

August 22, 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Eli Thompson, Health Education Specialist, (208) 737-5906
Taylor Bybee, Health Education Specialist, (208) 737-5920

Learn how to save a life! SCPHD offers free naloxone training.

South Central Idaho - Now, more than ever, is the time to prevent opioid drug overdoses. We can all help! South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) is offering training to anyone in the public that would like to learn more about the opioid epidemic and how to use naloxone.

Overdose remains the leading cause of accidental death in the United States. According to the CDC, every year more than 100,000 people are lost to this epidemic. As this epidemic continues, Idaho set another overdose record for 2022, at 381 deaths. Opioids can include prescription painkillers, heroin, and fentanyl. One of the best ways we can bring this number down is by understanding what an overdose looks like and how to administer naloxone. Naloxone has the ability to effectively reverse an opioid overdose, and it is offered in an easy-to-use nasal spray. Nearly all overdoses are accidental and understanding what they look like can save someone's life.

"There are many situations an overdose can happen in" said Eli Thompson, Health Education Specialist. "Someone could forget they took a prescription and take it again, or take a different substance, like alcohol that intensifies its effects."

"Naloxone is a life-saving medicine that can reverse an accidental overdose" adds Taylor Bybee, Health Education Specialist. "By having naloxone, the likelihood of the person surviving an overdose increases."

SCPHD also offers training for groups and organizations, if you are not able to make this training and would like to schedule one.

Thompson and Bybee are offering free naloxone training classes for the public in honor of Overdose Awareness Day, which is August 31st. The first ten participants that are 18 or older to register for the training will receive a free overdose response kit including two doses of naloxone.

Training schedule:

South Central Public Health District - Heyburn Office
485 22nd St. (in Heyburn)
August 29th, 2023
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

South Central Public Health District - Bellevue Office
117 E Ash St. (in Bellevue)
August 29th, 2023
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

South Central Public Health District - Jerome Office
951 E Ave H (in Jerome)
August 31st, 2023
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

South Central Public Health District - Gooding Office
255 N Canyon Dr. (in Gooding)
August 31st, 2023
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScNiA1clKby5FNOxsn1fK-LOalSReuWglCrkPfkqz_UQi7w/viewform?usp=sf_link or call (208) 737-5906 to register.