



NC DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES**

ROY COOPER • Governor

KODY H. KINSLEY • Secretary

SUSAN OSBORNE • Deputy Secretary for Opportunity and Well-Being

April 10, 2024

**DEAR COUNTY DIRECTORS OF SOCIAL SERVICES**

**ATTENTION: DIRECTORS, CHILD WELFARE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS,  
MANAGERS, SUPERVISORS, SOCIAL WORKERS, AND LICENSED CHILD PLACING  
AGENCIES**

**SUBJECT: NALOXONE GUIDANCE FOR NCDSS LICENSED GROUP HOMES**

**REQUIRED ACTION:**  Information Only  Time Sensitive  Immediate

North Carolina Division of Social Services (NCDSS) is committed to ensuring that public and private agencies that provide foster care services to children in NCDSS licensed group homes have the resources they need to ensure the safety of children.

Opioid misuse is an epidemic throughout the United States and North Carolina. Between the years 2000 and 2022, more than 36,000 North Carolinians have lost their lives to drug overdose. Naloxone is an antidote to opioid overdose and as an opioid antagonist, it is used to reverse the effects of opioids. NCDSS is providing the attached guidance, Naloxone Guidance for Residential Child Caring Facilities, for NCDSS licensed group homes to follow if the NCDSS licensed group home chooses to obtain, store, and administer Naloxone for any suspected opioid overdoses.

If you have questions or more information, please contact your licensing consultant or the Regulatory and Licensing Policy Consultant Mary Torr at [mary.torr@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:mary.torr@dhhs.nc.gov).

Sincerely,

*Kimaree Sanders*

Kimaree Sanders, MSW, MPA  
Section Chief for Regulatory and Licensing  
Division of Social Services, Child Welfare  
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services

**NC DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES • DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICES • CHILD WELFARE SERVICES  
REGULATORY AND LICENSING SERVICES**

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY / AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

Cc: Lisa T. Cauley, Division Director of Human Services  
Adrian Daye, Deputy Director of Child Welfare Practice  
Kathy Stone, Section Chief for Safety and Prevention  
Carla McNeill, Section Chief for Permanency  
Peter West, Section Chief for County Operations

**ATTACHMENT:** Naloxone Guidance for Residential Child Caring Facilities

CWS-26-2024