



Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FREE NARCAN DRIVE-THRU GIVEAWAY IN RECOGNITION OF INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

DETROIT, MI – AUGUST 11, 2020 – Everyone is struggling with their own mental health in some way or another as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and people grappling with addiction are no exception, in fact, opioid overdoses are on the rise.

According to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), emergency medical services and emergency departments are reporting a surge in opioid overdoses since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. EMS responses for opioid overdoses increased by 33% from April to May of this year and EMS responses are up by 26%. That is why the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) is doing its part to save lives by holding a free Narcan giveaway August 31st.

“Our organization is committed to all of the 75,000 individuals that it serves who struggle on a normal day, now throw in a pandemic on top of it, it’s difficult for all of us to cope on a daily basis,” said Willie E. Brooks, Jr., DWIHN President and CEO. “We still have an opioid problem in this country and we are doing all that we can to stop it. We have a robust Provider Network that has boots on the ground helping people who are struggling with substance use disorder and mental health issues get into treatment and recovery. We have rolling recovery units, in the communities handing out supplies and resources. Distributing free Narcan is just one more way for all of us to save lives.”

Naloxone or Narcan as it is commonly called, rapidly reverses the effects of an overdose through a nasal spray. This free distribution is part of International Overdose Awareness Day, a global event held on August 31st each year and aims to raise awareness and reduce the stigma of drug-related deaths. It also acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends who have died or had a permanent injury as a result of drug overdose.

Free Narcan Drive-Thru Event
Monday, August 31, 2020
8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
707 West Milwaukee, Detroit
Parking Lots A & B

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The Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) is the largest and most diverse Community Mental Health system offering integrated health care in Michigan. Through programs and services that utilize promising best practices we promote a community that is supportive and embraces people with mental illness, intellectual and developmental disabilities and substance use disorder. We offer help with Infant Mental Health, Supportive Housing, and Recovery to support self-determination and improve the health, safety and quality of life for nearly 75, 000 people and their families.