

JEFFERSON COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Overdose Activity in Jefferson County - ALERT

Contact: Stephen A. Jennings, Public Information Officer - (315) 786-3710

Jefferson County, NY has experienced 5 overdoses from drug use within the last 24 hours. Narcotics are the suspected primary drug, however other drugs or a combination of drugs could be causing the overdoses. 4 individuals overdosed and survived; there was 1 fatality. 4 overdoses occurred in the City of Watertown; 1 overdose occurred outside the city.

There have been 6 confirmed overdose deaths for 2019. However, beginning in October, there are an additional 11 possible overdose deaths pending toxicology confirmation, 3 from October; 7 from November; and 1 from December.

The Jefferson County Public Health Service, Department of Community Services, and the Alliance for Better Communities want to remind people that a number of community resources have been established and expanded to help people who have substance use disorders, and for people to access these resources to receive assistance and treatment:

Anchor Recovery Center of NNY: (315) 836-3460

Credo Community Center for Treatment of Addictions: (315) 788-1530

ACR Health: (315) 785-8222

Samaritan Addiction Services: (315) 779-5060

Samaritan Medical Center - Social Worker on Call: (315) 785-4516

Suicide Prevention Hotline: 1-800-273-8255

Northern Regional Center for Independent Living: (315) 785-8703 business hours;
and (315) 785-8708 nights and weekends.

Mobile Crisis Jefferson County: (315) 782-2327

Hope Line: 1-877-8-HOPENY or Text 46736

To receive **Naloxone training and free kits**, contact Credo, ACR Health, or the Anchor Recovery Center of NNY

The public is also reminded of **New York State's 911 Good Samaritan Law**, which allows people to call 911 without fear of arrest due to drug possession if they are having a drug or alcohol overdose that requires emergency medical care or if they witness someone overdosing.

###

Additional information regarding this situation will be forthcoming.

SAJ:OD ALERT PRESS RELEASE.docx:12:2:19. MS M:/