

St. John Ambulance Canada - Naloxone Training and Distribution Program

In response to the rising number of opioid poisonings across Canada since the emergence of COVID-19, St. John Ambulance is working with Employment and Social Development Canada and Health Canada to provide free Naloxone training and nasal Naloxone kits to agencies in the homelessness-serving sector nationwide. The program is geared toward frontline staff and volunteers who may be responding to onsite poisonings and who would otherwise lack access to training and/or nasal naloxone kits. Funded by Health Canada and operating on a \$2 million budget, the program will be active until March 31, 2022.

The training portion of this course consists of a virtual 90-minute interactive presentation led by the program's course instructor, who has many years of experience on the front lines in shelters and other community organizations. Modules include content on:

- **Stigma Harm Reduction** •
- Identifying & Responding to an Opioid Poisoning •
- Administering Naloxone •
- COVID-19 & Rescue Protocols
- Hand-Off of Rescue Duties to EMS •
- Managing Personal Trauma

Supplementary handouts and/or email newsletters will provide more in-depth content including:

- **Opioid Terms & Street Names**
- Myths and Facts about Opioids
- Complicating Factors During a Rescue •
- Understanding & Identifying Trauma, including Adverse Childhood Experiences •
- Burnout Assessment Tool & Self-Care Strategies

Following completion of the course, an order for nasal Naloxone kits will be shipped to your site by St. John Ambulance's partnering pharmacy, Respect RX Pharmacy in Ottawa.

If you are a homelessness-serving agency and are interested in arranging a training course for your staff and volunteers, or have questions about this program, please contact naloxone@sja.ca.

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