



City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

December 17, 2024

Honorable Board of Supervisors
City and County of San Francisco
City Hall, Room 244
1 Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102

RE: 2024 Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

In response to administrative Code, Section 15.17, which requires named departments to annually submit how the named department and its grantees to promote strategies to reduce drug overdoses, we have attached for your consideration, is a Resolution acknowledging receipt of the 2024 Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies for the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH), the Healthy Streets Operation Center through the Department of Emergency Management (DEM-HSOC), and the Human Services Agency (HSA).

Administrative Code, Section 15.17, requires each department listed above to annually submit, beginning in 2021, to the Board of Supervisors a departmental policy describing how the department and its grantees that provide direct services to clients who use drugs will promote strategies to reduce drug overdoses ("Overdose Prevention Policy"). The 2021, 2022, and 2023 Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies are on file with the Clerk of the Board in legislative files 211304, 221275, and 231276, respectively.

2024 Highlights - Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies

The development and implementation of the Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies has provided an opportunity to strengthen collaboration among our four departments. Highlights from 2024's extensive work includes:

- DPH, through coordinated overdose response, increased access to treatment on demand through its March 2024 launch of its navigation-to-telehealth program. The program provides 16 hour-a-day access to health professionals through telehealth visits and in-person navigation services. To date, more than 2,100 telehealth encounters have occurred and more than 800 prescriptions for buprenorphine have been received.

- DPH programs increased methadone and buprenorphine clients citywide by expanding service hours and access. The number of total and new methadone clients increased in 2024, including a record 201 new admissions to methadone in July 2024.
- The DPH Permanent Housing Advanced Clinical Services (PHACS) now serves all permanent supportive housing (PSH) sites. PHACS provide outreach and support to people following an overdose and are training non-profit housing providers in how to provide effective post-overdose support and referrals to treatment.
- DPH expanded the availability of Contingency Management, the most effective treatment for stimulant use disorder, by adding 4 CM programs in the first 6-months of 2025 for a total of 16 CM programs.
- HSH developed and implemented the “Onsite Naloxone Access” protocol that supports the requirement for all HSH-funded providers across the Homelessness Response System to maintain a readily available onsite supply of naloxone, the antidote to opioid overdoses. The inventory is required to be 24-hours a day in a fixed location on every floor in “Emergency Naloxone Stations” and is anticipated to be fully operational across all sites by Spring 2025.
- Through a contract with HSH, the National Harm Reduction Coalition (NHRC) provided low-barrier and tailored workshops and trainings for non-profit provider staff across the Homelessness Response System. NHRC also provided targeted technical assistance to sites and providers with higher incidents of overdoses.
- DEM, as part of its Street Response Coordination Division, met with each ambassador program and provider to connect their staff to the Overdose Recognition and Response training online module to ensure each street ambassador has access to overdose response training.
- SFHSA’s team of public health nurses in our Department of Disability and Aging Services have all been trained to administer naloxone. They work in the field, conducting thousands of home visits every year, often in permanent supportive housing and SROs in the community.

Training Progress

To support the implementation of the Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies, DPH released an Overdose Recognition and Response training module in August 2022. As of November 1, 2024, approximately 2,277 staff members from across our four departments have been trained in overdose recognition and response through the online training. The online training has also been completed by staff across approximately 30 other city departments who have voluntarily sought out this important training. Lastly, the online training has been completed by 5,232 individuals across more than 100 community-based organizations (CBOs), non-government organizations (NGOs), and other organizations, many of which contract with one or more of our four departments. **In total, the online overdose recognition and response training has been completed by approximately 7,500 people since the training opened in August 2022.**

The following is a list of accompanying documents:

- Appendix A: Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies – Guiding Principles
- Appendix B: Department of Public Health Overdose Prevention Policy – 2024 Update
- Appendix C: Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing Overdose Prevention Policy – 2024 Update

- Appendix D: Department of Emergency Management Overdose Prevention Policy – 2024 Update
- Appendix E: Human Services Agency Overdose Prevention Policy – 2024 Update

Should you have any questions, the following people may be contacted regarding this matter:

- Jeff Hom, Medical Officer for Science and Policy, Substance Use Services (DPH) | email: jeffrey.hom@sfdph.org
- Dylan Schneider, Manager of Legislative Affairs (HSH) | email: dylan.schneider@sfgov.org
- Sam Dodge, Director of the Healthy Streets Operation Center (HSOC) (DEM) | email: sam.dodge@sfgov.org
- Susie Smith, Deputy Director, Policy and Planning (HSA) | email: susie.smith@sfgov.org

Sincerely,



Grant Colfax, MD
Director of Health



Mary Ellen Carroll
Executive Director, Department of Emergency Management



Shireen McSpadden
Executive Director, HSH



Trent Rhorer
Executive Director, Human Services Agency