



MARYLAND Department of Health

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

August 30, 2019

Dear Business and Community Leaders,

Across the country we continue to struggle with an opioid epidemic that has devastated individuals and their families. We have searched, found, and implemented innovative ways to battle this crisis. Our latest data shows small, yet hopeful, progress in decreasing the number of fatal overdoses in several Maryland counties, and we are committed to continuing this progress.

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) understands that the business community has been adversely impacted by the crisis as well, which is why we are reaching out to you. Whether it is the loss of valued employees or incidents that have occurred on your premises, the opioid epidemic has impacted almost everyone.

In conjunction with International Overdose Awareness Day this Saturday, August 31, MDH is launching an innovative tool to help prevent overdose deaths—the [Naloxone Electronic Toolkit \(NET\)](#). NET has been created to assist businesses, public entities, and organizations interested in expanding access to this life-saving medication. Naloxone can reverse an opioid overdose and save lives when administered quickly and correctly.

[NET provides a downloadable link that can be promoted on public and employee websites.](#) By providing access to this information, Marylanders can be prepared to recognize the signs of an overdose and know how to respond. NET also explains how to obtain Naloxone, which can be stored in first-aid kits or AED boxes so it is readily available to individuals who may be faced with this kind of an emergency.

This toolkit contains a link taking you to the brief training video, provided in both English and Spanish. It demonstrates how to respond if you believe someone has overdosed using opioids. The site also provides access to brochures and posters that can be downloaded and printed, provided in both English and Spanish.

The site also contains the following:

- A video entitled *How to Administer Naloxone* in English and Spanish
- Brochures and posters in English and Spanish that can be printed and distributed
- The Standing Order issued by MOH allowing anyone in Maryland to obtain Naloxone from pharmacies without a prescription or certificate
- Detailed directions on how to upload the link to your website

The *How to Administer Naloxone* link could reside on your company's website and provide employees and/or customers with access to this important information. MDH is grateful to the

many Marylanders who are willing to help with this public health crisis. We believe this resource could prove an important next step in providing your business with the needed resources should you or your employees ever encounter someone experiencing an opioid overdose. To view NET, visit [HowToAdministerNaloxone.Maryland.gov](https://www.howtoadministernaloxone.maryland.gov).

Thank you in advance for helping to spread the word and this new toolkit, which will help save lives in our state.



Robert R. Neall
Secretary



Frances B. Phillips, R.N., M.H.A.
Deputy Secretary of Public Health Services



Lisa A. Burgess, M.D.
Deputy Secretary (Acting), Behavioral Health Administration