



## Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities Launches Business Edition of Narcan Trainings

TROY, Mich., Oct. 6, 2020 – As National Recovery Month comes to a close, **The Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities** is launching Save a Life – Business Edition, which is organizational team training and education on how to recognize and administer Intra-Nasal Narcan™ in the event of an accidental opiate/opioid drug overdose.

Prior to COVID-19, the Alliance started to develop the business edition of this training program, which launched as Community Narcan Training program in November 2017. Since its inception, more than 5,000 individuals and small business owners have been trained by the Alliance on the signs and symptoms of an accidental opiate overdose.

As a part of Save a Life – Business Edition, the Alliance will perform a business risk assessment to determine the amount of Narcan training kits that will be needed per business, based on best practices. The Alliance will customize trainings for supervisors, shift leaders and human resources personnel. The Alliance will deliver interactive Narcan training using best practices and provide consulting for process management, implementation, and maintenance/records management for businesses.

Due to the critical nature of its work, the Alliance pivoted quickly as COVID-19 hit and moved its programs online due to the pandemic and currently delivers trainings online.

“Since COVID began, we have delivered more than 53 virtual Narcan trainings and trained more than 600 individuals in our community who are now educated, equipped and empowered to save lives,” said Julie Brenner, president & CEO, Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities. “Most importantly, we know we have **saved at least six lives** due to these trainings. We are excited to extend our services to the business community so we can save even more lives.”

The Alliance will conduct the training as required by the terms of the physician who has vetted and approved the program and provides the prescription for the Naloxone.

“I cannot stress enough to our citizens and our business community the importance of Narcan education and implementation,” said Jeff Baker, Chief of Police, Auburn Hills Police Department. “The Auburn Hills Police Department is proud to partner with the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities to bring this initiative to our businesses. Narcan, and Narcan training saves lives.”

### **Drug deaths on the rise in 2020**

Drug deaths have risen an average of **13 percent** so far this year over last year, according to mortality data from local and state governments collected by [The New York Times](#), covering 40 percent of the U.S. population.



Businesses are not immune from this epidemic. **Some startling U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics** – non-medical use of drugs or alcohol (includes prescription medications) have increased by **24% per year** between 2011 and 2018. **In occupational injury deaths**, 41% were from nonmedical drugs (528) fatal injuries and 32% were from multiple drugs, alcohol, and medicines (411 injuries).

Substance misuse and abuse has hidden costs for employers including down time (machine related, human capital and employee turnover), trauma for the employee, family, coworkers and leadership, and possible liability with increased insurance premiums.

Brenner and Tracy Chirikas, community relations manager, presented the Alliance’s Save a Life Community Narcan Training in February nationally at the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s Prevention Day 2020](#).

If you’d like to learn more about the work of the Alliance, you can watch the kick-off video for its month-long fundraiser that shares more on how the Alliance helps families struggling with addiction – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MS1YuRa-xmA&feature=youtu.be>

#### **About the Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities**

The Alliance of Coalitions for Healthy Communities is a substance misuse prevention and wellness organization that supports a 21-coalition prevention partnership in Oakland County serving more than 55 local communities and provides Shatter the Stigma: Family & Recovery Support and education groups for anyone affected by addiction. Predominantly funded by Oakland Community Health Network, the Alliance also provides free Narcan training. The Alliance connects, strengthens, and mobilizes strategic partners to promote healthier communities. Visit [www.achcmi.org](http://www.achcmi.org) for more information. For more information, please call 248.221.7101. Follow us on social media on @allianceofcoalitions on Facebook and Instagram and @ACHCMichigan on Twitter. The Alliance recently moved to its new headquarters – 5505 Corporate Drive Suite 301, Troy, MI 48098.

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