

ADAMS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

PROCLAMATION No. 2026-005

WHEREAS, Adams County Health Department recognizes the 25th anniversary of International Overdose Awareness Day, highlighting the impact of drug overdoses among individuals, families, and communities, and reducing the stigma of overdose-related deaths; and

WHEREAS, ACHD recognizes and remembers those who have died from drug overdose, those who have survived overdose, or who have responded to an overdose; and acknowledges the pain and grief felt by those who have lost a loved one; and

WHEREAS, overdose rates remain consistently high each year, affecting Coloradans of all walks of life. In 2025, 1,792 Coloradans died from overdose, including 185 residents of Adams County.

WHEREAS, preventing overdose and overdose deaths requires strong social safety nets, reducing stigma, and increasing social support, while recognizing that effective prevention, treatment, and harm reduction strategies are essential to reducing preventable overdose deaths; and

WHEREAS, Project Connects, ACHD's harm reduction program, continues to increase overdose awareness and reduce the risk of fatal opioid overdoses with the distribution of 4,798 naloxone kits and engaging in 8,483 interactions with community, to provide overdose recognition, prevention, and response education, and;

WHEREAS, Project Connects continues to provide vital services, including safer use kits, and whole-person supportive services, including post-overdose support, referrals and resources for food, health insurance, housing and recovery, while promoting health and building connections for all; and

WHEREAS, every overdose death is preventable. Overdoses are reversible, and anyone in our community can help by carrying naloxone. Naloxone is available at Project Connects, naloxone kiosks around the county, and without a prescription at pharmacies; and

WHEREAS, every day, we honor and remember those we have lost to overdose, creating space for individuals and families to grieve openly without guilt or shame, while extending compassion, dignity, and unwavering support to those who use drugs or may be at risk of overdose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Adams County Board of Health recognizes August 31st, 2026, as National Overdose Awareness Day.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing proclamation was adopted by the following vote:

Gilliam	_____	Aye
Keiling	_____	Aye
Lindemann	_____	Absent
Mahnke	_____	Aye
Winkler	_____	Aye

ADOPTED, this 16th day of July 2026.

DIERDRE A GILLIAM, DNP, RN, PHN
DIERDRE A GILLIAM, DNP, RN, PHN (Jul 17, 2026 09:42:54 MDT)

Dr. Dierdre Gilliam, President
Adams County Board of Health

2026-005 National Overdose Awareness Day

Final Audit Report

2026-07-17

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