

Save Lives OREGON

Impact Brief January, 2024

Our Initiative

Save Lives Oregon is a collaborative initiative founded by the Oregon Health Authority with leading organizations active in harm reduction from across the state and Tribal communities. Together we are committed to reducing substance use-related harm and creating safer, healthier communities.

Our Leadership Team



HIVAlliance



Max's Mission

Outside In

Multnomah
County
Health Department

The Miracles Club



4D
Recovery



Our Philosophy

At the heart of the Save Lives Oregon philosophy is the belief that many roads lead to recovery. Our approach is informed by the extensive research* that demonstrates the effectiveness of harm reduction strategies in reducing overdose fatalities, infectious disease risks, and injuries related to substance use, while also enhancing access to health and social services.

*Des Jarlais et al., 2005; Milloy et al., 2008; Salmon et al., 2009; Wood et al., 2007; Belani & Muennig, 2008

Key Elements of the Save Lives Oregon Initiative

Communications Resources & Materials



Create and distribute tools and materials to help our partners explain and share about harm reduction strategies in their communities.

The Harm Reduction Clearinghouse



Distribute state-funded harm reduction supplies equitably and free of charge to organizations that meet eligibility criteria.

Training & Education



Facilitate educational trainings and provide support to organizations seeking to integrate harm reduction strategies into their services.

Community-led, community-driven

With a large network of diverse statewide partners including community organizations, Tribal groups, local agencies, health centers and more, we've honed our initiative offerings based on partner feedback. In 2023, we hosted community listening sessions with Black, Native, and Latinx service providers and peers to better understand culturally-specific needs and barriers related to substance use harm reduction. Through insights from these sessions, and survey data we collect from all initiative partners, we've expanded initiative offerings to include new monthly Learning Collaboratives and an expansion of supplies available through the Harm Reduction Clearinghouse. Our goal is to ensure Save Lives Oregon remains community-centered and effectively responsive to our partners' needs.



Partner Voices



"Partnering with Save Lives Oregon has allowed us to have a consistent supply of naloxone so we don't have to ration. Having Save Lives Oregon there with tons of resources and support that I can turn to is a huge relief."

-Sgt. Eric Dotson, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office

"Save Lives Oregon is helping those of us on the ground make meaningful, material change for people, particularly the communities who have been underserved for too long."

-Fernando Peña, NW Instituto Latino

Expanded reach & impact



In 2023, the Save Lives Oregon initiative expanded its Harm Reduction Clearinghouse to offer a broader range of partners state-funded harm reduction supplies. While we continue to prioritize the distribution of naloxone and other supplies to partners in high yield settings - those where supplies are directly distributed to people who are using substances and those most vulnerable to overdoses - we now provide access to state-funded naloxone and other supplies to additional partners such as special districts, schools, colleges and school-based health centers. This expansion was supported by funding from the Opioid Settlement Prevention, Treatment and Recovery Board.

Our Overall Impact*

881

Save Lives Oregon initiative partners across Oregon & Tribal communities

391K

Naloxone doses supplied by the Save Lives Oregon initiative

7500

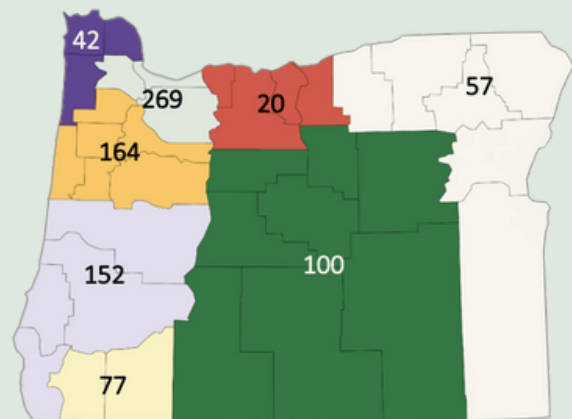
Opioid overdose reversals reported by Save Lives Oregon partners

*As of 1/19/24

Partners receiving state-funded supplies through the Harm Reduction Clearinghouse*

- 126 Community Based Orgs
- 42 Uniformed First Responders
- 27 Substance Use Disorder Facilitates
- 47 Syringe Service / Harm Reduction Programs
- 20 Health Centers / Emergency Rooms
- 42 Special Districts
- 577 Schools, Colleges, Universities, School-Based Health Centers

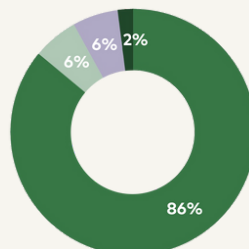
*As of 1/19/24



Maximizing Fiscal Efficiency

The Harm Reduction Clearinghouse bulk purchases supplies - including naloxone, the medication that reverses opioid overdose - through our State's Division of Administrative Services (DAS) bulk purchase agreement with a national group purchasing organization for governments, operated by the State of Minnesota, which negotiates the lowest prices for supplies for over 13,000 members across all 50 states.

Supplies provided by the Harm Reduction Clearinghouse in 2023*



- Naloxone: 86%
- Sterile Syringes: 6%
- Wound Care and Hygiene Supplies: 6%
- Sharps Containers: 2%

*Based on broad spending categories