



# CHOW FACT SHEET

CHOW Project. Reducing Harm. Optimizing Health.

## Naloxone Saves Lives

### Naloxone reverses opioid overdose

- Naloxone is a non-narcotic Opioid antagonist that blocks opioids, like heroin and oxycodone. It has no potential for abuse and side effects are rare.
- When administered during an overdose, it blocks the effects of opioids and restores breathing within 3 minutes.
- There have been over 10,000 overdose reversals nationwide using naloxone.
- Providing take-home Naloxone to people who use opioids and their family, friends, and caretakers not only saves lives, it saves money.
- One study found that for every 164 kits distributed, one life was saved.
- Naloxone is available in an easy-to-use nasal spray and intramuscular injection for effective administration.

### Act 68 Increases Access to Naloxone in HI

- **Accidental drug overdose is the leading cause of injury-related death in Hawai'i**
- **Gov. Ige signed Act 68 into law in 2016 to provide immunity to first responders and the general public to possess and administer Naloxone**
- **The CHOW Project provides free education and training on overdose and provides free Naloxone kits**
  - **47 overdose reversals reported**

### Overdose deaths are preventable

- **The majority of drug-related overdoses occur in the presence of others**
- **There is usually time to intervene:**
  - **Call 911**
  - **Rescue breathing**
  - **Use Naloxone**
- **Access to Naloxone is one of 10 promising strategies to help curb prescription drug abuse**
- **Increased community access to Naloxone can reduce overdose fatalities by 50%**

### References

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, "Opioid Overdose Prevention Toolkit"; Prescription Drug Abuse Policy System's 2015 Naloxone Overdose Prevention Laws Report; A.Y. Walley et al, "Opioid overdose rates and implementation of overdose education..." BMJ 346 (2013); Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Community-based Opioid overdose prevention programs providing naloxone" 2010; Hawaii State Department of Health, Injury Prevention and Control Program; CHOW 2016 Evaluation Report.