

Greene County Public Health

Melissa Howell MS, MBA, MPH, RN, REHS, Health Commissioner Kevin L. Sharrett, MD, Medical Director

Press Release

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Public Health Installs First Outdoor Naloxone Cabinet in Fairborn

XENIA, OH – Greene County Public Health is proud to announce the installation of its first outdoor naloxone cabinet at Abiding Christ Lutheran Church, located at 326 East Dayton Yellow Springs Road in Fairborn. This innovative cabinet will provide barrier-free access to life-saving opioid overdose reversal medication 24/7, making it easier than ever for community members to access naloxone, commonly known as Narcan.

The opioid crisis continues to pose a significant threat to communities across the nation, and Greene County is no exception. In 2022, Greene County Public Health distributed over 4,300 naloxone kits, with community members reporting 793 overdose reversals. Despite these efforts, Greene County experienced 47 overdose deaths in 2022, highlighting the continued need for accessible overdose prevention tools. However, initial data from 2024 shows a 69% decrease in overdose deaths in Greene County compared to 2023, indicating progress in addressing the crisis. By placing this naloxone cabinet in a public space, Greene County Public Health seeks to reduce the stigma surrounding overdose prevention and make lifesaving medication more readily available to those who need it.

Naloxone is a safe and effective medication that can quickly reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, restoring normal breathing and saving lives. It is crucial for everyone, especially those who may be in situations where an overdose could occur, to carry naloxone. This includes friends, family members, caregivers, and anyone who uses opioids, through prescription or recreationally.

The installation of this naloxone cabinet is a significant step toward protecting our community. By making naloxone accessible around the clock, we are empowering individuals to act during a crisis. We believe that everyone should have the opportunity to carry naloxone, as it can mean the difference between life and death.

Community members are encouraged to take advantage of this resource, whether they are personally affected by opioid use or want to be prepared to help others. The cabinet is stocked with naloxone kits, which include easy-to-use instructions for use.

Greene County Public Health is committed to raising awareness about the importance of naloxone and will continue to explore additional locations for future cabinets throughout the county.

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For more information about naloxone, opioid overdose prevention, or to find additional resources, please contact Kaci Warren at 937-374-5673 or email kwarren@greenecophoh.gov.

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