

For Immediate Release 08/02/2021:

UTAH NALOXONE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS REACH MAJOR MILESTONE

Lehi, UT – More than 500 people in Utah are alive thanks to the efforts of Law Enforcement Officers across the state as reported to **Utah Naloxone**. Naloxone (Narcan®) is a very safe medication that reverses an opioid overdose if given in time and saves the person's life. The first person to come in contact with someone experiencing an opioid overdose is the best person to use naloxone to save that life.

The most recent report bringing us to this milestone came from our partners at **Lehi City Police Department** in Utah County. They started equipping their officers with Naloxone in 12/2020 and have already stepped in 7 times to save the life of a community member by administering naloxone to stop an opioid overdose. We are so proud of and grateful for their efforts as well as for the efforts of all who are prepared and ready to save a life should there be an opioid overdose around them.

Law enforcement partners are important contributors to saving lives across Utah. The CDC recently released data showing more overdose deaths in the US than ever recorded (<https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/nvss/vsrr/drug-overdose-data.htm>). It is so crucial to have life savers in all spaces. Everyday citizens and non-medical responders join those with medical training to save lives and give people second chances at life.

There is still work to be done. Overdose remains the leading cause of injury death in the state of Utah. The US has reached over 93,000 deaths from overdoses in 2020. This is an increase of nearly 30% nationally (Utah is up 8%). Anywhere there are opioids (pain pills, heroin, fentanyl), there should be naloxone. Free naloxone kits and training are available through Utah Naloxone and from other partners in our communities. It is legal for anyone in Utah to possess naloxone, and absolutely legal to administer it if you suspect someone is overdosing on opioids. For more information, go to UtahNaloxone.org. Thank you to ALL the life savers!

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