

The Rise of Fentanyl in Arizona

From Understanding to Action



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Fentanyl is here...

Arizona teens among fentanyl's latest victims

CRIME

Valley police seize 1.7 million fentanyl pills

A drug bust operation across the Valley netted nearly 1.7 million fentanyl pills, police said Thursday.



Author: 12News
Published: 2:13 PM MST December 16, 2021
Updated: 6:08 PM MST December 16, 2021



SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — The Scottsdale Police Department announced Thursday its officers and law enforcement partners have recently seized \$9 million worth of fentanyl pills.



According to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in Arizona, the leading cause of death for those between the ages of 15-44, in the United States, is drug overdoses.



Fentanyl making up bigger share of drug cases

January 6, 2022 / in News

FLORENCE - The dangerous synthetic opioid fentanyl is sharply increasing its prevalence in drug cases in Pinal County.

Fentanyl, which is roughly 100 times stronger than morphine, has been attributed to an uptick in opioid overdose deaths across the country in recent years. It takes a small amount to overdose and has become the drug of choice for some due to how cheap and easy it is to obtain.

"Not just in Pinal County but across the state and across the nation, we've just seen this unbelievable explosion of fentanyl and we're not immune to it," said Pinal County Attorney Kent Volkmer.

Volkmer noted the increasing prevalence of fentanyl in drug cases in Pinal County.

In 2019, less than 2% of drug-related charges involved fentanyl. In 2020, that number increased to around 11%. In 2021, the number exceeded 22%.

"We've seen a 750% increase in...charging for fentanyl," Volkmer said.

The effects of the drug are not hard to find.

"Pinal County is witnessing overall, about one overdose every single day," Volkmer said. "Not everybody is passing, but on average we see almost an overdose every day. That's tragic."



Fentanyl is Here with Deadly Consequences

95% of overdose deaths in children 17 and under caused by fentanyl poisoning.



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Today, we will discuss ...



What is fentanyl?



How big is the problem?



What can we do?



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Fentanyl is an opioid

Opioid is a class of drugs used to reduce pain

Prescription Opioids

Prescription opioids are prescribed by doctors to treat moderate to severe pain.

Illegal Fentanyl

Synthetic (man-made) opioid 50 to 100 times more powerful than heroin and morphine.

Heroin

Heroin is an illegal opioid. Heroin comes in powder form or as black tar heroin.



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What does fentanyl look like?

Prescription Fentanyl



Illegal Fentanyl



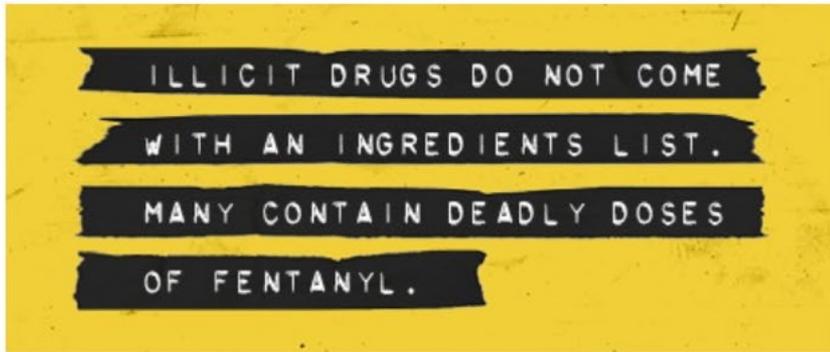
Most common form of illegal fentanyl



Street Names

- M30 (Represented by blue circle with M)
- Blues

Names often used on social media



Street names for IMF include:

- Apache
- Dance Fever
- Friend
- Goodfellas
- Jackpot
- Murder 8
- Tango & Cash ¹

How are pills used?



■
Swallowed



■
Snorted



■
Smoked



■
Injected



How big is the problem?

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**Fentanyl is
the #1
substance found
in fatal overdoses.**

Arizona Department of Health Services Opioid Dashboard – January 12, 2023
<https://www.azdhs.gov/opioid/index.php#dashboards-overdose-deaths>



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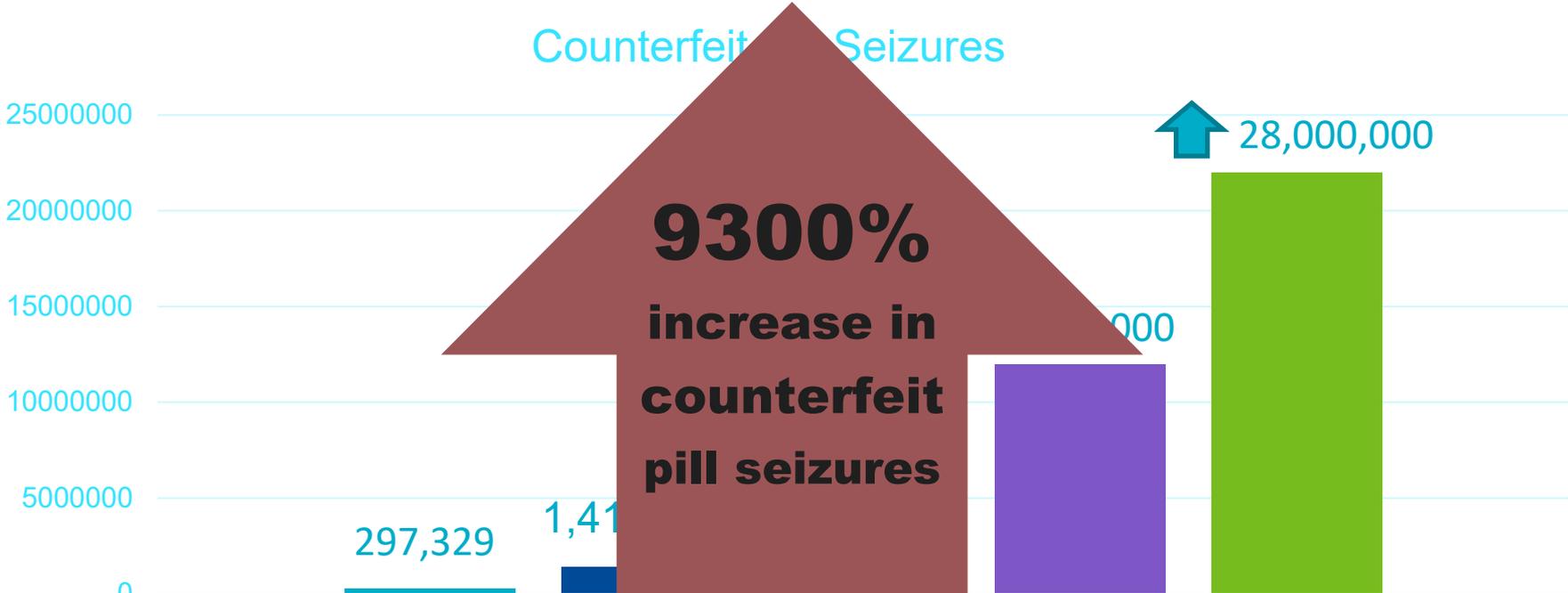
Why is This Occurring?

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Counterfeit pill seizures



9300%
increase in
counterfeit
pill seizures



Source Drug Enforcement Administration
Phoenix Field Division



Don't be faked out.



Knock-off pills sold on the street or
online contain the deadly substance

fentanyl.

Be ready to help your friends.

Encourage them not to use "Oxycodone" or "Percocet"
pills. Pills not obtained from a pharmacy are fake and
contain fentanyl.





What's driving substance use?



Curiosity



Stress Relief



Dependence



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Is your child at higher risk?

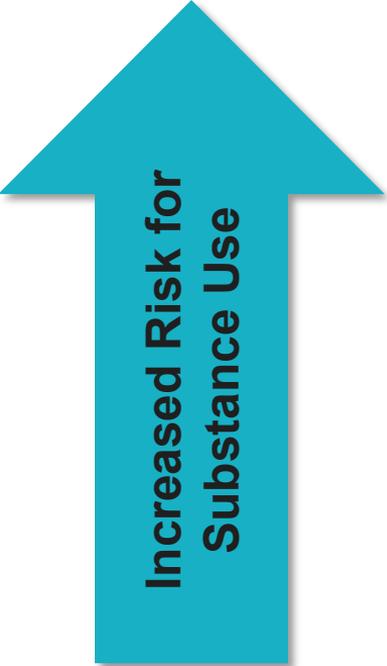
Traumatic events

Impulse Control Difficulties

Family history of substance use

Diagnosed or undiagnosed mental health issues

- Depression
- Anxiety
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD)



Increased Risk for
Substance Use



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What can we do?

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What Can Parents and Caregivers Do?

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Fentanyl Facts for AZ 8th, 10th and 12th graders

4 out of 5 students say their parents have **NEVER** talked with them about Fentanyl

1 out of 10 say Fentanyl is sort of easy or very **EASY TO GET**

Talk early, talk often

- Ask your child what they know about Fentanyl
- Explain that knowing about Fentanyl helps people stay safe
- Cover the basics
- Warn them about fake prescription pills sold online or shared at parties



Establish a Rescue Plan

TalkNowAZ.com



Monitor social media

- **Take note** of social media sites your child visits
- **Keep track** of passwords and usernames
- **Set limits** on the amount of time they are online
- **Talk with them** about what they are seeing & posting



Ask for Non-opioid alternatives for managing pain

- Motrin
- Advil
- Aleve

Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDS)

- Tylenol

Acetaminophen

- One shot or multiple shots

Local Anesthetics

- Acupuncture
- Physical Therapy
- Massage

Alternative Approaches

Secure/dispose of medications in home



Store prescribed medications in a secure place

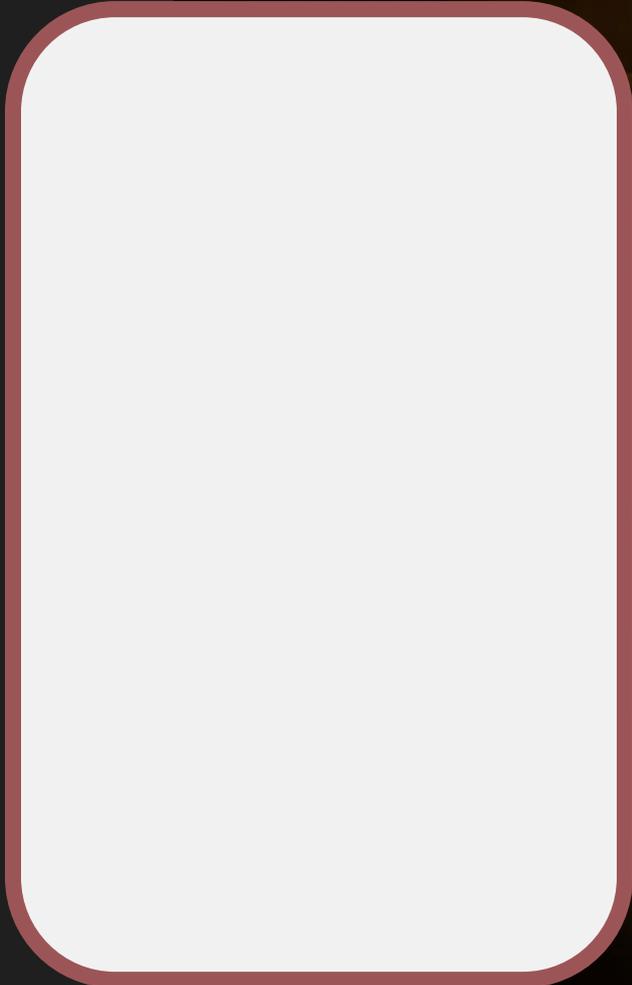


Find prescription drug drop off locations at
DumpTheDrugsAZ.org

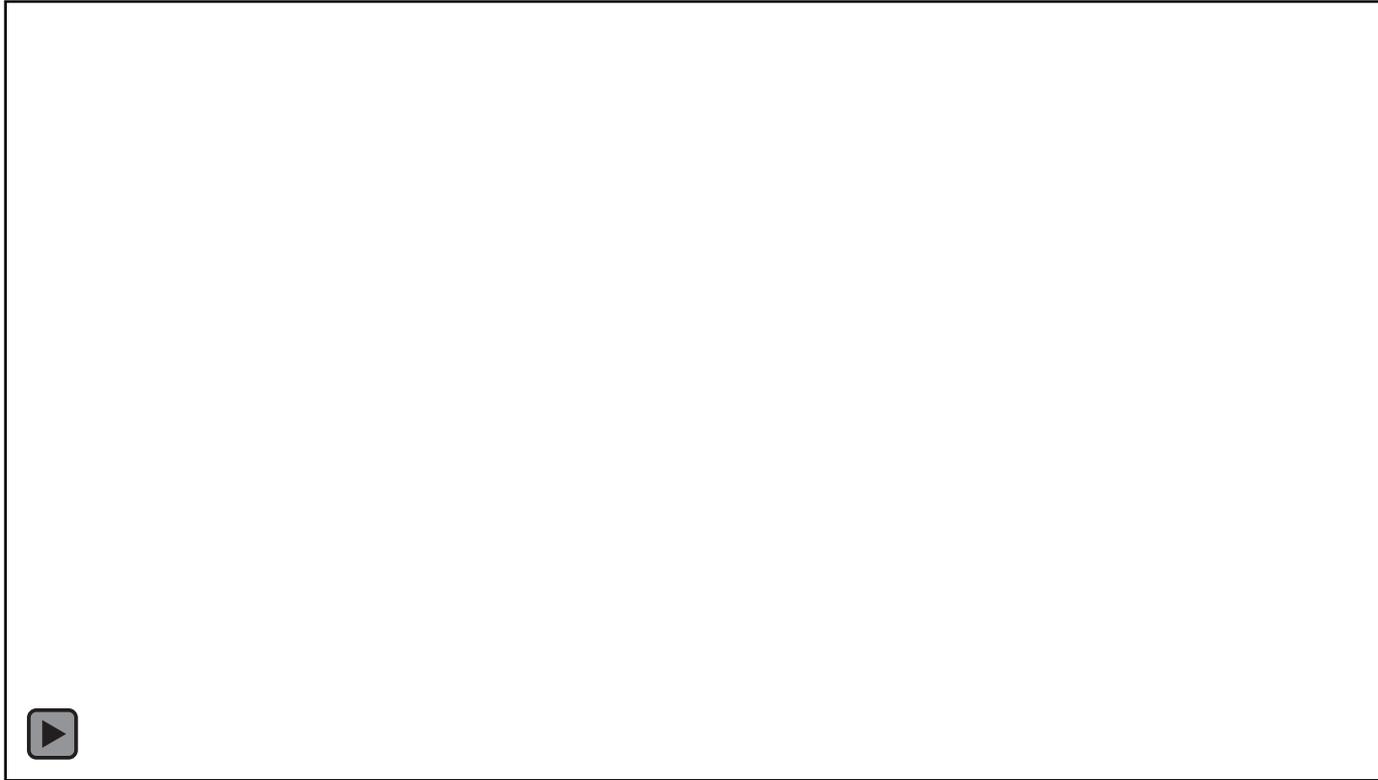
expired medication



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Teach youth about Good Samaritan Law - Call 911



Know signs of overdose

- Heavy nodding, deep sleep, hard to wake up, or vomiting
- Slow or shallow breathing (less than 1 breath every 5 seconds), snoring, gurgling or choking sounds
- Pale blue or gray lips, fingernails, or skin
- Clammy, sweaty skin
- ***Administer Naloxone to reverse an overdose, but always call 911 FIRST***

NaloxoneAZ.com

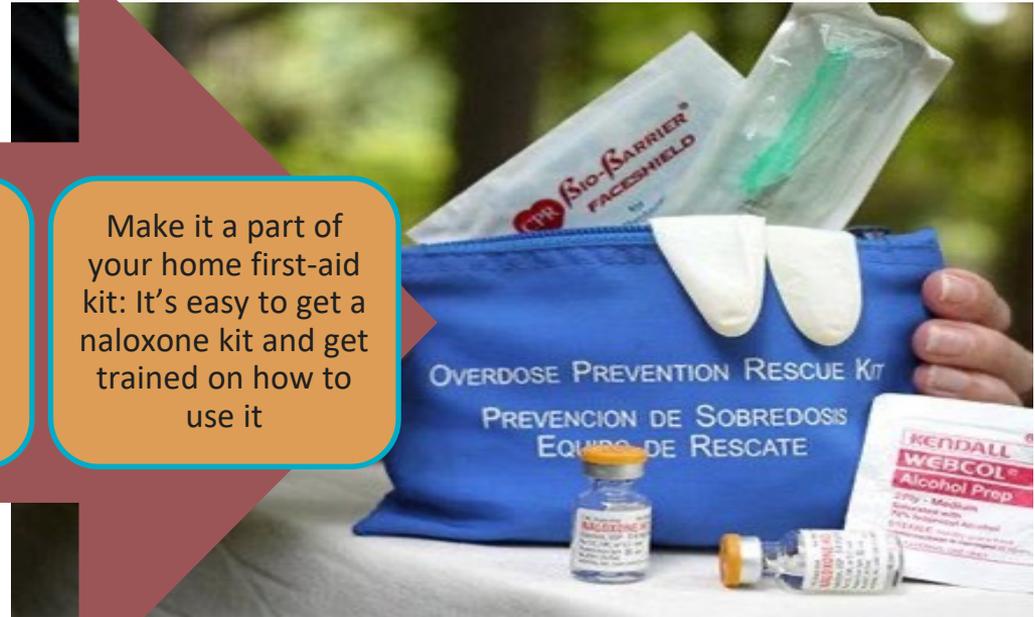


Save a life – Carry Naloxone

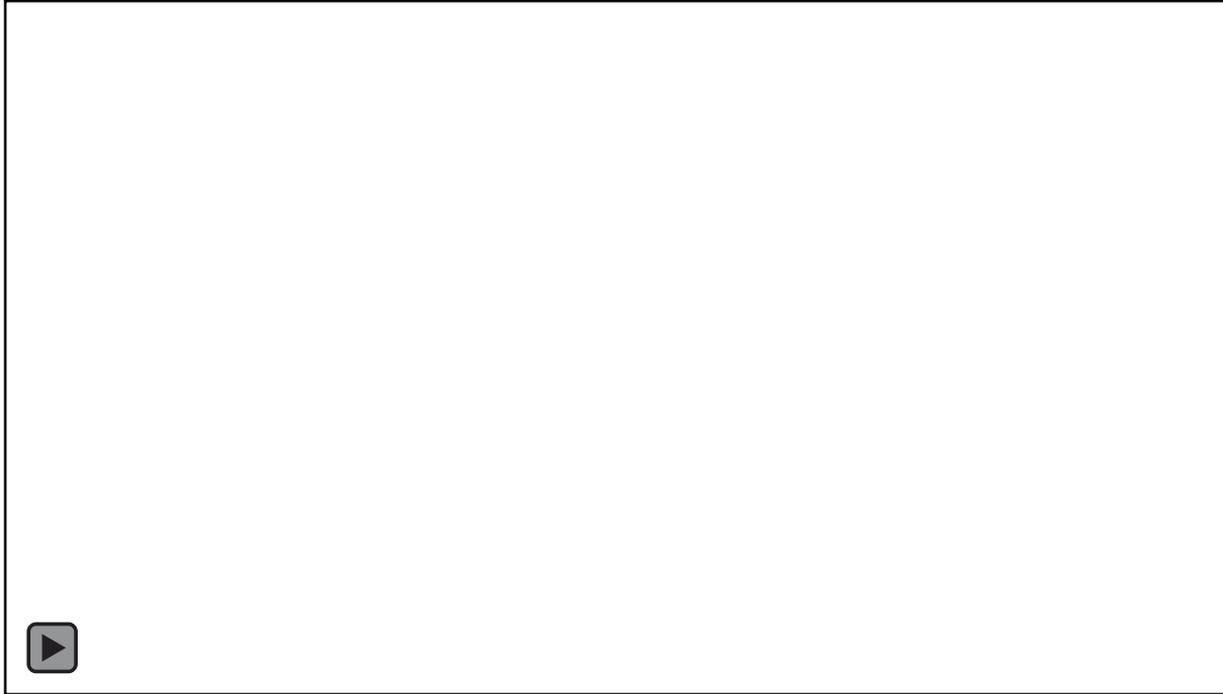
Naloxone can save the life of a person experiencing an overdose

Naloxone counteracts opioids and can restore breathing and heart rate

Make it a part of your home first-aid kit: It's easy to get a naloxone kit and get trained on how to use it



Naloxone Saves & Changes Lives

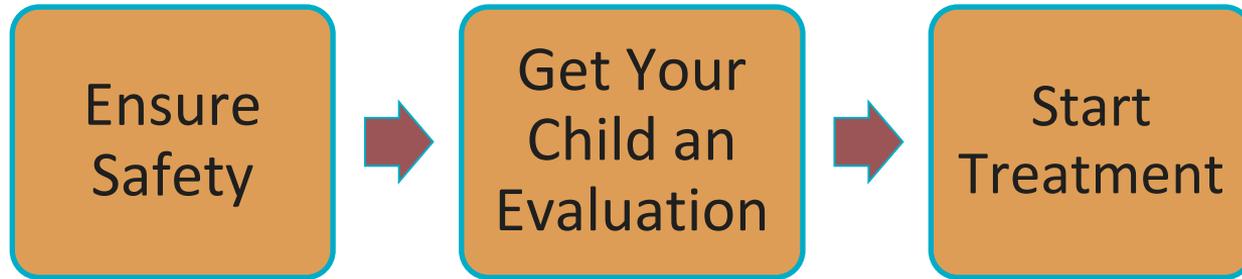


Xylazine/ TRANQ: The Newest Lethal Drug Threat

- TRANQ is a street drug containing **xylazine**, which is a non-opiate animal tranquilizer.
- TRANQ is commonly found in combination with fentanyl, but is also added to other street drugs.
- **TRANQ (xylazine) was found in 23% of fentanyl powder and 7% of fake fentanyl pills in 2022.**



If your child is using opioids or counterfeit pills



A photograph of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark top, talking on a white mobile phone. She is looking off to the side with a serious expression. The background is a blurred indoor setting with light-colored curtains.

Need Help With Opioids? We Are Always Here.

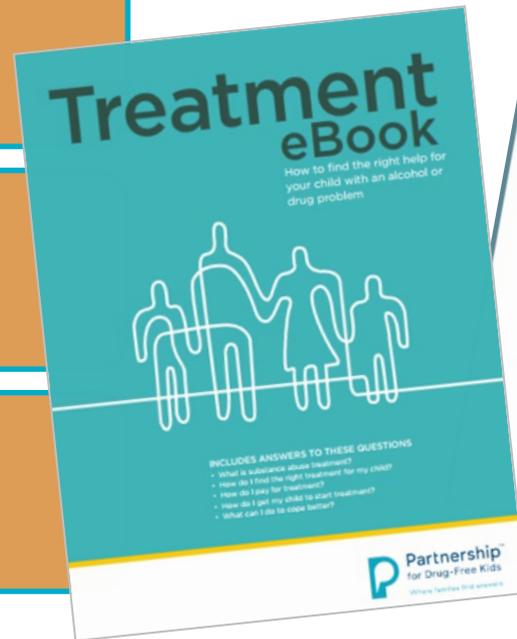
Free, confidential hotline:
1-888-688-4222

Seek treatment options

Ask questions

Support recovery

Self-care



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Help for parents and caregivers



Help & Hope by Text

Families and caregivers concerned about their child's substance use or addiction can receive customized resources and skills delivered via text. Messages include evidence-based skills and strategies to help you better communicate with your child and motivate them to get the help they need.

You can access:



Reminders to take care of yourself



Lifesaving information



Strategies to help motivate your child



Live support

How it works:

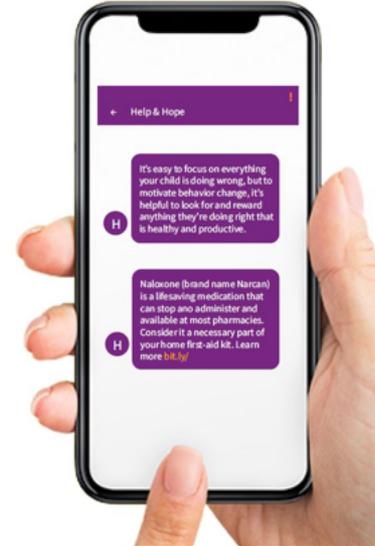
1. Text JOIN to 55753.
2. Answer a quick series of questions about your child and their substance use.
3. Receive messages with information and support specific to your family's needs.

Message and data rates may apply.

drugfree.org

To download this flyer, visit drugfree.org/promote.

9.23.20



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Support for parents and caregivers

Parent Coaching: Offering peer-to-peer support

For families struggling with a child's substance use or addiction, it can be life-changing to talk with someone who has gone through this before. By speaking with someone who has "been there," parents can learn how to stay connected with their loved one and get the support and encouragement they need.

Parent coaches help other caregivers to:

- Understand the reasons why their child may be using substances
- Learn ways to talk with their loved one about their substance use
- Practice simple strategies that can help promote positive changes in their child's behavior
- Focus on self-care as an important part of creating change in their family

Our parent coach program uses a peer-to-peer, shared experience model using the Invitation to Change Approach created by CMC: Foundation for Change. This is a unique mix of evidence-based principles including Community Reinforcement and Family Training (CRAFT), Motivational Interviewing, and Acceptance and Commitment Therapy.

“
The experience was so great. I don't know if I could have made it without my parent coach. It's so different to hear from someone who's gone through it. Just an amazing relationship and an incredible experience.”
Parent Coaching Participant

“
Peer-to-peer sessions felt like connecting with a friend who gets it.”


“
There are a lot of families out there that are torn apart – but families can heal. Young people can get better.”
Paul Kustak
Parent Coach

Parents interested in receiving peer-to-peer support can visit drugfree.org/helpline to connect with our helpline and get started.

To download this flyer, visit drugfree.org/promote.

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 Partnership
to End Addiction



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Arizona Resources

 **Substance Abuse Coalition Leaders of Arizona**

HOME FIND HELP SAVE A LIFE

HELP SAVE LIVES WITH NALOXONE

1 mL
Sterile / Stérile



You and naloxone, are a combination that will save lives in our state.

Chief Black

The opioid crisis is escalating at alarming rates. But, you can help save lives during this crisis. Individuals who have overdosed are being left to die because those around them are afraid to call for help. Having an overdose reversal drug in your first aid kit could save your child... a friend... even a neighbor. It's called naloxone and it's saving thousands of lives in Arizona.

Naloxone is easy to use. You don't need a prescription, and anyone can administer it. And while it may not cost you a thing today, it could be the reason someone lives to see tomorrow.

NaloxoneAZ.com

Find a Naloxone Distribution Site Near You

Your location Search radius 50 mi Results 25 Search

Nexus Coalition Drug Prevention
1593 West Johnson Dr
Lakeside Arizona 85929
United States

Phone: 520-243-2014
Email: nxco2@gmail.com

More info

64.6 mi
Directions

MATFORCE
8056 E Valley Rd
Site B
Prescott Valley Arizona 86314
United States of America

Phone: 520-708-0120
Email: info@matforceaz.org

More info



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Arizona Resources

- [TalkNowAZ.com](https://www.talknowaz.com)
- [NaloxoneAZ.com](https://www.naloxoneaz.com)
- [OpioidOD.com](https://www.opioidod.com)
- [LearnMoreAZ.org](https://www.learnmoreaz.org)



Thank you!

Local contact information

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