

# Dept. of Health Services: Observes International Overdose Awareness Day by awarding grants to make life-saving tools more available

Posted on Thursday, Aug 31, 2023

>> **WisPolitics is now on the State Affairs network. Get custom keyword notifications, bill tracking and all WisPolitics content. [Get the app or access via desktop.](#)**

Today, on International Overdose Awareness Day, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) is expanding its commitment to ending drug overdoses and related harms. Grants have been awarded to 15 county, municipal, nonprofit, and tribal nation agencies to make life-saving resources more available in communities with a high need through vending machines in public places stocked with free fentanyl test strips and NARCAN®, a medication that can reverse an opioid overdose.

“By funding these vending machines, we are fulfilling our commitment to reducing the harms of drug use, promoting wellness, and supporting recovery for our most vulnerable communities,” said DHS Secretary-designee Kirsten Johnson. “This is about making fentanyl test strips and NARCAN® accessible to the people who need it the most, where they’re already at, on their schedule, and their timeline with no questions asked.”

[View the entire news release.](#)