Preventing and Responding to

Opioid Overdoses

What are opioids?

 Opioids include heroin, morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone (Oxycontin, Percodan, Percocet), hydrocodone (Vicodin), fentanyl (Duragesic) and hydromorphone (Dilaudid)

What can lead to an overdose?

- · Using drugs when you're alone
- Mixing drugs (especially with alcohol or benzos)
- · Using drugs without testing their strength
- · Using drugs after not using drugs for a period of time (after detox, drug treatment or time in jail)

What are the signs of an overdose?

- · Lips or nails turning blue
- · Cannot wake person when you yell their name or rub your knuckles on their breast bone
- Person is breathing very slowly or not at all

What is Naloxone?

- · A prescription medicine, also called Narcan, that reverses an opioid overdose
- It wakes a person who is overdosing in 3-5 minutes and lasts 30-90 minutes
- It doesn't make you high
- It can't cause any harm, even if someone is not overdosing

Who can I call to get help quitting drugs?

- In NYC, call 1-800-LIFENET (543-3638)
- Statewide, call 1-800-522-5353

- Give address/location
- Say "I can't wake my friend up"
- · You don't need to tell the operator that drugs



Step 2 Rescue Breathing

- · Make sure there is nothing in the mouth
- · Tilt head back, lift chin, pinch nose
- · Give a breath every 5 seconds



- Inject into upper arm or thigh—in the muscle
- If person does not wake after 3 minutes, use new syringe and new dose of naloxone
- Stay with person

