



KANKAKEE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2390 West Station Street
Kankakee, Illinois 60901
phone 815-802-9400
tty 815-802-9312
fax 815-802-9391

Date: 1/30/2024

Contact: Loren Petrakis, 815.802.9445

For Immediate Release

Subject: Salvation Army and Fortitude Receive Free Dispensers

Opioid Task Force Members Helping

Kankakee Fire Department Lt. Enrique Czako reached out to the Salvation Army accompanied by coroner Bob Gessner in coordination with the Health Department's John Bevis and Loren Petrakis. The sole purpose of this meeting was to present two free Naloxone/Narcan distribution boxes to the Salvation Army and Fortitude Community Outreach.

All four are members of the Kankakee County Health Department's Opioid Task Force led by Overdose Education and Naloxone Distribution (OEND) Loren Petrakis. Getting the right people together is crucial in combatting the potential for unneeded death around our county. Having this benign substance in all corners of the county can help keep people alive.

It is important to have these kits available where people can walk in and take them without judgement or needing to ask for the person behind the counter to get them. Soon Naloxone (active ingredient in Narcan) will be in first aid kits. Much like an EpiPen, AED, or even inhaler, this Opioid antagonist can prevent the most unsuspecting person from overdose.

Lieutenant Latoya Surratt, Salvation Army Corps Officer/Pastor and Alvy Butler Jr. Director of Social Ministries were thrilled to have these additions to the location on 148 N. Harrison Ave.

Please reach out to schedule Naloxone distribution and/or presentation for your business, organization, school, or community group at the Kankakee County Health Department at 815.802.9445, Email: lpetrakis@kankakeehealth.org



(Left to right: Alvy Butler Jr., Director of Social Ministries; Loren Petrakis, OEND Kankakee County Health Department; Lieutenant Latoya Surratt, Salvation Army Corps Officer/Pastor; Bob Gessner, Kankakee County Coroner; Lt. Enrique Czako, Kankakee Fire Department. **Not pictured:** John Bevis, Kankakee County Health Department.)

###

2/28/2024 12:21 PM