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Frederick County Health Department

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Health Department Announces Update to Naloxone Boxes Program

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick County Health Department (FCHD) is pleased to report that 2,144 doses were distributed to community through the naloxone boxes program from the start of the pilot in March 2024 through December 2024. Naloxone, the generic name for Narcan, is used to reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

Over 550 doses of naloxone have been distributed from the original four boxes that were installed in the spring of 2024 through June 30, 2024. The amounts distributed at each location during that time were:

- Econo Lodge - 100 doses
- Platoon 22 - 42 doses
- Thurmont Regional Library - 164 doses
- C. Burr Artz Library - 246 doses

Following the success of the pilot program, five new boxes were installed throughout Frederick County that the Health Department announced publicly In November 2024.

Nearly a third of the doses were distributed at the C. Burr Artz Library in Frederick. "FCPL is glad to continue working in partnership with the Health Department to

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provide access to this resource in our branches,” said James Kelly, Director of the Frederick County Public Libraries. “Based on the success of the program, we’re so pleased to be able to expand this service to the Urbana Regional Library and Middletown Branch Library soon.”

The following amounts of naloxone were distributed from July to December 2024 at the nine locations:

- Econo Lodge - 202 doses
- Platoon 22 - 126 doses
- Thurmont Regional Library - 178 doses
- C. Burr Artz Library - 486 doses
- Frederick County Adult Detention Center - 122 doses
- Department of Social Services - 296 doses
- Student Homeless Initiative Partnership - 70 doses
- Brunswick Library - 32 doses
- Walkersville Library - 80 doses

“We have been amazed at the success of this program and are appreciative of our partnerships that have allowed us to increase naloxone access in our community,” said Jessica Ellis, the Harm Reduction & Diversion Programs Manager at the Frederick County Health Department. “Even with naloxone being more widely available to the public, we are continuing to see a high demand for naloxone through our Street Safe Program and our partnership with Frederick Health Hospital and the Frederick County Adult Detention Center.”

With the success of the program, FCHD is looking to expand the program into more locations. They are currently exploring partnerships with businesses and community partners along the Golden Mile of Route 40.

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 calling 301-600-1777 or emailing HarmReductionServices@FrederickCountyMD.gov. For more information, visit Health.FrederickCountyMD.gov/ORT.

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