

Project DAWN– Stark County

Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
of Stark County

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Program Design

There are two sites: Crisis Intervention and Recovery Center (CIRC) and Quest Recovery and Prevention Services

CIRC is targeting people being discharged from detox and the crisis unit as well as “walk-in” people. Available Monday’s 11 am –2:00 pm and prn.

Quest is targeting people being discharged from residential AoD treatment as well as people in methadone program and outpatient treatment. Available Mondays and Fridays from 12:00 pm– 1:00 pm.

Each site has a doctor that prescribes and distributes the kits. A counselor or nurse provides the education and training.

Community Support/Key Partners

- ▶ Stark County Coroner's Office– provides data and research. Completed a mortality review that was distributed to the community.
 - ▶ Mental Health and Recovery Services Board– willing to provide ongoing funding
 - ▶ Police Chief Association– willing to cooperate and start carrying naloxone
 - ▶ Opiate Task Force–initiating the project and endorsing the project
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Challenges

- ▶ Finding local vendors to purchase the supplies– cost of naloxone has increased, pharmacies don't usually carry it
 - ▶ Arranging for physician time to oversee the project and prescribe naloxone– Stark County has limited physician time to treat addictions
 - ▶ Slow ramp up at agencies due to competing projects
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Successes

- ▶ Since Currently distributed over 45 kits across two sites. There has been one unconfirmed, anecdotal report of an overdose reversal
 - ▶ Four people being discharged from detox refused a kit as they were concerned about the kit being a “safety” excuse to relapse
 - ▶ Stronger partnership with law enforcement.
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Lessons Learned

- ▶ Get community “buy in” by sharing information about the population. This helps to reduce stigma and challenge stereotypes about “drug addicts.”
 - ▶ Provide accurate information and allow for strong discussions about enabling and harm reduction strategies, which are not always accepted.
 - ▶ Connect people with others in “like” professions that are using naloxone, i.e doctor to doctor, police to police. Shared experiences eases fears and confusion.
 - ▶ Use social media to promote the project. Most of our walk in people have learned about it from facebook and twitter.
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