MONDAY AND WEDNESDAY STARTING JULY 8TH, 2024
- + WOONSOCKET YOUTH GRADES 9 - 12
- + INTERVIEWS WILL BE HELD JUNE 26, 27, 28
- + INSPIRE YOUR COMMUNITY WITH POSITIVITY, ADVOCATE FOR A SUBSTANCE-FREE LIFESTYLE, AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH SERVICE

\*LIMITED POSITIONS AVAILABLE\*

**APPLY HERE:**

For more information email: [jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com](mailto:jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com)

Or visit: Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition  
285 Main Street, Suites 3-4,  
Woonsocket, RI 02895



**SUMMER SWAG THURSDAY DROP-IN**

Looking for a spot to hang out this summer? Join us at S.W.A.G. on Thursdays! Our space offers:

- Gaming consoles, board games, and hands on activities
- A place to relax with friends
- Activities and projects to spark your creativity
- Optional tutoring available

**STARTING JULY 11TH**

July 18th  
July 26th  
August 1st  
August 8th

8 August 15th is YouthFest!!!

285 Main St Suite 5  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Come by, chill out, and make the most of your summer with us. Open to all Woonsocket teens, free of charge. Don't miss out on the fun!

For more information: [jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com](mailto:jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com)



**SWAG** STUDENT WELLNESS AND GROWTH  
EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS TO MAKE HEALTHY, SUBSTANCE-FREE DECISIONS

**CALLING ALL Teens!**

- GET SET FOR THE FUTURE WITH COLLEGE & CAREER TIPS
- MASTER THE ART OF SPOCCERS WITH LIFE SKILLS
- DIVE INTO INTERACTIVE LESSONS
- A PLACE TO CHILL & HANG OUT

FOOD & SNACKS  
COME 2 WEEKS IN A ROW AND WIN A \$25 GIFT CARD!  
ENGLISH & SPANISH SPEAKING

EVERY TUESDAY  
2:30 - 4:00 P.M.  
STARTING: **Oct 17th**

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU WANT TO SEE!

BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION  
285 MAIN ST SUITES 3-4  
WOONSOCKET, RI 02895



FOR MORE INFO: [MARIAGARCIA@BVPCORGMAIL.COM](mailto:MARIAGARCIA@BVPCORGMAIL.COM)



**SUMMER YOUTH COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT**

Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition

**WHO ARE WE?**

6-WEEK PAID PROGRAM  
LOOKING FOR HIGH SCHOOL TEENS GRADES 9-12

TUESDAY & THURSDAY  
11:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.  
START WEEK JULY 10, 2023

**SO WHAT'S THE WORD THIS SUMMER?**

FILL OUT THE APPLICATION BY **JUNE 23, 2023** BY SCANNING QR CODE

EMAIL: [jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com](mailto:jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

\*LIMITED SLOTS AVAILABLE\*



"It Starts with You"

# The Program

## Objective 2: Engage youth in a six-week, 12-session leadership development program - Summer Session



**SUMMER**  
S.W.A.G.  
Student Wellness and Growth

**TUESDAY**

- JULY 18**  
FINANCIAL LITERACY
- AUG 1**  
MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS
- AUG 15**  
SHOW YOUR CULTURE DAY

**THURSDAY**

- JULY 25**  
MEDIA CAMPAIGN
- AUG 8**  
ART & MOCKTAILS
- AUG 22**  
COMMUNITY HEALTH DAY

**SCHEDULE**

**DROP-IN 12:00-4:00 P.M.**

- 12:00: ARRIVE
- 12:30-1:30: GROUP ACTIVITY
- 1:30-3:30: TUTORS AVAILABLE
- 4:00: END OF DAY

Join us for an exciting 6-week summer program open to students grades 6-12!

**WHEN: STARTING JULY 18, 2023**  
DROP-IN TUESDAY & THURSDAY  
12:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M.

**WHERE: BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION**  
285 MAIN ST SUITE 3-4, WOONSOCKET, RI 02895

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT: [JHEIDYRIOSBVPC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com)  
@WOONSOCKETYOUTHBPVPC



**2nd Annual**  
**YOUTHFEST**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**August 15, 2024**  
**River Island Park**  
**4:00pm - 8:00pm**

Join us for a fun-filled community event hosted by S.W.A.G.! Enjoy food, music, games, activities educational/community resources & more!  
Let's celebrate our youth and Woonsocket together!

For tabling or more info: [jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com](mailto:jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com)



**SUMMER**  
**DROP-IN**

**THURSDAY DROP-IN**

Looking for a spot to hang out this summer? Join us at S.W.A.G. on Thursdays! Our space offers:

- Gaming consoles, board games, and hands on activities
- A place to relax with friends
- Activities and projects to spark your creativity
- Optional tutoring available

**STARTING JULY 11TH**

- July 18th
- July 25th
- August 1st
- August 8th

& August 15th is **YouthFest!!!**

285 Main St Suite 5  
Woonsocket, RI 02895  
**12:00 PM - 4:00 PM**

Come by, chill out, and make the most of your summer with us. Open to all Woonsocket teens, free of charge. Don't miss out on the fun!

For more information: [jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com](mailto:jheidyriosbvpc@gmail.com)



# The Program

## Engage youth in a year-round youth program Fall & Spring Sessions

**WHAT IS S.W.A.G.?**

A RELAXED SPACE WHERE TEENS HANG OUT, SPARKING GROWTH AND INSPIRATION.

- \* INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES & GAMES \*
- \* MERCH & MEDIA DESIGN \*
- \* COLLEGE & CAREER PLANNING \*
- & MORE!

SO WTF? ONLY YOU CAN DEFINE YOUR OWN DESTINY!

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AVAILABLE

WEEKLY \$25 GIFT CARD | FREE SNACKS & DRINKS

**S.W.A.G.**

TOP IMAGE: FIRST EVER YOUTHFEST!

OUR AMAZING GROUP OF YOUNG PEOPLE BROUGHT THEIR COMMUNITY SERVICE VISION TO LIFE BY PLANNING AND PRODUCING A COMMUNITY EVENT TO CELEBRATE WOODSOCKET ABOUT OPIOID MISUSE. THE EVENT FEATURED A DJ, COMMUNITY PARTNERS, GOOD FOOD, AND MANY DIFFERENT FUN ACTIVITIES.

BOTTOM LEFT IMAGE: SHOW YOUR CULTURE

S.W.A.G. IS AN INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT THAT CELEBRATES DIVERSITY AND CULTURE. TO SHOW THIS WE DESIGNED A CULTURE DAY THAT WAS MADE SPECIFICALLY FOR OUR STUDENTS. THEY WERE SHOWN DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF EACH OTHERS CULTURE AND THE CULTURES OF WOODSOCKET'S POPULATION. WE EVEN GOT TO: BUOY, BRIDE, CON, GARLIC, CHICKEN, SPRING ROLLS, PERCOL AND COLUMBINE.

BOTTOM RIGHT IMAGE: ART

ONE WORKSHOP THAT WAS LOVED BY OUR YOUTH WAS PAINTING WITH NATURAL. WE TAPPED INTO OUR BAKER BEES AND CREATED OUR OWN BOMBAI TREES!

JOIN THE FUN AND GROW WITH US @ S.W.A.G.!

EVERY MONDAY & WEDNESDAY: 2:30-4:30

**THROWBACK**

@BVPCSWAG @BVPREVENTION | BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION

285 MAIN ST SUITE 3-4, WOODSOCKET, RI 02895

**Next Week @ S.W.A.G.**

Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition

APRIL/MAY 2024

**JANUARY 2024**

**MON 29** **FIRST DAY!**  
Introduction to S.W.A.G. and our goals.  
GOAT Talk  
Hot Seat (Prize awarded to winner)

**WED 31** **LET'S TALK COMMUNITY**  
How well do you know your community?  
What are Woonsocket's strengths and weaknesses? Is there something you're passionate about to advocate for?

**UPCOMING:** Art Crochet Cooking Yoga Poetry Candle-making  
Narcotics training Self-esteem Communication Self-care Creating a resume Entrepreneurship  
Community outreach College & Career Prep Substance-free Alternatives

WHAT ELSE DO YOU WANT TO SEE?

For more information: @BVPCSWAG @BVPREVENTION BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION mariagarciabvpc@gmail.com

**Next Week @ S.W.A.G.**

Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition

MARCH

**MON 4** **SELF-CARE**  
What is it? What are the benefits? And some practice!

**WED 6** **COMMUNITY AND WELLNESS DAY**  
Narcotics training and talk about the opioid crisis in Rhode Island & your community.

For more information: @BVPCSWAG @BVPREVENTION BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION mariagarciabvpc@gmail.com

**Next Week @ S.W.A.G.**

Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition

APRIL/MAY 2024

**MON 29** **FIELD DAY**  
Lets enjoy the weather and get our 60 minutes of exercise in @ the park! Outreach along the way!

**WED 1** **COMMUNITY AND WELLNESS DAY**  
Continue planning our clothing/food drive.

For more information: @BVPCSWAG @BVPREVENTION BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION mariagarciabvpc@gmail.com

**Next Week @ S.W.A.G.**

Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition

MAY 2024

**MON 6** **VAPING**  
Come learn about the negative side of vaping (spoiler alert: there are only negative sides), and how you can resist adopting an addiction.

**WED 8** **COMMUNITY AND WELLNESS DAY**  
Outreach of the flier we created together and other resources (maybe even rocks!)

For more information: @BVPCSWAG @BVPREVENTION BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION mariagarciabvpc@gmail.com





Health  
Equity  
Zone  
Woonsocket



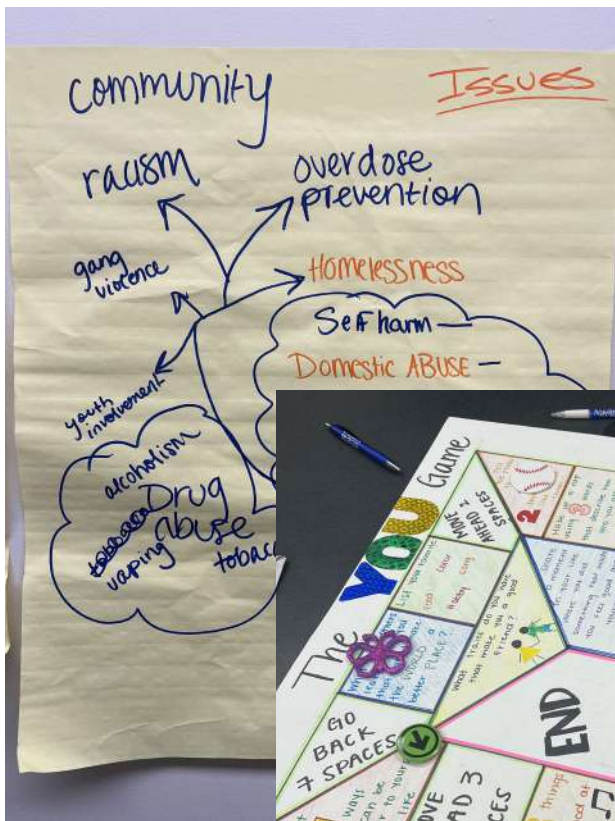
ENGAGING  
COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS  
for Presentations



Comprehensive  
Treatment Centers  
Opioid Use Disorder Programs



# Interactive Activities





# DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES INTO THE COMMUNITY -

Targeting neighborhoods with the highest incidence of overdose

## Objective 3:

Provide youth with advocacy skills development and peer engagement techniques, so that they will serve as ambassadors in outreach to their peers for participation in opioid overdose prevention and community engagement efforts.



## OVERDOSE PREVENTION

**Common Causes of an Overdose**

- Mixing drugs
- Lower Tolerance (Coming out of jail, detox, treatment)
- Using too much too fast
- Using alone

**Signs of an Opioid Overdose**

- Blue lips, fingernails or toenails
- Slow, shallow or no breathing
- Pale and clammy skin
- Snoring or gurgling noises
- Unresponsive

**What to do if someone overdoses**

- Dial 9-1-1: let them know you suspect a drug overdose
- Give Narcan (Naloxone) – available through agencies listed
- Perform rescue breathing
- Put person in recovery position if breathing begins or if you can't stay to wait for help

**The IMPORTANCE of Narcan (Naloxone)**

- Narcan is a medication approved by the FDA to prevent overdose by opioids (heroin, codeine, oxycodone, etc)
- Reverses effects of overdose
- No adverse effects if given to someone who is not having an overdose

**FENTANYL IS A POWERFUL OPIOID FOUND IN A MAJORITY OF THE STREET OPIOID SUPPLY. PLEASE PROTECT YOURSELF AND THOSE YOU CARE FOR BY ALWAYS CARRYING NARCAN**

In partnership with Health Equity Zone

**Prevention:**  
Services or activities provided to stop a negative action from happening to reduce the risk of mental health, physical health and substance use issues.  
[www.blackstonevalleypreventioncoalition.com](http://www.blackstonevalleypreventioncoalition.com)

**Treatment:**  
Services for you or someone you know who is dealing with mental health, substance use or health-related problems.  
**Community Care Alliance (CCA)**  
(401) 235-7121

**Treatment with a Nurse**  
(401) 767-4100

**Recovery House – Comprehensive Treatment Center**  
1 (888) 458-3195  
Web Link: 1-855-543-LINK  
SN LINK: (401) 414-5465

**Recovery:**  
Services that provide supports to help individuals live productive lives in the community.  
**Recovery Resources**  
401-942-STOP (7867)  
**Recovery Center**  
(401) 235-7121

**Know the Five Signs**

the campaign to  
**changedirection.**  
#changementalhealth



## Summer Narcan trainings:

1 Faith Organization -  
#15 attendees

1 Business - #12

2 Youth - #10; #4

3 Community - #11



# YOU CAN SAVE A LIFE

# FREE NARCAN TRAINING

### WHAT IS NARCAN?

Narcan also known as Naloxone, is a life saving medication that counteracts the effects of an opioid overdose to restore normal respiration

### WHO SHOULD TRAIN?

This brief session is open to **EVERYONE**  
Opioid addiction does not discriminate, together we can save lives

### WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

- How to recognize overdose symptoms
- How to properly use Narcan to prevent death by overdose
- Attendees will receive a free Narcan kit



- Held last Thursday of each month
- Drop-in 5p.m.-7p.m.



### BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION

285 Main St Suite 3-4  
Woonsocket, RI 02895

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT:

LCARCIFERO@WOONSOCKETPREVENTIONCOALITION.ORG



  : @WOONSOCKETYOUTHBPVC

# Material Developed by Youth



## NARCAN 101



### WHAT IS NARCAN?

**Naloxone, also known as Narcan, is a life-saving medication that rapidly reverses the effects of opioid overdose.** It works by binding to the brain receptors that opioids target, displacing the opioids and reversing their impact. Administered through nasal spray or injection, naloxone restores breathing and consciousness within minutes, serving as a crucial intervention to reduce opioid-related deaths.

### WHEN SHOULD I ADMINISTER NARCAN?

You should administer Narcan if you notice someone experiencing the signs of a drug overdose, which include trouble breathing or slow breathing, pale skin and/or blue fingernails or lips, pinpoint pupils, vomiting, drowsiness, gurgling or snoring noises, or unresponsiveness.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF I ADMINISTER NARCAN TO SOMEONE WHO ISN'T OVERDOSING?

Nothing happens if there are no opioids in a person's system and Narcan is administered. Narcan is not harmful, only helpful.

### IS IT LEGAL TO ADMINISTER NARCAN?

In Rhode Island, the Good Samaritan Overdose Prevention Act provides legal immunity from certain drug-related charges for both the person experiencing the overdose and the person administering naloxone. This means that if you are trying to help someone who is overdosing by administering naloxone, you are generally protected from prosecution for drug possession or related offenses.

### HOW DO I ADMINISTER NARCAN?

Refer to the back of this page for a step by step process on how to administer Narcan, or contact the Blackstone Valley Prevention Coalition and we can formally train you! You can reach us at (401) 859-2500, extension one, or you can email [lcarcifero@woonsocketpreventioncoalition.org](mailto:lcarcifero@woonsocketpreventioncoalition.org)! Together we can save lives.



## SIGNS OF AN OPIOID OVERDOSE



01



### Trouble Breathing/Slow Breathing

Slowed or troubled breathing is a critical sign of opioid overdose. Opioids can depress the respiratory system, leading to dangerously shallow or irregular breathing patterns. This lack of oxygen circulation can quickly become life-threatening.

02



### Pale Skin/Blue Lips or Fingernails

Pale skin and blue fingernails/lips are concerning indicators of an opioid overdose. Opioids can slow down the heart rate and reduce blood circulation, leading to inadequate oxygen supply to the body's tissues. This can result in a bluish tint to the lips and nails, known as cyanosis.

03



### Pinpoint Pupils

Pinpoint pupils are a significant red flag for opioid overdose. Opioids constrict the pupils, making them unusually small, even in dim light. This distinctive sign can indicate a dangerous suppression of the central nervous system.

04



### Vomiting

Vomiting is a worrisome symptom of opioid overdose. Opioids can affect the body's natural reflexes, including the ability to control nausea.

05



### Drowsiness

Severe drowsiness is a key warning sign of opioid overdose. Opioids depress the central nervous system, causing extreme sleepiness and difficulty staying awake.

06



### Gurgling Noises Signaling Airways are Blocked

Gurgling or snoring noises are concerning signs of an opioid overdose. Opioids can relax the muscles in the throat and airway, leading to noisy, labored breathing.

07



### Unresponsiveness

Unresponsiveness is a critical red flag of opioid overdose. Opioids can cause extreme lethargy and loss of consciousness.

Have a question? Email me at [lcarcifero@woonsocketpreventioncoalition.org](mailto:lcarcifero@woonsocketpreventioncoalition.org)

Together we can save lives.

# Youth Opioid Overdose Public Service Announcement (PSA)



**BLACKSTONE VALLEY PREVENTION COALITION**  
**NARCAN/TEEN OPIOID USE PREVENTION PSA**



# YOUTHFEST Family Event COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

August 24, 2023 & August 22, 2024, River Island Park

Objective 4: Engage youth in developing and participating in public health and community service projects.







## STUDENT WELLNESS AND GROWTH

# SWAG

EMPOWERING YOUNG MINDS TO MAKE HEALTHY, SUBSTANCE-FREE DECISIONS

## CALLING ALL **Teens!**



TRAININGS,  
COMMUNITY PROJECTS  
COLLEGE & CAREER  
PLANNING,  
INTERACTIVE LESSONS  
... OR JUST HANG OUT!



EVERY TUESDAY

2:30 - 4:00 P.M.

STARTING: **OCT 17**<sup>TH</sup>

BLACKSTONE VALLEY  
PREVENTION COALITION  
285 MAIN ST SUITES 3-4  
WOONSOCKET, RI 02895

FOR MORE INFO: [MARIAGARCIAVPC@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MARIAGARCIAVPC@GMAIL.COM)

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# SWAG Program

Spring 2023 - Drop In

14 high school students

Summer 2023

10 high school students

School Year 2024


26 high school students

Summer 2024

15 high school students

# Next Chapter



  
Educating Queer-youth Utilizing Advocacy & Leadership (E.Q.U.A.L.)

**EQUAL**  
Educating Queer-youth Utilizing Advocacy & Leadership

- ARE YOU A TEEN WHO ATTENDS A HIGH SCHOOL IN WOONSOCKET AND IS A MEMBER OF THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY?
- DO YOU WANT TO LEARN WAYS THAT YOU CAN ADVOCATE IN YOUR COMMUNITY, LEARN TECHNIQUES THAT CAN HELP AVOID NEGATIVE BEHAVIORS, AND ENGAGE IN CIVIC DUTIES?
- DO YOU ENJOY PLAYING TABLETOP GAMES SUCH AS DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS?


**Then join the E.Q.U.A.L. program starting back up fall 2024!**

Both forms below must be filled out for youth to attend the program

Email, call, text, or visit us to sign up:  
Dlariveebvpc@gmail.com  
1(401) 666-1332  
285 Main St. Suite 3-4  
Woonsocket

Parent Permission   
[https://storae2.snaappage.site/kyrn/mbble/assets/files/Parent\\_Permission\\_Release\\_Form-2024.pdf](https://storae2.snaappage.site/kyrn/mbble/assets/files/Parent_Permission_Release_Form-2024.pdf)

Application   
[https://storae2.snaappage.site/kyrn/mbble/assets/files/Equal\\_Application-2024.pdf](https://storae2.snaappage.site/kyrn/mbble/assets/files/Equal_Application-2024.pdf)



# Public Comment

**RHODE  
ISLAND**