

The DPH Bulletin

From the Delaware Division of Public Health

March 2019

DPH distributes free naloxone kits to save lives

Following its March 2 Community Naloxone Distribution event in New Castle, the Division of Public Health (DPH) is continuing to give free naloxone kits to the general public to have in the event of an overdose.

Three distributions events are planned for:

- Saturday, March 9 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at Delaware Technical Community College, Owens Campus in the Arts and Sciences Center, Theater Lobby and Rooms 344A/B, 21179 College Drive, Georgetown, DE 19947.
- Wednesday, March 20, 2019, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at Delaware Technical Community College, Terry Campus, in Corporate Training Center Rooms 408 and 412, 100 Campus Drive, Dover DE 19904.
- In April, DPH will hold a distribution event in Wilmington. Information will be posted to www.helpishere.de.com when details are set.

Each kit contains two doses of naloxone. Attendees will receive one-on-one training on how to administer the overdose-reversing medication.

OpiRescue app provides step-by-step naloxone administration instructions

A new smartphone app, OpiRescue Delaware, provides instructions on how to administer naloxone. The free app, supported by DPH, can be downloaded on all Android and Apple devices.



OpiRescue Delaware lists signs of an overdose, and animations on how to provide rescue breathing and administer naloxone.

Individuals can also use the app to find the nearest available pharmacy that carries naloxone, which can be purchased without a prescription.

Download the OpiRescue Delaware app at your mobile device app store. Information on community training and pharmacy access to naloxone, along with resources regarding prevention, treatment, and recovery are available on HelpsHereDE.com.



Surrounded by youth, legislators and advocates, Delaware Governor John Carney announced his support for legislation that raises the tobacco sales age from 18 to 21. Governor Carney aims to save lives, reduce health care costs, and decrease the number of new tobacco users. Treatment of tobacco-related illnesses costs Delaware \$532 million annually, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Governor Carney supports Tobacco 21 legislation to save lives, reduce costs

Governor John Carney announced his support for legislation that would raise the legal age for sales of tobacco and vape products from 18 to 21. Senate Bill 25 aims to protect Delaware youth from the dangers of tobacco use and nicotine addiction.

“Raising the legal tobacco sales age from 18 to 21 will help reduce the number of young people who use tobacco products, and hopefully prevent more young people from trying tobacco products in the first place,” Governor Carney said on March 5.

Tobacco use is the leading cause of preventable death and disability in Delaware and the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In Delaware each year, tobacco use claims 1,400 lives and costs the state \$532 million to treat tobacco-related illnesses.

“Everyone knows the costs of smoking: lung disease, cancer, higher insurance costs – and worst of all, a shorter life,” said Senator Bryan Townsend, SB25’s sponsor.

“A key component of Tobacco 21 legislation is the inclusion of e-cigarettes,” said Deb Brown, chief mission officer of the American Lung Association. Aerosol produced by e-cigarettes, which is inhaled by users and bystanders, can contain nicotine, ultrafine particles, volatile organic compounds, cancer-causing chemicals, and heavy metals such as nickel, tin, and lead.

For more information, visit <https://news.delaware.gov/2019/03/05/governor-carney-announces-support-for-legislation-to-raise-tobacco-sales-age/>.



DELAWARE HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
Division of Public Health