OD2A: LOCAL NEWSLETTER

May 2024

OD2A: Focus on Data

April was a busy month for OD2A grantees as we continue to meet CDC grant deliverables and serve Marion County.

69 referrals to community resources (such as shelter, food pantries, clothing pantry etc)

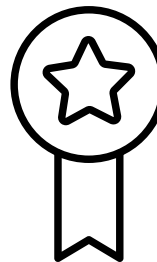**2,887** Naloxone doses distributed to agencies/individuals

1127 mouth shields distributed to agencies/individuals

87 referrals to treatment/services

FAQ **67** Attended presentations.

3378 Fentanyl test strips distributed.

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In 2021 the Food and Drug Administration approved an 8-mg intranasal naloxone product, double the 4-mg naloxone currently available. In 2022 the New York State Department of Health (NYSDH) partnered with the New York State Police (NYSP) to field test 8-mg intranasal naloxone use by a small group of NYSP troops. The aims of the study were to conduct real-world comparisons of survival, the average number of doses administered, presence of postnaloxone signs and symptoms, and hospital transport refusal among persons receiving the 8-mg or the 4-mg intranasal naloxone products. No significant differences were observed in survival; however, persons who received the 8-mg intranasal naloxone product had 2.51 times (95% CI = 1.51–4.18) the risk for opioid withdrawal signs and symptoms, including vomiting, compared to patients who received the 4-mg intranasal naloxone product.

Harm reduction advocates have noted potential harms of higher-dose naloxone, including severe withdrawal signs and symptoms, and respiratory complications, including pulmonary edema and aspiration of vomitus. Negative outcomes from higher doses of naloxone can result in refusal of medical care and reluctance to use naloxone if witnessing an overdose.

Full article available here.

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May is Mental Health Awareness Month, a national observance started in 1949 by Mental Health America to bring attention to the importance of mental well-being, reduce stigma, and promote treatment options. According to recent SAMSHA studies, about 1 in 5 US adults experience a mental health illness each year, while approximately only 47% of people experiencing a mental health issue received in treatment in 2021.

Research from the National Institutes on Health (NIH) show that about half of all people that report substance use disorder also have a behavioral health issue such as anxiety, depression, bipolar disorder, and others.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse identifies three main pathways that can contribute to the comorbidity between substance use disorders and mental illnesses:

- 1. Common risk factors can contribute to both mental illness and substance use and addiction.
- 2. Mental illness may contribute to substance use and addiction.
- 3. Substance use and addiction can contribute to the development of mental illness.

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As part of their ongoing Foundational Fridays series, the National Harm Reduction Coalition will host a 2 hour webinar that will provide an overview of health disparities among sexual and gender minorities by demonstrating how multiple levels of stigma and oppression adversely affect health outcomes.

Webinar will be on June 28th from noon to 2pm ET.

Register here.

Overdose To Data Action Grant

The CDC implemented the Overdose Data to Action (OD2A) cooperative agreement in 2019 to address the raising rates of fatal and non-fatal overdoses in the United States. OD2A focuses on understanding and tracking the complex and changing nature of the drug overdose crisis by seamlessly integrating data and prevention strategies. In August 2023, CDC awarded new five-year cooperative agreements to 90 jurisdictions including Marion County.

OD2A recipients focus on:

- Address the evolving epidemiology of the drug overdose crisis.
- Close identified gaps in prevention activities.
- Apply lessons learned from the previous OD2A funding opportunity.
- Reflect the differing roles and spheres of influence state and local health departments and their partners have.

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