



City and County of San Francisco
London N. Breed
Mayor

December 12, 2023

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

RE: 2023 Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies

Dear Honorable Members of the Board of Supervisors:

Attached, for your consideration, is a Resolution accepting receipt of the 2023 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 Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies are on file with the Clerk of the Board in legislative file 211304, and the 2022 Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies are on file with the Clerk of the Board in legislative file 221275.

2023 Highlights - Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies

The development and implementation of the Departmental Overdose Prevention Policies has provided an opportunity to strengthen collaboration between our four departments. Collaboration highlights from 2023 include:

- Over 100 emergency overdose response cabinets equipped with naloxone and overdose palm cards (how to respond to an overdose), were installed in supportive housing facilities.
- A collaboration between HSH, the DPH Office of Overdose Prevention and the SF Supportive Housing Network coordinated overdose prevention in housing sites.
- Pharmacists with Behavioral Health Services provided ongoing delivery of buprenorphine, a medication for opioid addiction treatment, to more than 80 residents across 25 housing sites.
- DPH developed and provided a training on substance use services across the continuum of care to over 45 ambassadors from DEM funded programs working in the Tenderloin, SoMa, Downtown and Mission areas.
- Since implementing the HSH Overdose Prevention Policy, 48 provider partners, or 83% of HSH's provider organizations required to have an overdose prevention policy in place, have submitted a policy. HSH is actively working with the remaining providers to get a policy in place by Dec. 31, 2023.

- In July 2023 HSH entered into a grant agreement with the National Harm Reduction Coalition (the DOPE Project) to provide specialized training and technical assistance to HSH providers to supplement the DPH online training. HSH is working with the DOPE Project to conduct a needs assessment across the HSH system of care and will roll out dedicated training in January 2024.
- In 2022, HSH rolled out a new system to better track and collect Critical Incident Reports (CIRs), including CIRs related to overdoses. This system was adopted in site-based permanent supportive housing (PSH) in June 2022 and in shelters in October 2022, and it will expand to outreach in FY 2023-24. The HSH housing and shelter teams regularly reviews this data and follows up with providers/programs if additional support is needed.
- Over the last year, HSH, HSA and DEM-HSOC have shared training and referral resources developed by DPH to increase overdose prevention and response training and referrals amongst department staff and amongst contracted partners and community-based organizations who serve people who use drugs.

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 5, 2023, approximately 2,056 staff members from across our four departments have been trained in overdose recognition and response through the online training. Additionally, the online training has been completed by more than 2,700 staff members of community-based organizations (CBOs), 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 a total of 4,992 people.** To supplement the online training, DPH recently developed a series of four training videos: (1) step-by-step demonstration on how to use nasal naloxone, (2) how to use a fentanyl test strip, (3) how to use intramuscular naloxone, and (4) a video about treatment services. These videos were released along with a new online training module developed by DPH on how to reduce stigma against people who use drugs.

Collectively, our departments recognize that overdose response is a shared responsibility and overdose prevention efforts have spanned city agencies. In addition to staff from DPH, HSH, HSA, and DEM-HSOC, staff across 20 other City Departments have taken the online overdose recognition and response training.

- In 2023, the SF Port, with support from DPH, developed a comprehensive overdose prevention policy that includes a training plan for staff, a plan for obtaining orders of naloxone with the State, and a plan to implement overdose response boxes.
- The Department of Elections received support and guidance covering overdose prevention training, policy development, and liability concerns.
- Overdose prevention trainings were provided to staff from Animal Care and Control, Park Rangers, and Board of Supervisors legislative aides.
- Overdose prevention support and naloxone were also provided for significant city events including Outside Lands and the Portola Music Event.

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 – 2023 Update
- Appendix C: Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing Overdose Prevention Policy – 2023 Update
- Appendix D: Department of Emergency Management Overdose Prevention Policy – 2023 Update

- Appendix E: Human Services Agency Overdose Prevention Policy – 2023 Update

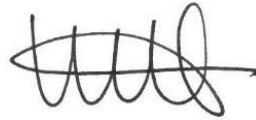
Should you have any questions, the following people may be contacted regarding this matter:

- Jeff Hom, Director of Population Behavioral Health (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
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