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Frederick County Health Department

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Health Department Announces Naloxone Boxes Program**

**FREDERICK, MD** – The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) is making Naloxone more available to the public by having Naloxone boxes at nine locations across the county. Naloxone, the generic name for “Narcan”, is used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

Five of the nine locations are in buildings available to the public. The boxes at these locations have Naloxone available for free.

- C. Burr Artz Public Library, 110 East Patrick Street, Frederick, MD 21701
  - Box is wall-mounted outside the restrooms and is accessible to the public during library business hours.
- Thurmont Regional Library, 76 East Moser Road, Thurmont, MD 21788
  - Box is wall-mounted outside the restrooms and is accessible to the public during library business hours.
- Walkersville Branch Library, 2 South Glade Road, Walkersville, MD 21793
  - Box is wall-mounted in entrance lobby and is accessible to the public during library business hours.
- Brunswick Branch Library, 915 North Maple Avenue, Brunswick, MD 21716
  - Box is wall-mounted in entrance lobby and is accessible to the public during library business hours.
- Frederick County Adult Detention Center, 7300 Marcie's Choice Lane, Frederick, MD 21704
  - Located inside the entrance at the end of the sidewalk at the Frederick County Adult Detention Center signage on the building.

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The other four boxes in the county are free to patrons of Platoon 22, Frederick County Department of Social Services, the Student Homelessness Initiative Partnership and the Econo Lodge.

“In a significant step towards addressing the opioid crisis, the Frederick County Sheriff’s Office has installed a naloxone box at the Frederick County Detention Center providing free access to the life-saving overdose reversal drug, naloxone (Narcan). This initiative aims to reduce the number of opioid-related deaths within our community,” said Randy Martin, Director of Inmate Services. “The Narcan Box, strategically placed in a high traffic area at the detention center, allows visitors and recently released inmates to access Narcan at no cost.”

Having these boxes available to the public allows residents to easily access lifesaving medication. To receive the Naloxone, members of the public do not need to present any form of identification, do not have to speak to anyone, do not have to verify their age or fill out any application.

“The Health Department is excited to be partnering with numerous community agencies to increase low barrier access to naloxone in our community,” said Jessica Ellis, the Harm Reduction & Diversion Programs Manager at the Frederick County Health Department. “By having Naloxone more readily available, we hope to see fewer overdose deaths in Frederick County.”

The Naloxone boxes program started in March 2024 with two boxes being placed with partner organizations and one box being placed at both the C. Burr Library in downtown Frederick and the Thurmont Library. The expansion of this program adds a box at both the Walkersville and Brunswick libraries that are available to the public. Since July 2024, over 500 boxes of Naloxone have been distributed.

“FCPL has been pleased with the success of the pilot program to date,” said Frederick County Public Libraries (FCPL) Executive Director James Kelly. We are glad to be able to partner with the Health Department to help meet this identified community need.”

FCHD offers free training on how to effectively use Naloxone every Friday at 1:00 p.m. both virtually and in person at 350 Montevue Lane. Organizations can also request group trainings by emailing gov by calling 301-600-1777 or emailing [HarmReductionServices@FrederickCountyMD.gov](mailto:HarmReductionServices@FrederickCountyMD.gov). For more information, visit [Health.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ORT](http://Health.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ORT).

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