




Date: November 1, 2024
TO: Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) Providers
FROM: Joshua Kayman, MD, Chief Addiction Care Services 
SUBJECT: Naloxone Stand Boxes Available for Distribution – Applications Open!

The Alameda County Behavioral Health Department is now accepting applications for *free Naloxone Stand Boxes (NSBs)*.

This project is a direct result of suggestions from participants in the Community Listening Sessions for the Opioid Settlement Funds. Our goal is to make naloxone widely available across our network, empowering community members to prevent overdose-related deaths. By having these boxes readily accessible, community members won't need to ask staff for naloxone—they can simply help themselves to prepare for an emergency. Interested agencies that are selected will receive a box—roughly the size of a newspaper stand—along with assistance in accessing the State of California's no-cost naloxone program to stock and replenish it with doses.

What is Naloxone, and How Does It Work?

Naloxone is a medication that can reverse the effects of opioid poisoning, such as slowed or stopped breathing. It is effective against opioids like heroin, fentanyl, and certain prescription pain medications. When administered promptly, naloxone restores normal breathing and can be a lifesaving intervention. The nasal spray formulation, which will be provided in the NSBs, is easy to use and does not require medical training.

Why Is Naloxone Important?

Opioid poisoning or overdose is a leading cause of preventable death, and by increasing public access to naloxone, we can reduce these numbers. Having naloxone readily available in public places means that more people have the chance to respond quickly during an opioid-related poisoning, even if they don't have a direct connection to addiction services. Evidence shows that when naloxone is accessible, more lives can be saved.

About Naloxone Stand Boxes (NSBs)

The NSBs are durable, self-service units that hold multiple doses of intranasal naloxone. They are intended for installation in publicly accessible areas so that community members can access naloxone at any time. Each NSB will display simple instructions for recognizing signs of overdose and administering naloxone as well as QR codes linking to training videos, harm reduction, and addiction treatment resources.

Key Points to Know

- **Free Distribution:** The NSB and shipping are provided at no cost to any organization with a location in Alameda County. However, your organization will need to obtain and restock the naloxone in the NSB. The DHCS [Naloxone Distribution Project](#) provides Naloxone for free (use the link for more information).
- **Application Process:** Each organization can request up to five NSBs. If you operate multiple sites, please submit one application per location. Applications can be completed here: [Alameda County Behavioral Health Department: Naloxone Stand Box Application Form](#). The deadline for applications is January 10, 2025.
- **Installation Requirements:** The NSBs are compact, approximately the size of a newspaper stand, and need to be placed in a location accessible to the public. Applications will be reviewed based on factors such as overdose hotspot areas and expected public access.

Please see the attachment for more details. For questions or suggestions, contact Dr. Joshua Kayman at joshua.kayman@acgov.org.

Thank you for your interest in this program and for supporting our shared mission to reduce preventable deaths.