



Brandeis Opioid Resource Connector

communities informing communities

Outside-the-Box Solutions to Prevent Overdoses

August 31st is [International Overdose Awareness Day](#), the world's largest annual campaign to end drug overdoses and remember affected individuals and families. In the United States, an estimated [42% of adults](#), or 125 million people, report knowing at least one person who has died of a drug overdose. However, overdoses are preventable through evidence-based policies and interventions.

The [Brandeis Opioid Resource Connector](#) (BORC) highlights many effective approaches to overdose prevention that have been successfully implemented across the United States, as well as some emerging and less conventional solutions. These more innovative approaches include:

- A statewide [community drug checking program](#) that helps people who use drugs (PWUD) make more informed choices
- Several [overdose detection technologies](#) that PWUD can use to minimize their overdose risk
- Two programs that observe people [while using drugs](#) or [after using drugs](#) and provide a timely response to overdose or other use-related emergencies
- Emerging harm reduction strategies, such as [naloxone vending machines](#) and [online and mail order services](#)
- [Faith-based organizations](#) that provide [a range of harm reduction services](#) to PWUD

In recognition of International Overdose Awareness Day, we encourage stakeholders to consider a range of solutions to address the overdose crisis. As always, we welcome your feedback on promising opioid programs and policies, and on how we might improve BORC as an informational resource.

Best regards,

The Brandeis Opioid Resource Connector Team

