

HowardCenter Safe Recovery Community-Based Distribution of Naloxone (Narcan) Pilot Project

Naloxone (Narcan) acts as an antidote to an opioid overdose.

Safe Recovery began community-based distribution of naloxone on December 6, 2013 as part of a legislatively-mandated, state-wide pilot project under the supervision of the Vermont Department of Health.

Safe Recovery provided overdose prevention training and naloxone to 87 community members in the first month of the project, and our first overdose reversal reported within the first week.

We have been successful at reaching at-risk community members. Of the 87 community members served in the first month:

- ✓ 71% have witnessed an overdose, and 56% more than once
- ✓ 49% have overdosed themselves, and 29% more than once
- ✓ 63% have been to the emergency room at least once in the last year, 6% more than 5 times, and 3% more than 10 times
- ✓ 36% have been released from jail/prison in the last year, 15% more than once
- ✓ 32% have spent a night on the street or in a shelter in the last year, 24% more than 10 nights in the last year

(NOTE: The same client may be represented in more than one category)

Overdose prevention is an important safety net for people in early recovery. Of the 87 community members served in the first month 66% report currently using opiates and:

- ✓ 22% have been to inpatient detox at least once in the last year
- ✓ 24% have been to residential drug treatment in the last year
- ✓ 34% began treatment with methadone or buprenorphine in the last year
- ✓ 27% have participated in non-residential drug treatment in the last year
- ✓ 57% have gone to a self-help meeting in the last year, 47% more than 10 times

(NOTE: The same client may be represented in more than one category)

Overdose prevention is a bridge to treatment:

- ✓ 92% said they were interested in a treatment referral, and 85% were referred to treatment that same day (some are already in treatment, on waiting lists for treatment, or would like a treatment referral but were not ready that day or did not have time that day)

Demographics:

45% Female	55% Male
9% Non-White	91% White
4% Hispanic/Latino	96% Non-Hispanic/Latino