



**Lorain County  
Public Health**

For the Health of Us All

## Help Stop Opioid Overdoses: Naloxone Kits at No Cost

Because the opioid crisis in Lorain County is severe, THRIVE! is posting this article directly from the website of our Partner, the Lorain County Public Health department:

<https://www.loraincountyhealth.com/announcements?f=13590>

### FACTS\*:

- ▶ Opioid overdose caused 132 deaths in Lorain County in 2016. This number is expected to increase in 2017.
- ▶ Opioid use contributed to 2,691 emergency department visits in Lorain County in 2016.
- ▶ The annual economic burden of the opioid crisis in Lorain County reached nearly \$200 million in 2016.

\*For a reference, see “Lorain County Assessment,” below

Narcan® kits (also known as nasal naloxone) are available for anyone who wants to prevent an opioid overdose death. Pick up a Narcan® kit at no cost and receive opioid death prevention education at Lorain County Public Health (LCPH), 9880 Murray Ridge Road, Elyria, OH. Walk in on weekdays (excluding holidays) between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. For an after-hours appointment, call 440-322-6367. Allow 20 minutes for the visit in order to receive education and the Narcan® kit.

“Narcan can save lives to provide a second chance and an opportunity for recovery for those who battle opioid addiction,” said David Covell, MPH, RS, health commissioner at LCPH. This fall, keep an eye out for a message about opioid overdoses on the sides of Lorain County Transit buses – it will include directions on how to receive a free Narcan® kit. Point out the message to friends and family who may have a loved one at risk for opioid overdose.

Naloxone is a medication that can reverse an overdose caused by an opioid drug. When given, naloxone restores breathing and blocks the drug’s effects on the brain-- it often prevents death.

These kits are available through Project DAWN, an overdose education and naloxone distribution program through the Ohio Department of Health. For more information on Project DAWN, visit [ODH.Ohio.gov](http://ODH.Ohio.gov).

### **Note: Additional resources on the opioid crisis include:**

State of Ohio initiatives to combat the crisis:

<https://mha.ohio.gov/Portals/o/assets/Initiatives/GCOAT/Combating-the-Opiate-Crisis.pdf>

A close-up and personal look at the crisis in Vinton County, Ohio:

<https://www.npr.org/2018/06/06/617422943/in-rural-ohio-an-opioid-crisis-becomes-a-meth-crisis>

Lorain County Assessment on the crisis: [https://altarum.org/sites/default/files/uploaded-publication-files/Lorain-County-Community-Assessment\\_Executive-Summary.pdf](https://altarum.org/sites/default/files/uploaded-publication-files/Lorain-County-Community-Assessment_Executive-Summary.pdf)