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**2nd Naloxone Training to be Offered
Free to the Public**

Local agencies respond to opioid epidemic, distribute Naloxone kits

Derry, NH – Due to the success of the first Naloxone (also known as Narcan) training, local agencies in coordination with New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) will conduct a second Naloxone training for community members who are affected by an opioid addiction. Naloxone is an emergency treatment used to reverse life-threatening effects associated with an opioid overdose. The training is being held on July 28th at 7 p.m. at the Derry Friendship Center, 6 Railroad Ave in Derry. “Our first Community Naloxone Training held at the Barka School in June was by all accounts quite successful. DHHS stated that the Derry training event was the largest Naloxone training and distribution of kits to date in the state. Feedback from the approximately 120 participants was very positive. All participated in the hands on skills demonstration and 100 DHHS Naloxone kits were distributed. A week ago we responded to a call and discovered that the Naloxone kit was assembled by a lay rescuer but ultimately not administered to the victim. With our next Naloxone training event, scheduled for July 28th, we will certainly focus our training on proper administration and further we expect 80+- participants.” stated Chuck Hemeon, Director of EMS, Derry Fire Department, and training committee planning member.

The trainings are being conducted in response to the dramatic increase in opioid overdoses locally and deaths statewide. According to data collected by Derry Fire Department, since January 2014, Derry Fire EMS has responded to 167 overdoses: 74% males, age range from 15-64 years with the average age of 36 years. 30 individuals have required EMS for their overdoses on more than one occasion. 22 have ended in cardiac arrest.

The Naloxone training stresses the importance of calling 911 immediately upon recognizing an opioid overdose. The training will include information on local substance abuse resources, 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. New Hampshire DHHS is providing the Naloxone kits and Derry Fire Department and Professional Firefighters

of Derry will lead the training on these potentially life-saving measures. This free training is open to the public and no personal information will be collected.

“Naloxone can save a life, but it is only one piece of the puzzle,” said Scott Haggart, a Battalion Chief with Derry Fire Department and a member of the planning committee for the training. “Our goal is to train the public on signs and symptoms of overdose, stress the importance of calling 911 as well as, the immediate actions they should take to get responders to the scene and to ensure everyone’s safety. Our community Naloxone trainings will provide hands on skill demonstration on rescue breathing, CPR and Naloxone administration.”

Mariann White, the regional Substance Misuse Prevention Coordinator with Community Alliance for Teen Safety, explains that the training is part of a statewide effort to tackle the opioid epidemic across a continuum of care. “With 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, Community Alliance for Teen Safety, Derry Fire Department and Professional Firefighters of Derry, Greater Derry Community Health Services, South Central Public Health Network, and Parkland Medical Center.

For more information about the training, please contact Chuck Hemeon, Derry Fire Department at 603-845-5438. To request information about opioid addiction, treatment and recovery, please contact the NH Statewide Addiction Crisis Line at 1-844-711-HELP.