

Cayuga County Community Mental Health Center

CCCMHC

146 NORTH STREET • AUBURN, NY 13021-1831
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Community Narcan training events planned for the coming weeks

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The Healing Cayuga Team is going to be out and about again to train community members on Narcan and distribute this life-saving tool in neighborhoods, towns, and villages to combat overdose deaths. You can learn how to recognize an overdose and how to use Narcan in case of an overdose emergency at the following upcoming community training events:

- Thursday, April 13 from 11 am to 3 pm at Kinney Drugs, 62 Owasco Street, Auburn
- Friday, April 14 from 11 am to 3 pm at Kinney Drugs, 187 State Street, Auburn
- Sunday, April 30 from 1 to 4 pm at Brutus Town Clerk's Office, 9021 N Seneca Street, Weedsport
- Thursday, May 4 from 11 am to 3 pm at Dom's Grocery, 30 Orchard Street, Auburn

Trainees will receive a free Narcan kit, fentanyl test strips, medication disposal pouches, and community resources, which are provided by the Opioid Overdose Prevention Program of the Cayuga County Community Mental Health Center. Check our website for future training events near you <https://www.cayugacounty.us/1764/Narcan-Training-Events>.

Overdose deaths have decreased in Cayuga County over the last two years by 43%. This development is very different from what other communities nationwide are facing, and it doesn't happen by accident. Healing Cayuga greatly expanded Narcan distribution in the county, which is believed to have contributed to the lower fatality numbers. In fact, PBS Newshour last week featured Cayuga County's comprehensive Narcan distribution program in a segment on rural healthcare challenges. Local data shows that last year, more overdose witnesses than first responders administered the first dose of Narcan at the scenes of overdoses and thereby helped save 37 lives.

Reported overdoses in Cayuga County have been below average in recent months and we have lost 2 lives since the beginning of this year. Fatal overdoses almost always involve opioids, more than one substance, and the synthetic and very deadly synthetic opioid fentanyl. Other illegal substances, such as cocaine, fake prescription pills, and synthetic stimulants known as "molly" are frequently laced with fentanyl, often without the user's knowledge. This makes overdoses and fatalities more likely. It is critical for individuals who use any illegal substances (and people in their household) to have the opioid overdose-reversing Narcan nasal spray at hand to be able to render first aid in case of an overdose emergency.

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Narcan can reverse the effects of an opioid overdose and save someone's life. Anyone can and should administer this nasal spray if they suspect any type of overdose. If no opioids were involved, Narcan will not harm the person, it just won't have any effect. It may require multiple doses of Narcan to revive a person, which makes it crucial to call 911 when you witness an overdose, even after you started administering Narcan. The Good Samaritan Law protects you if you call 911 when you see or experience a drug overdose.

Cayuga County residents can also request a free Narcan kit to be mailed to their home at www.cayugacounty.us/narcan. If someone has used their Narcan, they can request a replenishment kit on the same page.