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MCHD HEALTH BLOG

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Public Health
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MORGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.



OVERDOSE AWARENESS & PROJECT DAWN

Unfortunately, it's too often that we hear about drug overdoses happening in the news, our families, and the world around us. Next Thursday, August 31st, is International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD). IOAD is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdose. This is a day for us to remember those who have died from drug overdose and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. It is also a day to share prevention strategies.

Did you know that the Morgan County Health Department (MCHD) has tools available for you in case you witness an opioid drug overdose? Project DAWN (Deaths Avoided With Naloxone) is a network of opioid overdose education and naloxone distribution programs coordinated by the Ohio Department of Health. Naloxone (also known as Narcan) is a medication that can be used to quickly reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug. Anyone in Ohio can obtain free naloxone and overdose response education through Project DAWN locations like MCHD. Education provided through this program includes:

- Recognizing the signs and symptoms of a drug overdose
- Calling emergency medical services
- Giving naloxone nasally
- Monitoring the person until help arrives

Project DAWN training is free and can be completed online. Visit www.morganpublichealth.org/project-dawn to watch the training video and complete an online survey. Once you have watched the video and completed the survey, you can call 740-962-4572 to arrange a time to pick up a kit. This kit will include naloxone for you to administer to someone in case you witness a drug overdose. Don't have access to the internet to complete the training? Our nurse can provide education on Project DAWN in our office. Give her a call today at 740-962-4572. We encourage everyone to learn more about Project DAWN and help spread the word about ending overdose and the hope of recovery. Need more information on Project DAWN? Stop by to see our nurse at the Morgan County Farmers Market from 11:00am-1:00pm this Thursday, 8/24. She will be sharing Project DAWN information and doing free blood pressure checks!