



Fighting Stigma to End the Overdose Epidemic

A Harm Reduction Workshop

Trenton War Memorial
Wednesday, August 21, 2019
9 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

FREE: Admission, Parking and Lunch
REGISTER: <http://bit.ly/HarmReductionSaves>

C2719

Details

Name: Fighting Stigma to End the Overdose Epidemic: A Harm Reduction Workshop

Hosted By: New Jersey Department of Health (DOH)

Date: Wednesday, August 21

Time: 9:00am-2:30pm

Location: War Memorial
1 Memorial Drive, Trenton, NJ

Event Overview

In preparation for International Overdose Awareness Day, join the New Jersey Department of Health for an interactive Harm Reduction Workshop. Harm reduction is a life-saving, evidence-based public health tool for New Jersey communities. Hear directly from national experts and local leaders about how harm reduction policy and practice can prevent overdose deaths, reduce drug-related stigma, decrease transmission of HIV and Hepatitis C, and promote the dignity and health of all New Jerseyans, including individuals with substance use disorder.

Priority Attendees

All concerned New Jerseyans, including those involved in: public health, healthcare, policymaking, law enforcement, state and local government, advocacy, housing, emergency response, and behavioral health. New Jerseyans impacted by substance use disorder, family, friends, and concerned community members are encouraged to attend.

Learner Objective

Workshop participants will:

- Learn the principles and practices of harm reduction, an evidence-based public health practice endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Medical Association, and World Health Organization
- Become familiar with existing Harm Reduction Centers in New Jersey and the health services they provide
- Gain tools to reduce the impact of stigma on the health and wellbeing of New Jerseyans with substance use disorder

New Jersey Department of Health Statement

Participants who successfully complete this educational program will be awarded **5.0** New Jersey Public Health Continuing Education Contact Hours. (CEs). HRET has been approved by the New Jersey Department of Health as a provider of New Jersey Public Health Continuing Education Contact Hours (CEs).

Funding

This public workshop is supported through the CDC Data-Driven Prevention Initiative and the CDC Cooperative Agreement for Emergency Response: Public Health Crisis Response

Fighting Stigma to End the Overdose Epidemic: A Harm Reduction Workshop



August 21, 2019
9am to 2:30pm
Trenton War Memorial

9:00 – 9:30am

Registration & Coffee

9:30 – 9:45am

Welcome Remarks

- **Judith M. Persichilli**, Commissioner, NJ Department of Health

9:45 – 10:15am

Opening Activity & Reflection

- **Christopher Menschner**, Assistant Commissioner, Division of HIV, STDs, and TB, NJ Department of Health
- **Dr. Leslie Robin Harrison**

10:15 – 11:15am

Featured Presentation: Harm Reduction 101

This presentation introduces attendees to the philosophy and practice of harm reduction as a public health strategy that promotes the health and dignity of people who use drugs.

Facilitated by **Sheila P. Vakharia**, PhD LMSW, Researcher at Drug Policy Alliance

11:15am – 12:15pm

Panel: Meet New Jersey's Harm Reduction Providers

Hear directly from NJ's Harm Reduction Center staff. Attendees can ask questions and dispel myths about harm reduction.

Moderated by **Roseanne Scotti**, Senior Technical Advisor, Syringe Access Services at Pennsylvania Department of Health

- **Alicia Parker**, Client Service Manager at Hyacinth AIDS Foundation

- **Babette Richter**, RN, ARCH Nurse at South Jersey AIDS Alliance
- **Eddie Frierson**, Syringe Access Program Manager at Hyacinth AIDS Foundation
- **Georgett Watson**, Chief Operations Officer at South Jersey AIDS Alliance
- **Henry Godette**, Harm Reduction Coordinator at North Jersey Community Research Initiative
- **Martha Chavis**, Executive Director at Camden Area Health Education Center
- **Robert Lowry**, Harm Reduction Coordinator at Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey

12:15pm – 12:45pm

Lunch & Networking

Free lunch provided at workshop. Please notify event organizers of any dietary restrictions.

12:45 – 1:00pm

Keynote Remarks

- **Nick Bucci (Ret.)**, New Jersey State Police

1:00 – 2:15pm

Panel: Coming Together to Support – Not Stigmatize – New Jerseyans Who Use Drugs

Multi-stakeholder dialogue on the individual and community benefits of harm reduction as a public health response to substance use.

Moderated by **Natassia Rozario**, Director of Opioid Policy and Response, NJ Department of Health

- **Caitlin O’Neill**, Advocate & Organizer at NJ Harm Reduction
- **Carol Katz Beyer**, Cofounder at Families for Sensible Drug Policy
- **Devin Reeves**, Executive Director at Pennsylvania Harm Reduction Coalition
- **Rebecca Goldberg**, Opiate Program Manager at New York State Department of Health
- **Dr. Robert Eilers**, Medical Director, Division of Mental Health and Addiction Services at NJ Department of Human Services
- **Officer Walter Rivera**, Trenton Police Department

2:15 – 2:30pm

Closing Remarks & Reflection

- **Christopher Menschner**