



# Pennsylvania distributes free naloxone

Free doses of naloxone were given to any Pennsylvania resident who asked at almost 80 locations all over Pennsylvania on Dec. 13.

And it's not too late to get free doses if you missed the distribution.

According to a press release from Pennsylvania, more than 6,100 kits were delivered during "Stop Overdoses in PA: Get Help Now Week."

The amount sent to each location was based on criteria including population, the local overdose rate, and number of emergency services calls for overdoses.

Naloxone is the drug that can reverse an overdose from an opioid drug such as heroin or a prescription painkiller, saving the life of someone who was on the verge of death.

The distribution came shortly after

the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued its latest figures showing Pennsylvania as one of three states with the highest age-adjusted drug-overdose death rates in 2017 (5,456).

Chester County's average overdose rate has doubled from 2015 to 2017, from a rate of 14 per 100,000 people in 2015 to 28 per 100,000 in 2017, according to

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## RESOURCES

Looking for help for a loved one? Looking for support as you deal with addiction in a loved one? There are a number of resources available.

**Always call 911** if you see any signs/symptoms of a drug overdose.

**800-662-4357:** SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)

**855-DRUGFREE:** Parent hotline by Partnership for Drug-Free Kids.

**866-268-3767:** Chester County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services

**800-917-1117:** COAD (Chester County Council on Addictive Diseases)



## Thank you

Members of the Chester County Peace Movement collected donations for Kacie's Cause in West Chester on Saturday, Dec. 8 and presented our executive director and co-founder, Andy Rumford, with a check for the organization. They are also Kacie's Cause newest alliance.



## Spotlight On The Board

Andy Rumford is the founder and one of 11 Kacie's Cause Board members who oversee the organization. Each month we will spotlight a different board member.

**Name:** Andy Rumford

**Background:** On March 12, 2013, Andy Rumford and his wife Donna founded Kacie's Cause upon the death of their daughter, Kacie Erin Rumford.

Andy has served on several boards in past years which have raised well over \$1 million dollars for charities geared toward cancer research and special needs' children. With degrees in education from Kutztown University and Penn State

University and a Master's in Computer Science from Widener University, Andy has contributed most of his free time over the past 20 years toward assisting groups in raising money for charities,



Andy and his family have lived in the Kennett Square area for the past 26 years and are proactive in raising awareness of the opioid epidemic gripping this country.

Andy has been very active in the car show community for decades and has utilized that avenue with Cars for Kacie to spread awareness of the disease of addiction.

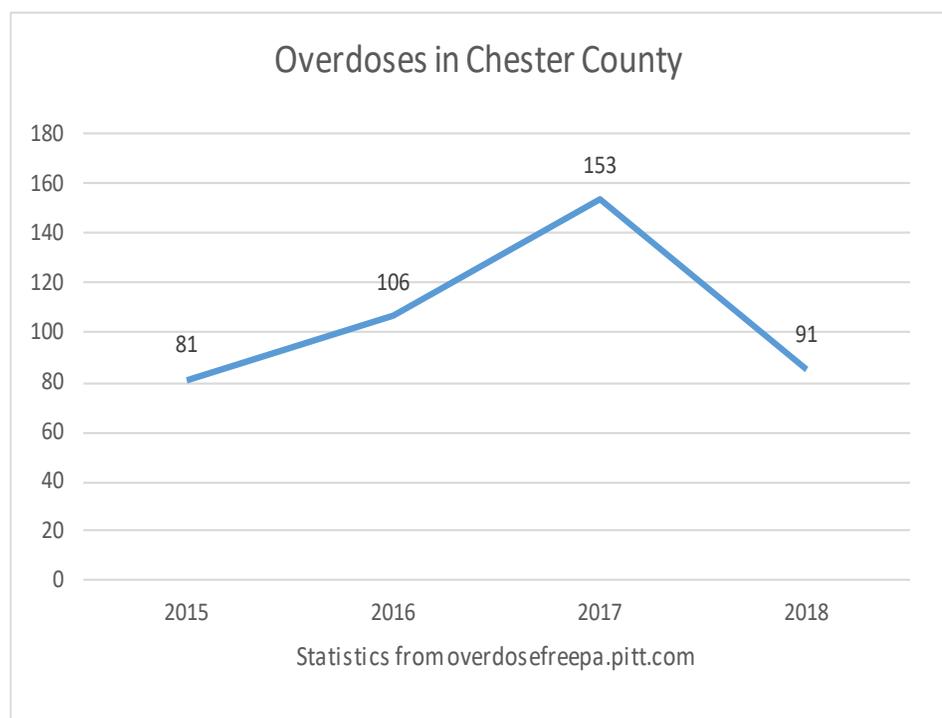
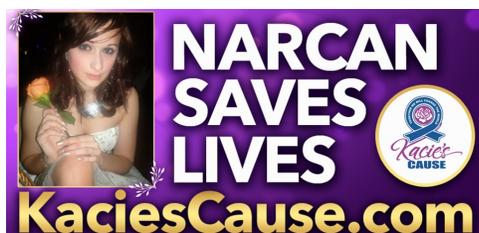
# Preventing Overdoses

Thanks to a partnership with the Chester County Department of Drug and Alcohol Services, Kacie's Cause has received 1,726 doses of Naloxone (Narcan) that can treat opioid overdoses.

Two hundred twenty-one of those doses have been distributed in the last three months.

Fentanyl, an opioid pain medicine, has been found in more than 50 percent of overdose deaths statewide since 2015, according to state statistics. Heroin is the second-most common drug found in overdose victims.

**If you are a Chester County resident and need Naloxone, please contact one of our chapters or Andy Rumford ([andy.kaciescause@gmail.com](mailto:andy.kaciescause@gmail.com)).**



## New logo unveiled

Cars for Kacie has introduced a new logo featuring Kacie's red Mustang.

The new logo represents the largest recovery car shows on the East Coast, whose goal is to help others with substance use disorders. Mark your calendars now for the 2019 shows:

- Morgantown, Pa.: Premier indoor/outdoor car show on Saturday, May 11 at the Classic Auto Mall. Open to any year/make/model of car, truck, or motorcycle.
- Bloomsburg, Pa.: Rod and custom car show on Saturday, May 25 at Briar



Creek Lake Park. Open to rods, customs, classics, muscle, pro streets, euro sport, trucks, motorcycles, and vans.

- Downingtown, Pa.: Saturday, Oct. 5.

For more information, check out the "Cars for Kacie" link on our Website.

## Naloxone distributed across state

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OverdoseFreePa.com statistics.

That means more than 1,793 people overdosed in 2015, and more than 3,586 overdosed two years later.

The Narcan doses were paid for with money from the 2017-2018 state budget for naloxone for first responders (i.e. ambulance crews and police officers) who routinely encounter people who have

overdosed. State Secretary of Health Dr. Rachel Levine cleared the way for anyone to obtain and use naloxone without a prescription.

Naloxone can be obtained for free at pharmacies for anyone covered by Pennsylvania's Medicaid program.

If you are a Chester County resident and would like naloxone, go to [www.kaciescause.com](http://www.kaciescause.com).

## SUPPORT GROUPS

**Parkesburg: Wednesdays 7-8 p.m.**  
Upper Octorara Presbyterian Church  
1121 Octorara Trail (Route 10)  
Parkesburg, PA 19365

**Kennett Square: Thursdays 7-9 p.m.**  
First Baptist Church of Kennett Square  
415 W. State St.  
Kennett Square, PA 19348

## CHAPTERS

Each chapter of Kacie's Cause has a Facebook page with information relating to their group.

To contact them, use the information below.

**Kennett Square:** /kaciescausecom

**Parkesburg:** /Kaciescauseparkesburg

**Exton/Downingtown:** /Kaciescauseexton

**Oxford:** /Oxford-Chapter-Kacies-Cause

**Newark, Del.:** /Kacies-Cause-Newark-Chapter

**Coatesville:** /Kaciescausecoatesville

**Indiana, PA:** Coming soon

**West Chester:** /Kacies-Cause-West-Chester-Chapter

**Poconos:**

/poconosregionkaciescause

## WHO WE ARE

Kacie's Cause is a nonprofit organization for parents, family and friends of those battling the disease of addiction.

It was founded by Andy and Donna Rumford on March 12, 2013 — the day their daughter, Kacie Erin Rumford, died of a heroin overdose.

The 501(c)3 organization is dedicated to Kacie Erin Rumford, her memory, her love of all of us and her desire to change this world to be a better place to live ... from her family and friends who love her.

To contact Kacie's Cause, e-mail [andy.kaciescause@gmail.com](mailto:andy.kaciescause@gmail.com) or go online at [www.kaciescause.com](http://www.kaciescause.com).

Newsletter prepared by First Baptist Church of Kennett Square and in partnership with Kacie's Cause



[www.firstbaptistkennettsquare.com](http://www.firstbaptistkennettsquare.com)