

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

2018

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 2016, approximately four North Carolinians died each day from unintentional medication or drug overdose; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina's statewide standing order authorizes any pharmacist practicing in the state and licensed by the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy to dispense the opioid overdose reversal drug naloxone to any person who meets certain criteria; and

WHEREAS, since implementation of the Strengthen Opioid Misuse Prevention (STOP) Act of 2017, opioid prescriptions covered under Medicaid have decreased by 25 percent, and the Controlled Substance Reporting System now connects with other states allowing health care providers to obtain multi-state information about their patients' opioid prescriptions; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services distributed 40,000 units of naloxone to first responders, families, and friends to help save lives in the event of an opioid overdose; and


WHEREAS, there are now more than 30 active syringe exchange programs across the state providing overdose prevention and reversal education, health care services, and treatment connections for people who use drugs; and

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Opioid Action Plan includes agencies and partners from across the state, working to combat the overdose crisis by promoting strategies to reduce unintentional opioid poisoning deaths by 20 percent by 2021; and

WHEREAS, Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity to honor and commemorate loved ones who have been lost to this crisis, and to challenge the stigma associated with drug use and overdose;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim August 31, 2018, as "**OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY**" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.





Roy Cooper
Governor

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-fourth day of August in the year of our Lord two thousand and eighteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.