

January - April 2024

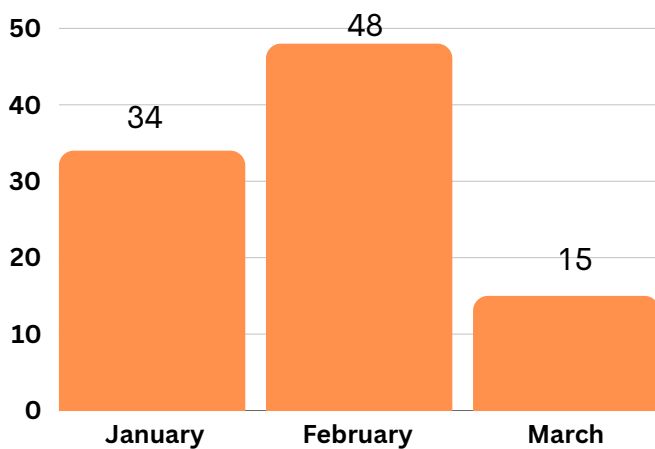
# MERIDEN HARM REDUCTION AND OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

CITY OF MERIDEN  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

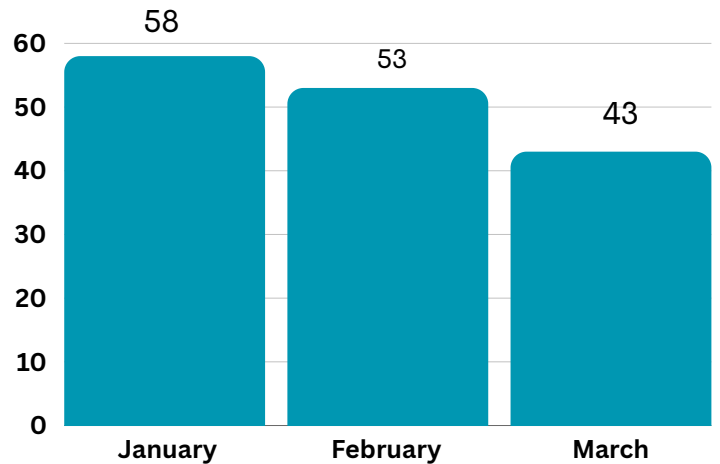
Issue #3

## LAST QUARTER ACTIVITIES (JANUARY - MARCH 2024)

Number of Participants Trained in Naloxone (Narcan®)



Number of Naloxone (Narcan®) Kits Distributed



## SAVE A LIFE NALOXONE TRAINING DAY WITH LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS/DISTRICTS

In honor of National Public Health Week (April 1 - 7) we participated in a statewide Naloxone training day on April 2nd. There were 13 additional health departments/districts across the state that offered Naloxone training that day or during the week including:

- Chesprocott Health District
- Greenwich Department of Health/EMS
- East Shore District Health Department
- Trumbull Health Department
- Wallingford Health Department
- Northeast District Department of Health
- Central Connecticut Health District
- Quinnipiack Valley Health District
- Farmington Valley Health District
- West Hartford-Bloomfield Health District
- Middletown Health Department
- New Haven Health Department
- East Hartford Department of Health & Social Services



Our training was held from 5:00 - 6:00 PM at our office (165 Miller Street) in the Teen Conference Room. We had a total of 10 participants complete our training!

### Overdose Emergency Kit Wall Cabinet and Signage:

In an effort to increase access to naloxone in Meriden, in 2023 we started distributing overdose emergency kit wall cabinets and signage. These are branded with our contact info and QR code to our harm reduction webpage.

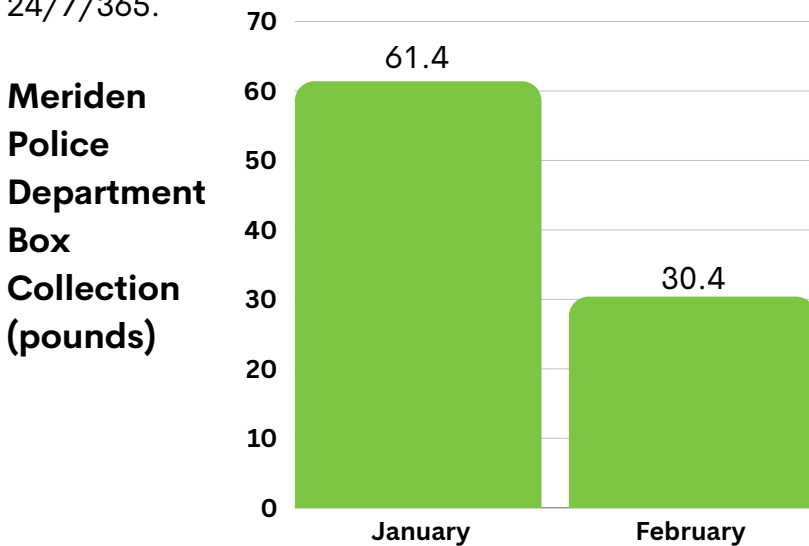
Thirty branded wall kits with signage have been distributed thus far in the Meriden community!

Meriden businesses and community organizations can apply for an Overdose Emergency Kit wall cabinet and wall sign through our harm reduction webpage - <https://tinyurl.com/MeridenHarmRed>. We will provide naloxone training to staff as part of the delivery. Having a filled wall cabinet with naloxone is a perfect addition to businesses' health and safety program!



If you are interested in a wall cabinet and naloxone training please contact Elizabeth DeMerchant, Public Health Educator, at (203) 630-4288 or edemerchant@meridenct.gov.

**Medication Drop Box:** Have unwanted or expired medication in your home? Take it to the drop box in the lobby of the Meriden Police Department located at 50 West Main Street! It is available 24/7/365.



**Needles/syringes and medicated ointments or lotions are not accepted.**

**Accepted Items:**

- Prescribed medications
- Over-the-counter medication
- Medication samples
- Medication for pets
- Narcotics
- Vitamins

**Medication Disposal Bags:** Can't make it to the drop box? We offer Detera medication disposal bags and Dispose RX packets to residents.

The Detera bags or Dispose RX packets are easy and environmental friendly ways to dispose of unwanted or expired medications. Each Detera bag will hold 45 pills, 6 oz. of liquid, or 6 patches. The Dispose RX packets can be used directly in pill vials from the pharmacy!

Call (203) 630-4221 to request a medication disposal bag or packet. Detera bags and Dispose RX packets are also given out at community events we attend.



## "Silence on the Streets" Film Screening & Community Conversation

Join us on April 11, 2024 6:00 – 8:00 PM at the Meriden Public Library to view the ground-breaking documentary "Silence on the Streets". This film explores the cycle of addiction from the perspective of inner-city minorities and Native Americans. Connecticut native and esteemed playwright Sharece Sellem masterfully intertwines first-hand personal narratives with insights from resident experts in addiction, trauma, psychology, prevention, harm reduction and law enforcement to uncover the many factors that impact the life experiences of those struggling with addiction. The lifetime experiences of the minority community profoundly shape their struggle with addiction and influences their path to recovery.

View the trailer here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X7IAJ-YRc6Q>

Seating is limited. Registration is required. Register here:

<https://forms.gle/iVXnGcrLDE5ZrELu9>

If your agency would like to be a vendor at this event, please fill out the vendor registration form:

<https://forms.gle/ffeE5qCfUFUapcnB8>

The Meriden Department of Health and Human Services,  
New England HIDTA, and TriCircle Presents:

### "Silence on the Streets"


Film Screening and Community Conversation

Thursday, April 11, 2024  
6:00 – 8:00 PM  
Meriden Public Library  
105 Miller Street, Meriden, CT 06450  
Meeting Rooms 1-3


"Silence on the Streets" is a ground-breaking documentary that explores the cycle of addiction from the perspective of inner-city minorities and Native Americans. Connecticut native and esteemed playwright Sharece Sellem masterfully intertwines first-hand personal narratives with insights from resident experts in addiction, trauma, psychology, prevention, harm reduction and law enforcement to uncover the many factors that impact the life experiences of those struggling with addiction. The lifetime experiences of the minority community profoundly shape their struggle with addiction and influences their path to recovery.

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## DEA Drug Take Back Day - April 27, 2024 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

The Meriden Police Department will be participating in DEA Drug Take Back Day this month! Stop by the Meriden Green on the Mill Street side April 27th between 10 AM – 2 PM to safely dispose of unwanted or expired medication.



### Monthly Community Naloxone Trainings:

- May 7, 2024 9:00 – 10:00 AM
- June 4, 2024 5:00 – 6:00 PM

To register please call our Public Health Educator at:  
(203) 630-4288.



**Have questions about our Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention and Response here in Meriden? Scan the QR code to visit our webpage or contact (203) 630-4221.**

*Don't have a QR code scanner? Visit <https://tinyurl.com/MeridenHarmRed>*



**Next issue will be released in July!**