



How to Start Narcan on Campus: A Practical Guide to Opioid Overdose Prevention in Educational Settings

October 21, 2025 from Noon to 1:30 pm

Program Description

The opioid crisis continues to affect communities across the country, including college and university campuses. In response, many institutions are adopting harm reduction strategies, such as implementing naloxone (Narcan) programs to prevent fatal overdoses. This presentation offers a step-by-step guide to launching a Narcan initiative on campus, covering the rationale, planning process, and practical implementation steps.

The University of Central Arkansas (UCA), the first university in the state of Arkansas to make Narcan available on campus through Naloxboxes, will be highlighted as a case study. The success of UCA's initiative helped pave the way for the passage of Arkansas Act 811, which now requires all colleges and universities in the state to make Narcan accessible.

Attendees will learn how to advocate for institutional support, build partnerships with local public health agencies, train students and staff in overdose response, and navigate legal and ethical considerations. The session will also emphasize the importance of reducing stigma, creating a culture of safety, and aligning campus efforts with broader harm reduction principles. By the end of the presentation, participants will be equipped with the knowledge and tools to initiate or enhance Narcan availability and overdose prevention education within their own educational communities.

Agenda

- I. Dr. Rose Introduction
- II. History of Narcan Use in Arkansas
- III. UCA's Narcan Initiative
- IV. Building Internal/External Support & Partnerships
- V. Q & A
- VI. Learning Collaborative Evaluation (including requests for future topics)



**Stephanie Rose, DSW, LCSW,
AADC, CS, DCC**

Dr. Rose is an Associate Professor in the Department of Health Sciences at the University of Central Arkansas and is the Program Director of the Addiction Studies Program. She has a doctorate of Social Work with an emphasis in addiction. She is a Licensed Certified Social Worker, Certified Advanced Alcohol and Drug Counselor, and a Drug and Alcohol Clinical Supervisor. She is a member of the Arkansas Collegiate Network and served on the National Association of Social Work Board in several positions, including President. Dr. Rose continues to practice as a mental health professional with a focus on co-occurring disorders. Dr. Rose teaches both undergraduate and graduate students in the field of addiction but most importantly is actively involved in developing young professionals (students) through the use of practicums, internships, statewide presentations, and events both on campus and off to build their professional skills.