



Town of Derry

Derry Fire Department

PRESS RELEASE

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Naloxone Training to be Offered to Public ***Local agencies respond to opioid epidemic, distribute Naloxone kits***

Derry, NH – Responding to the dramatic increase in opioid overdoses locally and deaths statewide, local agencies are partnering to offer critical life safety training to the public.

Information on Substance Misuse, Treatment and Naloxone administration training will be offered on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. at West Running Brook Middle School, 1 West Running Brook Lane Derry. Naloxone (Narcan) is an emergency medication used to reverse life-threatening effects associated with an opioid overdose. This free training is open to the public and no personal information will be collected.

David Mara, ESQ. Advisor to the Governor on Addiction and Behavioral Health will discuss what the State of New Hampshire is doing to combat the state's opioid crisis.

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services is providing the Naloxone kits for the Derry training.

Derry Fire Department and Professional Firefighters of Derry will lead the training on these potentially life-saving measures.

The training will express the importance of early access to emergency responders (calling 911), a demonstration on CPR/rescue breathing, and hands-on experience with administering Naloxone. At the conclusion of the training participants will receive a free Naloxone kit that can be used to respond to an opioid overdose. Additionally, there will be an opportunity to gain valuable information on local substance abuse prevention, treatment and recovery resources.

According to data collected by Derry Fire Department, there have been 220 suspected opioid overdoses in Derry since January 2015. Of these, 59 lives were saved by EMS and 4 through Law Enforcement with Naloxone administrations. Approximately one-third of those overdoses occurred in individuals ages 25-34.

Chuck Hemeon, EMS Director Derry Fire Department, explains that the training is part of a statewide effort to tackle the opioid epidemic across a continuum of care. "With



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support from the state, we are working to get Naloxone kits and proper training to individuals with opioid addiction and their families and friends. At the same time, there are also significant efforts being made to expand access to recovery services.” Representatives from local agencies that support addiction prevention, treatment, and recovery services will be available at the training to provide information and referral.

Local agencies partnering to organize the training include; Center for Life Management, Parkland Medical Center, Community Alliance for Teen Safety, Addiction Recovery Services, Granite Recovery Centers, Granite Pathways, Derry Friendship Center, The Upper Room, Derry Fire Department, Professional Firefighters of Derry, Greater Derry Community Health Services, and South Central Public Health Network.

A special thanks to the Derry Cooperative School District and West Running Brook School for help with a location for this event.

To learn more about this issue as well as the priorities, partners, and efforts of the South Central Regional Public Health Network (SCPHN) please visit <http://southcentralphn.org/> or contact Kate McDonald, Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator for the SCPHN at 603-505-7216.