

AUGUST 21, 2024

MCHD HEALTH BLOG

The greatest wealth of a community is the health of the people.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
MORGAN COUNTY HEALTH DEPT.



OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

Did you know that overdoses are the leading injury-related cause of death in the United States, and one of the world's worst public health crises? The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported that 107,941 people died from drug overdoses in the United States in 2022; that is 296 overdoses each day. Overdoses can affect anyone, from family and friends to first responders and harm reduction workers. As a community, we can work together to make overdoses preventable.

International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdoses that is held every year on August 31st. We use this day to remember the lives we have lost, increase awareness, reduce stigma, and to provide tools that can help prevent an overdose. IOAD allows us to spread the message about the tragedy of overdoses and that overdoses are preventable.

Help us remember those that have lost their lives to the ravaging disease of addiction and the pain felt by the families and friends of those left to grieve by joining the Morgan County Health Department (MCHD) and other community partners for an evening of hope and healing. This event will be held on International Overdose Awareness Day (Saturday, August 31st) in McConnelsville between N 10th/N 11th St at The Grove. This is a family friendly event that will last from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and is free to the community.

The Morgan County Health Department will be providing education and tools during the event 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.

MCHD hopes you will join us in honoring those affected by overdoses and learning ways we can prevent an overdose from happening. The Greatest Wealth of a Community is the Health of the People.