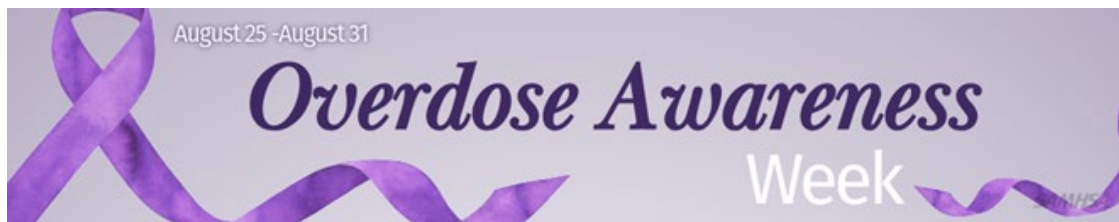


OVERDOSE AWARENESS

August is Overdose Awareness Month, with August 25 starting Overdose Awareness Week ending in Overdose Awareness Day on August 31. Many of us interact with consumers who have struggled or are still struggling with substance use. As providers, it is important for us to know the “ins and outs” of addiction, resources we can recommend to our consumers, and additional training opportunities to better educate ourselves on this topic. This month, the education and dialogue committee will be doing just that.

Let's start with talking about overdose prevention. Click the link below to watch a short video about harm reduction. The video is two minutes and thirty seconds long.

[Harm Reduction Action Center – Harm Reduction 101](#)



Harm reduction is clinically proven to prevent overdoses, the spread of infectious diseases such as HIV, hepatitis, bacterial, and fungal infections. In the video, you learned a bit about everyday harm reduction strategies that we all use. Harm reduction is not enabling people to use substances. If someone is already using, they may not yet be in a place where they are able or ready to stop using. Harm reduction ensures that people have the opportunity to heal. It is just like wearing a seat belt, using a brace when you sprain your ankle, or taking vitamins. For more information about harm reduction, explore the resources below.

#END OVERDOSE
OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY



Equity is
Imperative