Every OVERDOSE death is preventable.

Overdoses have taken more than one million lives in the United States since 1999 and cost the United States approximately $1 trillion annually. Due to intense advocacy efforts, the country is finally seeing real progress.

The overdose death rate in the United States fell 26.2 percent from 2023 to 2024. Despite this tremendous progress, 80,000 Americans lost their lives to overdose during that time, a catastrophic and unacceptable tragedy.

This progress is the result of intentional, sustained efforts supported by bipartisan cooperation and a robust federal commitment to confronting this crisis directly. Yet despite this progress, challenges remain: implementation of federal reforms, ensuring equity, reaching underserved communities and defending gains against emerging threats in the illicit drug supply and changing political climate.

High-quality, evidence-based strategies save lives, but only if the health systems that support them are properly funded and easily accessible.

Our mission:

The Overdose Prevention Initiative is committed to identifying federal solutions that make it easier for people with substance use disorders to stay safe, find treatment and succeed in recovery.

By advancing federal policies that address the disparities, barriers and stigma in the addiction treatment system, we can make a difference in the lives of people across the U.S. and prevent needless deaths.

In order to build a broad, bipartisan base of support, we developed an integrated advocacy, communications and partnerships strategy.

We advocate for policies that:



Expand Access to Addiction Treatment and Recovery



Support Community-Based Overdose Prevention



Advance Data-Driven Solutions

Our Impact

From Strategy to Lasting Systemic Change

Our advocacy goes beyond traditional lobbying: we build trust and credibility to achieve durable bipartisan solutions grounded in evidence. That approach is necessary because federal policies address the roots of the overdose crisis and enable state and local organizations to deliver life-saving services.

We have strategically cultivated bipartisan support to make our advocacy resilient across shifting political landscapes, ensuring continued progress in combating overdose.

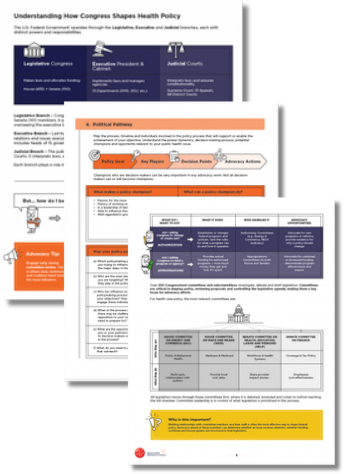
Since 2022, we have hosted four annual Congressional naloxone trainings; this year we reached 60+ staffers, 120+ Hill offices and seven Members of Congress from both sides of the aisle.



The Overdose Prevention Initiative 2025 Congressional Naloxone Training.

We organized a bipartisan congressional visit to the Fairfax County Detention Center, allowing Members of Congress to hear directly from incarcerated individuals about MOUD access and gain first-hand experience of impactful policy in action.

We frequently coordinate and participate in briefings for Members of Congress and their staff to educate on critical legislation and policies that can end the overdose crisis.



Advocacy toolkits

Resource designed to help advocates plan, organize and execute effective federal policy campaigns to prevent overdose and expand access to evidence-based treatment and harm reduction.

Available on www.hatchadvocacy.org

2021 PROGRAM LAUNCH

October 1, the Global Health Advocacy Incubator (GHAI) officially launched the Overdose Prevention Initiative.

2022

GHAI formalized program strategy; initiated coalition-building and Congressional education; personalized data briefs developed for all 535 Congressional offices. Mainstreaming Addiction Treatment (MAT) Act passed; GHAI led the 540+ organization coalition; White House recognition reinforced national impact; first bipartisan Congressional naloxone training held.

2023

GHAI coordinated national sign-on letters for the Reentry Act and Due Process Act; expanded partner engagement with rural, faith, public safety and community-based organizations.

2024

Provided technical assistance to Senate Finance Committee, Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) and the Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); supported expansion of telehealth buprenorphine prescribing rules; developed bipartisan workforce and economic data briefs.

2025

SUPPORT Act signed into law; GHAI organized 4th Congressional naloxone training; hosted several Advocacy 101 trainings for capacity strengthening, intensive appropriations and critical grant funding advocacy securing level funding for key programs.

2026

GHAI orchestrated the introduction of the No Red Tape for Addiction Treatment Act, endorsed the WORK to Save Lives Act and established policy priorities that stabilize SUD service access, protect coverage continuity, strengthen the workforce and support overdose preparedness for a variety of settings and populations.

Launched the new U.S. Federal Advocacy Action Guide.

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