



Governor Dan McKee's Overdose Task Force

May 13, 2026

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Welcome and Announcements

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**Tomorrow, May 14; 11 a.m. - Noon
Mental Health Action Day**

Hosted by [the Rhode Island Office of Veterans Services](#) on their [Facebook](#).

May 26; 2:30 p.m.

**Anchored in Support, Stronger
Together**

Hosted by the [Mental Health Association of RI](#) at the State House.

Upgrade Your First Aid Kit Campaign Toolkit

Access the toolkit by scanning the QR code



Help Stop Overdose Campaign

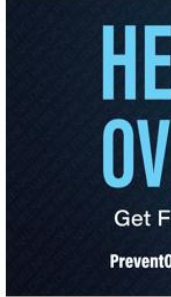
The Rhode Island Department of Health has created this toolkit to help community partners promote these ready-made materials to residents.

PREVENT OVERDOSE RI **PREVENGA SOBREDOSIS RI**

STATIC GRAPHICS


Click the "DOWNLOAD" button to access and download the file.

ENGLISH **STATIC**



1920x1080 **DOWNLOAD**

SPANISH **STATIC**



1920x1080 **DOWNLOAD**


PRINTED MATERIALS (English and Spanish)

Order these free educational resources from [RIDOH's Publications webpage](#).

Materials will be mailed at no cost within one to two weeks.

Click the "DOWNLOAD" button to access and download the file.

ENGLISH **PRINT** 11in x17in **DOWNLOAD**

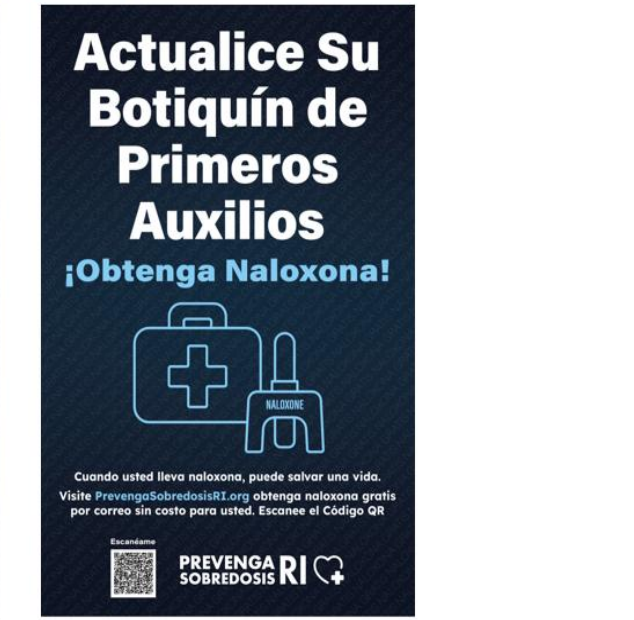


When you carry naloxone, you can save a life.

Visit [PreventOverdoseRI.org](#) to get a naloxone kit mailed to your home at no cost.

PREVENT OVERDOSE RI

SPANISH **PRINT** 12in x18in **DOWNLOAD**



Cuando usted lleva naloxona, puede salvar una vida. Visite [PrevencaSobredosisRI.org](#) obtenga naloxona gratis por correo sin costo para usted. Escanee el Código QR

PREVENGA SOBREDOSIS RI

Free Naloxone for Community Partner Organizations

PreventOverdoseRI.org/get-naloxone

PREVENT OVERDOSE RI

Upgrade Your First Aid Kit
Request a Naloxone Kit Mailed to Your Home at No Cost

Get Help English

About Learn More Prevent An Overdose See The Data Find Resources Get Involved Languages

Get Naloxone

MORE RESOURCES

Overdose Prevention Resources

There are other ways you can be reduce the risks when using drugs.

- Respond to Overdose
- Harm Reduction Practices
- People Who Use Drugs

Information for Community Partners

For organizations distributing naloxone in the community, you can request naloxone and enter data on your distribution by clicking the buttons below.

[Request Naloxone](#) [Enter Your Data](#)

Three Ways to get Naloxone

Download a fact sheet to learn more about the three ways you can get naloxone.

[Download Fact Sheet](#)

Naloxone Request Form for Community Partners

AAA

Please read the following message before completing this form:

This form is for community partners to submit naloxone requests.

To be eligible to request naloxone through this form, you must:

- Be a Rhode Island-based non-profit organization, municipality or community-based organization, and
- Have experience with overdose prevention and response training.

Priority will be given to organizations that plan to distribute naloxone kits to individuals at high risk of overdose and families and friends of individuals who are at risk.

Please note: Naloxone is a medicine that must be properly stored; follow all directions for proper usage prior to using. Naloxone cannot be resold.

Primary Contact Person Name
* must provide value

(This person is responsible for coordinating the naloxone distribution including ensuring proper storage, training, and usage of naloxone)

Primary Contact Person Email Address
* must provide value

Primary Contact Person Phone Number
* must provide value

Organization/ Agency Name
* must provide value

What type of naloxone are you requesting today?
* must provide value

Intranasal (Narcan)
 Intramuscular



Community Input for Overdose Task Force Annual Recommendations

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Governor's Overdose Task Force Recommendation Process

Each year, the Governor's Overdose Task Force provides priority recommendations to the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee for consideration in their allocation of funding for the next State fiscal year.

Task Force Work Group Co-Chairs

- In April 2026, an Annual Recommendations Survey was developed by EOHHS and Brown University's People, Places & Health Collaborative. The survey gathered feedback on the Overdose Task Force Strategic Plan (i.e., "Roadmap") and priorities. It also asked open-ended questions about emerging issues and future challenges.

Gather Task Force Work Group Recommendations

- The survey was released to all nine Overdose Task Force Work Groups in April 2026.

Overdose Task Force Community Conversation

- In May 2026, results from the survey are shared during the public meeting of the Overdose Task Force. Additional community feedback is gathered during the meeting's community conversation and brainstorming activity. The brainstorming activity focuses on eight topics or themes: Racial Equity; Social Determinants of Health (Families); Social Determinants of Health (Housing); Emerging Response to the Epidemic, Harm Reduction and Rescue; Treatment; Recovery; and Prevention.

Report Out to the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee

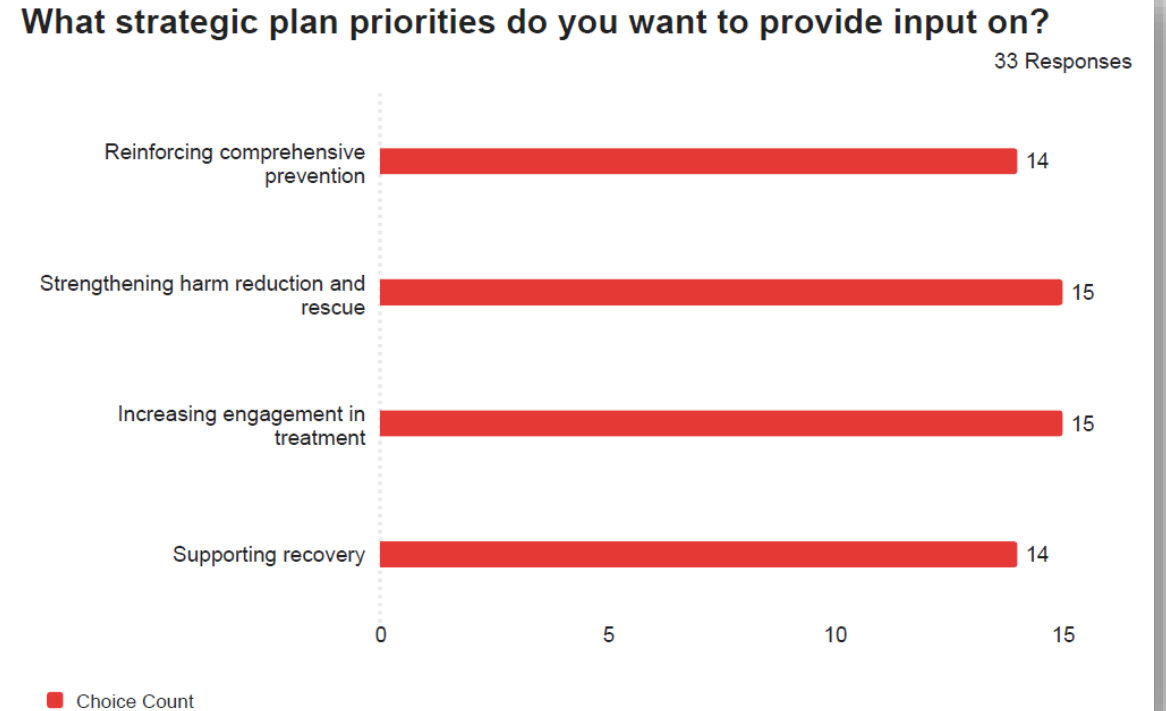
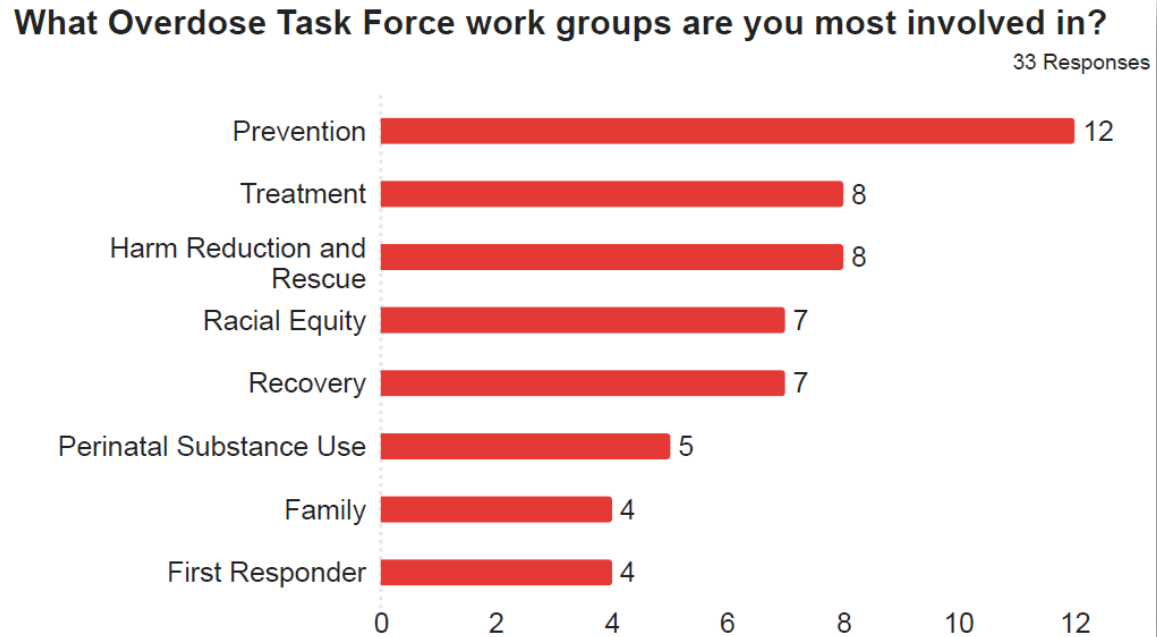
- Key takeaways from the Overdose Task Force Annual Recommendations Survey and the May Task Force Community Conversation will be shared during the May 2026 Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee meeting.

2026 Task Force Annual Recommendations Survey

Survey for feedback and recommendations on priorities, issues, and strategic focus for the upcoming year.

- Survey respondents could choose multiple work groups.
- Respondents arranged a list of priorities associated with each work group to indicate which ones they thought were most important.
- We asked open-ended questions about emerging issues and upcoming challenges. We identified key priorities within each work group and analyzed open-ended answers to identify themes.
- **33 surveys were completed between April and May 2026.**

2026 Task Force Annual Recommendations Survey



Summary of Survey Themes from Free-Text Questions

- **Funding Sustainability and Benefit Gaps:** How to sustain funding when there are cuts to vital services like Medicaid. Eligibility shifts and administrative hurdles are actively preventing "low-barrier" access that organizations want to provide.
- **Holistic Survival:** Material needs, such as housing and food, as well as wraparound support, such as family services and job training, are important considerations alongside clinical treatment and recovery.
- **Harm Reduction and Navigating the Unknown Drug Supply:** The challenge of keeping pace with emerging substances and the resulting long-term health impacts. Reinforcing harm reduction concepts for the public and loved ones.



May 2026 Community Conversation

Alex Gautieri, MSW, LCSW; Overdose Task Force Community Co-Chair

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Housekeeping and Discussion Agreements

- There is no perfect; there is no end point. *Our work is a process.*
- We can't be articulate all the time, so give the benefit of the doubt.
- Our *Intent* isn't the same as our *Impact*.
- It's ok to be uncomfortable! Growth is uncomfortable.
- Make space, Take space.
- Take breaks as you need.
- We will boldly try - and every attempt will teach us more.
- We all have something to learn and we all have something to offer.
- Be curious and ask questions!

What else would help you engage?

Reframe
Health +
Justice
consulting

Purpose of Today's Community Conversation

- **Capture** input on emerging issues, areas of focus, and priorities from community members, such as yourself, to help with planning for future years.
- **Compile** input from today's community conversation with results from the Task Force Annual Recommendations Survey.
- **Share** compiled feedback during the May 27th public meeting of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee.

What to Expect: Today's Brainstorming Activity (20 minutes)

Materials:

There are eight sheets posted around the room; each focused on a different topic or theme. Sticky notes and markers are provided.

Activity:

20-minute, interactive brainstorming activity.

Report Out:

Four volunteers will read feedback shared on the sticky notes for each of the eight topics or themes.

Topics or Themes for the Brainstorming Activity

- Emerging Response to the Changing Epidemic
- Racial Equity
- SDOH: Housing, Employment, Reentry/Justice Involved, and Basic Needs
- SDOH: Strengthening Families and Communities Across the Lifespan
- Prevention
- Harm Reduction/Rescue
- Treatment
- Recovery

Let's Get Started: Brainstorming Activity

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Three Questions to Consider for Each Topic or Theme

- What are the most significant issues and/or topics in this area that need to be addressed?
- What is going well (e.g., programs, collaborations) in this priority area?
- Where are opportunities for impact and collaboration in this area?

For Virtual Participants Only:
Scan the QR Code for the Online Survey





Report Out from Each Topic or Theme

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Thank You

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Public Comment

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Appendix

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Scan the QR Code to Access the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan





2026-2028

Overdose Task Force Strategic Plan

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Overdose Task Force Cross-Cutting Priorities

Ensuring Racial Equity

- Ensure that the Racial Equity is being embedded across all pillars.

Building Strong Governance and Community Engagement

- Enhance governance, transparency, and inclusive decision making across levels of government and ensure community voice is centered in decision making.

Expanding Data Capacity and Surveillance

- Maintain a unified, equity-driven overdose data system that enables real-time action, disaggregated analysis across key demographic, geographic, and structural factors, and secure data sharing among State agencies and community partners.

Communications and Messaging

- Build community capital through education, public messaging, and narrative change that reduces stigma, strengthens social connectedness, and increases community trust and engagement across the overdose continuum.

Social Determinants of Health

- Prioritize housing stability, economic opportunity, and culturally responsive services for populations disproportionately impacted by overdose.

Rhode Island's 2026-2028 Overdose Task Force Strategic Plan

Reinforcing Comprehensive Prevention

- Prevent the initiation of substance use by **implementing evidence-based, equity-centered primary prevention** in schools, workplaces, healthcare, and high-risk settings. Primary prevention strategies include appropriate prescribing and injury prevention practices.

Strengthening Harm Reduction and Rescue

- Achieve targeted and statewide coverage of harm reduction resources by **maximizing access to lifesaving tools (e.g., naloxone), adapting services to the evolving drug supply, and implementing equitable post-overdose engagement strategies** that reduce mortality and improve linkages to care.

Increasing Engagement in Treatment

- Ensure equitable, low-barrier, and on-demand treatment services **across the lifespan**. Expand treatment access, workforce capacity, reduce social, cultural, and structural barriers, and address social determinants of health and **disparities** that limit engagement and retention in care.

Supporting Recovery

- **Build and sustain recovery capital across housing, employment, family, community, and cultural domains** by strengthening recovery-oriented systems, professionalizing the peer workforce, and supporting long-term recovery and intergenerational stability.