



The Rise of Opioid Use in New Jersey

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Cherry Hill, NJ ? Back in March, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy announced that his state had seen 3,040 overdose deaths in 2020 and an additional 540 deaths in January-February of 2021. This news arrived alongside his opioid policy proposals for 2021. The opioid epidemic has spread far and wide throughout the United States and has been declared a public health emergency. The Northeast United States is the hardest-hit region in the country, increasing the need for effective treatment centers in the area.

Opioids, including both illegal and prescription drugs, have highly addictive and often irreversible effects on the mind and body. They also pose a very high risk for overdose and death. This is especially true of street drugs that are laced with the drug fentanyl. Fentanyl is a powerful synthetic opioid that is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine and is one of the lead contributors to the opioid crisis in New Jersey.

Part of Governor Murphy's proposed policy is to increase the state budget for harm reduction programs by \$1 million, which are the only proven way to prevent overdose deaths. Currently, there are not enough harm reduction centers in New Jersey to meet the needs of the community. Another part of his policy would expand access to naloxone (brand name Narcan) and reinforce the availability of medication for opioid use disorder.

These proposals show the state's commitment to fighting overdose deaths. In the past, it's been up to community leaders and mutual aid groups, like New Jersey Harm Reduction Coalition (NJHRC), to fill in the gaps in the state's overdose prevention policies. NJHRC has distributed 6,000 naloxone kits since March 2020, preventing at least 45 overdose deaths and likely much more since most reversals are not reported. This is an excellent learning opportunity for the state to fund programs that get these lifesaving supplies directly to drug users without any stigma attached.

Keeping people alive should be the number one priority. Not every drug user is ready for recovery, but people who have access to harm reduction programs are less likely to die from an overdose. They are also five times more likely to start a drug treatment program in the future and three times more likely to stop chaotic drug use altogether.

Having access to successful recovery programs, like the ones offered at Legacy Healing Center in Cherry Hill, is another important piece in stopping this deadly epidemic. Legacy Healing Center recently opened a new behavioral health treatment center in Cherry Hill, New Jersey to better serve the Northeast region. "Our mission is to help lay the foundation for anyone who enters our community to learn to recover and address underlying issues so they can achieve a better life," a Legacy spokesperson said.

With multiple treatment centers in South Florida that center around a holistic healing approach, Legacy Healing Center brings its unsurpassed clinical care to New Jersey. For many, local treatment is a better option when it's not possible to fly to another state to get adequate care. Legacy attributes the success of their programs to giving clients a safe place to heal where they can relax and begin to feel positive about themselves again.

Legacy Healing Center also offers a range of treatment programs to fit each individual's needs and provide the least restrictive program without risking their chances of success in recovery. Legacy Healing Center's multidisciplinary team determines the right level of care through a set of medical, psychiatric, and social assessments.

For those who are struggling or may know someone who is struggling with opioid addiction, Legacy Healing Center is here to help guide through the road of recovery. Give them a call today at (888) 534-2295. Their recovery specialists are available 24/7 to answer any questions and help to get started with treatment.

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For more information about Legacy Healing Center Cherry Hill, contact the company here: Legacy Healing Center Cherry Hill Travis Benfaida (856) 263-4965 info@legacyhealing.com 800 Kings Hwy N suite 100, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034

Legacy Healing Center Cherry Hill

Addiction Treatment Center in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Alcohol & drug rehab that is done with the whole person in mind. Call Legacy Healing Center.

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