



# JEFFERSON COUNTY General Health District

— Prevent. Promote. Protect. —

## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Jefferson County Overdose Remembrance Ceremony

STEUBENVILLE, OH – The Jefferson County General Health District, Jefferson County Prevention and Recovery Board, and Family Recovery Center announce a joint ceremony to commemorate International Overdose Awareness Day. The Jefferson County Overdose Remembrance Ceremony will take place at 10 am on Friday, August 30, at the Prevention and Recovery Board office located at 524 Madison Avenue, Steubenville. This event will be a brief commemorative ceremony to remember the lives lost from addiction in honor of International Overdose Awareness Day. All are welcome to attend.

No one should stand alone in the fight to end overdose, which drives this year's International Overdose Awareness Day theme of "Together we can". This ceremony is an opportunity to highlight the strength of coming together and standing in support of those impacted by the tragedy of overdose. In 2023, provisional data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention yielded an estimate of 105,303 drug overdose deaths in the United States, a two percent decrease from 2022. Two-thirds of these deaths involved synthetic opioids, primarily fentanyl. Jefferson County had 22 fatal overdoses in 2023 and trends project similar statistics in 2024. This is a substantial improvement from the 40 overdose fatalities in 2022, but there is still plenty of work to be done through the many collaborative prevention efforts in our community.

