

Preventing Fatal Opioid Overdose

Scott Stokes

Director of Prevention Services
AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin
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Working Definition of Harm Reduction

Harm Reduction:

A set of practical, public health strategies designed to reduce the negative consequences of drug use and promote healthy individuals and communities.

Key Principles of Harm Reduction

- **Designs & promotes** public health interventions that minimize the harmful affects of drug use.
- **Understands** drug use as a complex, multi-faceted issue that encompasses behaviors from severe abuse to total abstinence.
- **Meets** people where they are in the course of their drug use.

Goals of Harm Reduction

- **Prevent disease**

Sterile syringe access to prevent HIV and hepatitis

- **Reduce mortality**

Overdose prevention with training and naloxone distribution; link to medical care and social services

- **Treatment for drug dependence**

Buprenorphine, Suboxone or Methadone Maintenance

ARCW's Service Delivery

	2012	2013	2014
Needles	2,006,039	2,508,665	3,034,648
Direct	29,688	33,242	43,056
Indirect	40,823	41,797	45,744
OD Trained	931	1,508	2,072
Peer Saves	787	1,107	1,338

Preventing Fatal Opiate Overdose

- ▶ 85% of all overdoses are witnessed
- ▶ Active drug users will respond
- ▶ Naloxone (Narcan) reverses an overdose

How Do We Respond to an Overdose?

- ▶ Stimulate – can they be awakened
- ▶ Call 911
- ▶ Airway
- ▶ Rescue Breathing
- ▶ Evaluate
- ▶ Muscular Injection
- ▶ Evaluate & Support

ARCW's Impact 2012 - 2014

- ▶ 4,511 PWID's Trained
- ▶ 3,232 Peer Rescues Reported
- ▶ 415 Facilitated Referrals to Treatment

Expanding Naloxone Access

- ▶ Drug Treatment Facilities
- ▶ Jails/Prisons
- ▶ Co-prescribing
- ▶ OTC

Related Issues

- ▶ Naloxone Shortages/Price Gouging
- ▶ 911 Good Samaritan Law
- ▶ Funding

Contact Information

Scott Stokes

Director of Prevention Services

AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin

820 N. Plankinton Avenue

Milwaukee, WI 53203

414-225-1511

scott.stokes@arcw.org