

# REVIVE!

OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL FOR VIRGINIA

January 2018



2017 was a year of growth and progress for REVIVE!. Through 2017, we have added ----**1224** Lay Rescuers, **339** Lay Rescuer Trainers, **65** Law Enforcement Agencies, and **15** Master Trainers! While this has been quite an accomplishment, the number of opioid overdoses in Virginia continues to rise, making our efforts more important now than ever. We have been humbled and inspired by the amazing work that is being done through combined efforts of all parties involved with the REVIVE! program. We are grateful to be involved with such an amazing group of volunteers and stakeholders who carry this program out into the communities that need it most and support the combined efforts throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia.

We look forward to continuing to lead the REVIVE! efforts and am interested in any feedback, comments, or news from our readers. Please send your information to Amira Turner at [revive@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:revive@dbhds.virginia.gov).

**Amira Turner**  
**REVIVE! Coordinator**

# REVIVE!

## OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL FOR VIRGINIA

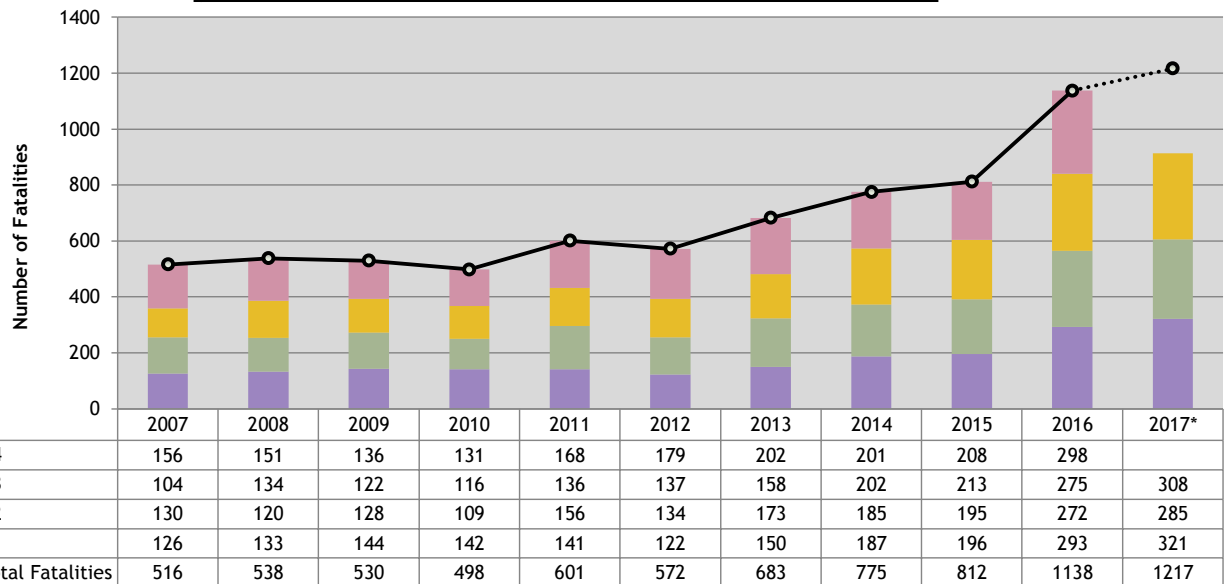
January 2018

### Disturbing Trends from 2017

## ALL OPIOIDS

From 2007-2015, opioids (fentanyl, heroin, U-47700, and/or one or more prescription opioids) made up approximately 75% of all fatal drug overdoses annually in Virginia. However, this percentage is increasing each year due to the significant increase in fatal fentanyl and/or heroin overdoses which began in late 2013 and early 2014. Fatal opioid overdoses increased by 40.1% in 2016 when compared to 2015.

Total Number of Fatal Opioid Overdoses by Quarter and Year of Death, 2007-2017  
 ('Total Fatalities' for 2017 is a Predicted Total for the Entire Year)



<sup>1</sup> All Opioids include all versions of fentanyl, heroin, prescription opioids, U-47700, and opioids unspecified  
<sup>2</sup> Opioids Unspecified are a small category of deaths in which the determination of heroin and/or one or more prescription opioids cannot be made due to specific circumstances of the death. Most commonly, these circumstances are a result of death several days after an overdose, in which the OCME cannot test for toxicology because the substances have been metabolized out of the decedent's system.  
<sup>3</sup> Fatal opioid numbers have changed slightly from past reports due to the removal of fentanyl from the category of prescription opioids, as well as the addition of buprenorphine, levorphanol, meperidine, pentazocine, propoxyphene, and tapentadol added to the list of prescription opioids.



**Naloxone**, a prescription medication, is an opioid antagonist drug that reverses the effects that opioids have in the brain. When a person overdoses on opioids, the opioid overwhelms specific receptors in the brain, slowly decreasing respiration and heart rate before finally stopping it altogether. Naloxone has a very high affinity for these receptors and effectively pushes the opioid off of the brain receptor. This action allows a person's body to resume respiration. Naloxone has been used for years by emergency medical technicians and emergency room doctors to reverse opioid overdose emergencies. Outside of this singular purpose, naloxone has no effect on the body, and poses no danger to anyone who accidentally administers it to themselves or someone else.

**Naloxone - Virginia Statewide Standing Order:** A Standing order is currently in place, serving as a prescription for all Virginians who would like to obtain Naloxone. Virginia residents can now request Naloxone directly from the pharmacy without having to visit their doctor or medical provider first.

# REVIVE!

OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL FOR VIRGINIA

January 2018

## Naloxone (Narcan) Availability

### Health Department

In an attempt to make naloxone more accessible in our communities, the Virginia Department of Health will be dispensing Narcan Nasal Spray at no cost to those in need through the local health departments. There are two ways this is being accomplished:

- 1- In conjunction with REVIVE! trainings: This requires REVIVE! trainers to **collaborate with their health departments on scheduling the training** at a time when someone from the health department is available to dispense the medication at the event. See the REVIVE! website for the list of community training sites that are offering Narcan Nasal Spray to training participants.
- 2- On a walk-in basis: For this option, individuals should **call the health department in advance** to make sure a staff member who is able to dispense the medication is on-site when the individual at need plans on going in.

**Please contact your local health department to coordinate efforts to make Narcan Nasal Spray available in your county.**

### 2017 Naloxone Dispensing at Trainings §54.1-3408

A person who is authorized by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to train individuals on the administration of naloxone for use in opioid overdose reversal and who is acting on behalf of an organization that provides services to individuals at risk of experiencing an opioid overdose or training in the administration of naloxone for overdose reversal and that has obtained a controlled substances registration from the Board of Pharmacy pursuant to § 54.1-3423 may dispense naloxone to a person who has completed a training program on the administration of naloxone for opioid overdose reversal approved by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services, provided that such dispensing is

- (i) pursuant to a standing order issued by a prescriber,
- (ii) in accordance with protocols developed by the Board of Pharmacy in consultation with the Board of Medicine and the Department of Health, and
- (iii) without charge or compensation. The dispensing may occur at a site other than that of the controlled substance registration provided the entity possessing the controlled substances registration maintains records in accordance with regulations of the Board of Pharmacy.

A person to whom naloxone has been dispensed pursuant to this subsection may possess naloxone and may administer naloxone to a person who is believed to be experiencing or about to experience a life-threatening opioid overdose.

Click [HERE](#) for a quick start guide

Contact the Board of Pharmacy to apply for Controlled Substance Registration: [bop@dhp.virginia.gov](mailto:bop@dhp.virginia.gov)

# REVIVE!

OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSAL FOR VIRGINIA

January 2018

## **Trainings are Being Scheduled NOW!**

If you're interested in becoming a Lay Rescuer Master Trainer, Lay Rescuer Trainer, or Lay Rescuer as part of REVIVE!, please email [revive@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:revive@dbhds.virginia.gov). Plans are being made to host trainings across Virginia, so don't miss out! Please pass along the word to all your family members, friends and colleagues who may be interested. Training events and other information are posted on our website. Click [HERE](#) to visit our website.

## **Anonymous Naloxone Administration Survey**

In an attempt to demonstrate program success and help in securing funding in the future for REVIVE!, we have a link available for lay rescuers to report administration of Naloxone. This survey is completely anonymous and is only shared in aggregate form. Please use this link any time you administer Naloxone and encourage others to do the same: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/REVIVEVA>.

## **Keep DBHDS Updated!**

We are working on increasing our online presence, including keeping a current listing of all upcoming training events. Once you schedule a training event, please email [revive@dbhds.virginia.gov](mailto:revive@dbhds.virginia.gov) so we can add it to the website.