

Pursuant to Local Law 225 of 2017 to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the Department of Social Services and the Department of Homeless Services to offer training to certain individuals in administering opioid antagonists, the Department of Social Services respectfully submits the attached reports.

Opioid Overdose Prevention Reporting for the Department of Homeless Services (DHS)

Since September 2016, DHS established an agency policy requiring staff from all shelters to be trained on overdose prevention and naloxone administration. DHS developed and continues to provide bi-weekly training on the epidemiology of overdoses, types of opioids, identification of overdoses, instructions on how to use naloxone to reverse opioid overdoses, as well as risk reduction counseling and linkage to care guidance and resources tailored for DHS clients. DHS provides each trainee a naloxone kit, as well as supplies DHS facilities with communal kits.

In November 2016, the DHS Office of the Medical Director (OMD) became a state-certified Opioid Overdose Prevention Program (OOPP) and as such OMD started training DHS facility staff (including shelter, safe haven and drop-in facilities), as well as continue to train DHS security and police as Opioid Overdose Prevention trainers and responders, using a train-the-trainer model. OMD established an Overdose Prevention Champion position, and asked all DHS sites to select a Champion. Champions serve as liaison with OMD, train staff and clients at their facility, ensure DHS naloxone administration training and procedures are conducted and followed, and ensure naloxone kits are available at the facility at all times.

From September 2016 to June 30, 2022, DHS trained 34,099 staff and DHS clients.¹ In FY 22, DHS trained 4,771 staff and clients¹ (Table 1).

Table 1. Number of staff and residents trained in opioid antagonist (naloxone) administration, FY 22	
Total number of individuals trained	4,771
Number of staff trained for the first time	2,499
Number of staff who have completed refresher training	143
Number of DHS clients trained ²	2,129

¹ Including staff and clients trained by OMD, independent OOPPs and shelter staff.

² Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, social distancing guidelines and since training for clients is voluntary, there was a reduction in the number of clients who participated in this training for this report timeframe.

An opioid antagonist (naloxone) was administered in almost all (1,271) suspected overdoses that occurred in a DHS facility in FY 22, with the vast majority reported among single adult shelter residents (n=1,132, 89%) (Table 2).

Table 2. Number of times naloxone was administered to a shelter resident by facility, FY 22	
Total number of times naloxone was administered	1,271
Single adults	1,132
Adult Families	32
Families with Children	5
Safe Haven	93
Drop-in Centers	9

DHS COVID Pandemic Period

During the COVID pandemic, DHS collaborated with DOHMH and OASAS to establish a methadone delivery program for clients receiving methadone replacement therapy who were isolated in a DHS COVID isolation hotel. DHS continued to deliver the Naloxone training biweekly via live webinar and distributed naloxone kits weekly throughout the pandemic.

FY 22 Opioid Overdose Prevention Program Enhancements

In 2021, DHS began conducting systematic follow-up after non-fatal overdose to guide shelter staff to provide prevention counseling and linkage to harm reduction and substance use services including medications for addiction treatment. In FY22 DHS secured 1.5 million dollars in funding from SAMHSA and Healing NYC to enhance overdose prevention services, including direct outreach to clients at risk, shelter-based risk reduction counseling, naloxone and fentanyl test strip training and distribution to clients, and linkage to care.

In accordance with § 21-320.3, the department developed and implemented an opioid overdose plan to offer opioid overdose training to shelter residents who may encounter persons experiencing or who are at a high risk of experiencing an opioid overdose. No later than March 1, 2018, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services shall submit to the Mayor and the Speaker of the Council, and post online, a comprehensive opioid overdose training plan informed, to the extent practicable, by the reporting pursuant to section 17-190, for such residents. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to:

- a) Strategies for the agency to offer opioid antagonist administration training to such shelter residents;

- b) Information on how such shelter residents will be informed about the availability of such training;
- c) Information specific to the availability of such training;
- d) Information specific to the availability of opioid antagonist at shelter facilities; and
- e) The date by which the implementation of such plan will commence.

This DHS opioid antagonist administration training plan can be found [here](#).

Opioid Overdose Prevention Reporting for the Human Resources Administration (HRA) HIV AIDS Services Administration (HASA)

Recognizing the toll that the opioid epidemic is having on New Yorkers across the city, and with the passage of Local Law 225 in December of 2017, the Human Resource Administration's HIV AIDS Services Administration began to implement a naloxone training program for staff and clients. The New York State Department of Health certified Opioid Overdose Prevention Program (OOPP) is administered by the Human Resource Administration's Customized Services Administration under the direction of the Medical Director.

Pursuant to § 21-129.3, the department developed and implemented an opioid overdose training plan to offer opioid overdose training to residents of HASA facilities who may encounter persons experiencing or who are at a high risk of experiencing an opioid overdose. No later than March 1, 2018, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services shall submit to the Mayor and the Speaker of the Council, and post online, a comprehensive opioid overdose training plan for such residents. Such plan shall include, but need not be limited to:

- a) Strategies for the agency to offer opioid antagonist administration training to such residents of HASA facilities;
- b) Information on how such residents will be informed about the availability of such training;
- c) Information specific to the availability of such training;
- d) Information specific to the availability of opioid antagonist at HASA facilities; and
- e) The date by which the implementation of such plan will commence.

This HRA HASA OOPP training plan can be found [here](#).

The core components of these trainings include epidemiology of overdoses, type of opioids, how to identify an overdose and the use of naloxone to reverse opioid overdose. Individuals who successfully complete the training are State Certified Opioid Overdose Responders.

To reduce the number of overdose deaths, beginning in December 2017, OOPP started training HASA training facility staff routinely as trainers and responders. In April 2018, HRA's OOPP implemented a HASA opioid overdose training plan and overdose response policy, in accordance with LL225 of 2017. Since the beginning of FY 19 HRA's OOPP has trained 3,898 staff and facility residents. Due to the COVID pandemic and in accordance with NYSDOH guidance, in-person trainings were discontinued in March 2020. Web-based trainings were developed and implemented in FY 2021(August 2020). HRA continues to offer web-based training and has resumed in-person training in situations when appropriate and is now phasing in in-person trainings. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 alone, HRA'S OOPP trained 384 staff and

residents (Table 3). An opioid antagonist (naloxone) was administered 24 times to a facility resident in FY 2022 (Table 3)³.

Table 3: Number of staff and residents trained in opioid antagonist (naloxone) administration and number of times naloxone was administered to a resident (FY22)	
Total individuals trained	384
Number of staff who have completed an initial opioid antagonist administration training	124
Number of staff who have completed refresher training	206
Number of facility residents who have completed opioid antagonist administration training ⁴	54
Number of times opioid antagonist was administered to a facility resident	24

HRA COVID-19 Pandemic Virtual Training for HRA/HASA

In addition to resumption of in-person trainings, virtual Narcan trainings are also being offered and provided via Zoom platform to HASA and contracted staff so that they can respond to Opioid Overdose Reversals. These responder trainings include education on overdose risks, assessment, response, and administration of intra-nasal naloxone.

- Narcan trainings are offered and provided to the following:
 - All Serviceline staff, Directors, Supervisor Level II staff, Credentialed Alcohol and Substance Abuse Counselors (CASAC’s) and other HASA volunteer staff in the Centers.
 - HASA emergency transitional housing staff and clients.
 - HASA emergency SRO housing staff and clients.
 - HASA congregate housing staff and clients.
- Participants that successfully complete training are shipped a Narcan kit and Certificate of Completion card. Facility staff who complete the training receive naloxone kits (as communal kits).

³ Unlike many shelters for single adults, SRO emergency housing provides single adults enrolled in HASA a temporary private room to reside in. This privacy limits housing staff’s ability to monitor and respond to overdose. Also, due to the stigma of substance use and perceived consequences, many HASA clients are reluctant to report use of Naloxone to DSS or housing staff.