



ILCAAAP

Illinois Church Action on Alcohol & Addiction Problems

Marijuana Alert - January 20, 2022



Marijuana Action Alert

Marijuana edibles spurring incidents

Newly released numbers show marijuana overdose-related calls in Illinois jumped significantly after legalization, mainly due to edibles... The number of calls to the Illinois Poison Center for cannabis rose from 487 in 2019, to 743 in 2020, the year recreational weed was legalized in the state and increased again to 855 in 2021.

Many of the calls were for consumption of edibles, officials said.

Edible cases more than tripled from 80 cases in 2019 to 450 in 2021.

“Looking at the reason for exposure, almost all were unintentional,” said Dr. Michael Wahl, medical director of the poison center. “People didn’t mean to eat them, or didn’t know what they were eating.

Many of the calls are for children . [Read](#)

Chicago stores exploit legal loophole to sell THC-O, a ‘psychedelic’ 3 times stronger than weed

You can buy the alternative cannabinoid at stores all over Chicago that specialize in selling quasi-legal products. The products are made using an extraction process that converts the CBD into Delta-9, which is then turned into Delta-8. That’s combined with a pair of corrosive chemicals, one of which is flammable and “highly explosive.” **Yet the products don’t have to meet any health or safety standards.**

Some states have banned Delta-8. But in Illinois, legislation that would require products containing unchecked cannabinoids like THC-O to be tested and labeled **stalled** after passing the House last April.

[Read](#)

Study: Marijuana use and impact on the heart

Our study provides evidence supporting an association between

recent cannabis use and a history of MI in young adults. Increasing cannabis use in an at-risk population could have negative implications for cardiovascular health.

The American Heart Association recently issued a recommendation not to smoke or vapourize any product containing cannabis because of its potential harm on cardiovascular health and called for more research on the epidemiology and trends in cannabis use among youth and high-risk populations. [Read](#)

Older adult opioid overdose death rates on the rise

"We don't think of Baby Boomers as recreational drug users, but it's a growing problem' The number of opioid overdose deaths in older Americans increased **1886% between 1999 and 2019** . Among older adults, African-American men experienced a disproportionate share of fatal overdoses. [Read](#)

For Immediate Action

- Share this alert with your State Representative and Senator and ask them to oppose Home Delivery of Marijuana HB 312. Making Marijuana more accessible will increase cases of edible consumption incidents.
- Share this Alert with your faith community.
- Forward to 10 others.

Click here to donate to Illinois Churches in Action (tax deductible)



www.ilcaaap.org
1132 W Jefferson
Springfield, IL 60702

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