



Opioid Affected Youth Initiative

March 2023

Newsletter



200 Washington Avenue. Towson, Maryland, 21204

Offering Buprenorphine Medication To People With Opioid Use Disorder In Jail May Reduce Rearrest and Reconviction

Opioid use disorder is one of the biggest epidemics of our time. Between 2015-2018, over 10% of adults in the US over the age of 20 used opioids within the past month. Those numbers get even worse when you look at people who are incarcerated; nearly a fifth of all people in jails report regular opioid usage. As staggering as these numbers are, there is still hope when it comes to people who are a part of this vulnerable population. A study in Massachusetts found that using buprenorphine to treat opioid use disorder can reduce the risk of reoffending. This study conducted by the Justice Community Opioid Innovation Network found that there was a 32% decrease in rates of probation violations, reincarcerations, or court charges when buprenorphine was offered to people in jail.

Buprenorphine is a medication that is commonly used to treat opioid use disorder. When prescribed by a doctor, this medication can act as a substitute for stronger opioids such as heroin. This study's smaller sample size (432 incarcerated adults participated in this study) did not stop the optimism of its researchers. The head author, Dr. Peter Friedman said it best: "Though this study was done with a small sample, the results show convincingly that on top of these positive health effects, providing these medications in jail can break the repressive cycle of arrest, reconviction, and reincarceration that occurs in the absence of adequate help and resources. That's huge."

Women's History Month

- Women's History month started out as only a week in 1982, as "Women's History Week."
- In 1987, March was designated "Women's History Month" after being petitioned by the National Woman's History Project.
- March celebrates women's contributions to the United States and recognizes specific achievements women have made in American History in various fields.

Social Work Month

- National Professional Social Work Month was introduced by the National Association of Social Workers in 1963 - over 50 years ago.
- U.S. Government formally recognized March as National Social Work Month in 1984. President Ronald Regan signed it into law.
- Social work has not always been a formal profession; some practice has long been in the form of charity work.

March Awareness

- March 8th - International Woman's Day
- March 10th - National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day
- March 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- March 20th - First Day of Spring, International Day of Happiness
- March 21st - World Down Syndrome Day, World Poetry Day
- March 22nd - First day of Ramadan
- March 24th - World Tuberculosis Day



Community Resources

- [NAMI Mental Health Education Classes](#)
- [Free Tax Preparation](#)
- [GED Classes](#)
- [Rental & Utility Assistance](#)
- [Volunteer Service Hours for Grades 3rd-12th](#)
- [Community Service at Joy Baltimore](#)
- [Poppleton Family Stability and Eviction Program/ 9:30am-3:30pm](#)



Baby Essentials

- [Short-Term Child Care](#)
- March 7th - [Precious Baby Pantry of Love/ 10am-11am](#)
- March 17th - [CFYS Food & Diaper Hub/ 12pm](#)
- March 21st - [Precious Baby Pantry of Love/ 10am-11am](#)
- March 22nd - [Free Food and Diapers/ 1pm-2pm](#)

Clothing Resources

- [Every Tuesday, Prom Suit Giveaway/ 3:30pm-6:30pm](#)
- [Every Tuesday, Clothing Boutique/ 3:30-6:30pm](#)
- [Every Tuesday & Thursday, Free Food, Clothing and Furniture/ 9am-2pm](#)

Job Resources

- [Professional Resume Writing](#)
- [Full Circle Auto Repair and Training Center](#)
- March 18th - [COR Construction Bootcamp](#)

Food Resources

- [Food Service Training Program](#)
- [Emergency Food Resources](#)
- [Every Thankful Thursday Food Giveaway/ 4:30-untill](#)
- [Every Thursday Free Fresh Food Boxes/ 12pm-4pm](#)
- [Every Friday, Toiletries & Food Giveaway/ 11am-12pm](#)
- March 14th - [The Community Health and Home Pantry/ 11am-2pm](#)
- March 16th - [Groceries, Hygienic Products and Clothing/ 1pm-5pm](#)



Featured Articles:

- <https://tinyurl.com/2p9fu9va>
- <https://tinyurl.com/ks4wnndk>
- <https://tinyurl.com/5859jvk7>

