



## WECOSS Project Proposal – Working Group Name

### Project Name: Community Overdose Prevention Trainings

#### Background & Purpose

*Provide context for what conditions exist that have created the need for this project. Why is the project being undertaken? Describe an opportunity or problem that the project will address.*

Provincial data demonstrates that naloxone is only administered in half of overdoses cases where someone is present to do so (PHO, 2022). Moreover, most opioid-related deaths in Ontario occur in indoor private dwellings (PHO, 2022). In Windsor, individuals residing in and around the downtown core are at a higher risk for fatal overdoses (WECHU, 2022). As such, there is a need to expand access to available harm reduction options and decrease stigma around their use as they are effective strategies in reducing fatal opioid overdoses. The utilization of test strips and naloxone as take-home/portable drug checking and overdose prevention strategies, respectively, may assist in reaching this population given their convenience and accessibility.

Naloxone administration and overdose education interventions aimed at friends and family of people who use substance as well as by-standers have demonstrated significant increases in overdose recovery and improved knowledge and recognition of an overdose, respectively (Giglio, Li, and DiMaggio, 2015). As well, the efficacy of overdose reversal following naloxone administration by laypersons (non-medical emergency persons) is between 75-100% (Lynn and Galinkin, 2017).

Fentanyl test strips (FTS) are an effective strategy for rapidly identifying if fentanyl is present in a substance with low rates of false negative readings (Ti et al., 2020). FTS cannot detect the quantity of fentanyl and other substances in the sample may affect the accuracy results (Government of Canada, 2023). However, they offer consumers an opportunity to make an informed choice about their substance use and increase access to drug checking services. A similar approach will be taken with xylazine and benzodiazepine strips.

#### Goals & Objectives

*What goal(s) does the project aim to accomplish?*

*List the achievements/objectives that can be attained/met along the way to your goal.*

- Increase access to harm reduction options for opioids and other substance use amongst priority populations.
- Increase the actions taken at the community level to create supportive environments addressing inequities related to opioids and emerging substances of concern.

#### Strategic Alignment

*Which Modernization Recommendation(s) does this work support?*

- **Priority # 4:** Augment harm reduction services and supplies through coordinated agency involvement and policy supports.

#### Target Audience

Who will realize the benefits of the project (e.g., people who use drugs, service providers, etc.)? In other words, whose needs will be met from the project meeting its pre-defined goal(s)?

- **Primary Target Audiences:** Individuals living and/or working in and around the downtown Windsor core; people who use substances and/or friends and family of people who use substances; males aged 25-64 working in the construction industry.
- **Secondary Target Audiences:** Individuals living in Windsor-Essex County

### Project Scope

What activities, issues, problems, or deliverables are within scope, and which will not be included or considered as part of this project?

- Delivering training on overdose prevention including how to recognize the signs of an overdose, how to administer naloxone, how to use test strips for drug checking, and where to obtain these and other harm reduction supplies.
- Distributing naloxone to individuals who receive training in collaboration with an Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) partner.
- Distributing fentanyl, xylazine, and/or benzodiazepine test strips to individuals who receive training.
- Providing education about substance use stigma, the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act, and local programming related to substance use (i.e., treatment, social support, primary care, mental health, etc.)

### Out of Scope

- Offering training on a request basis as:
  - The Ministry of Labour is currently responsible for providing training to “high risk workplaces”.
  - WECHU nursing staff is not available to provide ongoing training at this time.
  - ONP partners must be available for naloxone kit distribution.

### Assumptions, Dependencies, Risks, and Constraints

Describe the conditions or situations that you are relying on to achieve the project goal(s) and/or the factors that may influence the project outcomes (positively or negatively).

- There is community interest/attendance at all four of the scheduled events.
  - Risk Mitigation Strategy: a registration page will be created to ensure at least 10 individuals sign up to receive the training.
- There is an Ontario Naloxone Program (ONP) partner at each event to distribute naloxone kits.
  - Risk Mitigation Strategy: direct participants to the nearest pharmacy that distributes naloxone.

### Success Criteria

What metrics/key performance indicators will be used to determine how the project is performing and whether the project was successful at meeting the goal(s)/objective(s)?

**OUTPUTS:** (What is produced through the project's activities?)

**SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES** (The changes or benefits that result from the project)



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Naloxone and test strip training content</li> <li>• Pre/post assessment</li> <li>• Promotional material (i.e. posters)</li> <li>• 4 training events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ↑ education and awareness about overdose prevention strategies</li> <li>• ↑ access to naloxone and drug test strips</li> </ul>
<p><b>Process indicators</b> (<i>Measures activities of the project, project quality, and who the project is reaching</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• # of individuals trained on naloxone administration and fentanyl test strip use</li> <li>• # of naloxone kits distributed</li> <li>• # of fentanyl test strips distributed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Outcome indicators</b> (<i>Measures that are used to assess if the program goal(s) has been achieved</i>):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % of participants who agree that the training increased their knowledge about available harm reduction options</li> <li>• % of participants who found the training to be useful in providing overdose prevention education</li> <li>• % of participants who intend to engage in the practices taught as needed in the future</li> <li>• % of community agencies/partners who collaborated to deliver events</li> </ul>

### Milestones & Timelines

*Document the high-level project milestones, their associated tasks/activities, their expected completion time, and those involved in completing the deliverables associated with each milestone.*

<b>Milestone</b>	<b>Tasks/Activities</b>	<b>Lead Persons or Organizations Responsible</b>	<b>Estimated Timelines</b>
Training Content Finalized	Develop training content on naloxone administration and test strip use (fentanyl, xylazine, and/or benzodiazepine) along with information about substance use stigma and the Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act (GSDOA).  Create a short pre/post quiz to be distributed at the event to evaluate the trainings.	WECHU/WECOSS	February 2024
Training Logistics Planned	Secure location for events, select dates, invite speakers and/or community agencies to display tables, and create promotional materials.	WECHU/WECOSS & SSNAPP	March 2024
Trainings Promoted	Distribute promotional material and ask partners to promote through their agencies.	WECHU/WECOSS & SSNAPP	March 2024



Trainings Hosted	In collaboration with an active Ontario Naloxone Partner (i.e., EMS) host at least four training sessions. Distribute naloxone, test strips, and evaluation quizzes.	WECHU & SSNAPP	April – November 2024
Trainings Evaluated	Analyze data from training quizzes and summarize findings in a report. Use feedback to improve sessions and guide future interventions.	WECHU	Ongoing
<b>Project Budget</b>			
<p><i>Apart from FTE and in-kind support, what is the total monetary cost related to initiating, planning, executing, and closing the project?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TBD</li> </ul>			

**Date:** February 2024