

Dear Mayor and the City of Hyattsville Council,

The City of Hyattsville's Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is requesting that the council and Mayor write a letter to the PGCPs Board of Education and Prince George's County Health Department regarding the matters stated below:

As of late, the YAC has been advocating for the PGCPs Board of Education to consider adding Narcan training and harm reduction education to the Health 2 curriculum in our public schools. Additionally, we are requesting your support in advocating at the county level for students under 18 years old to receive Narcan Training and the Narcan Kit.

The opioid crisis is a pressing issue affecting communities across Maryland, and sadly, Prince George's County and the City of Hyattsville are not exempt from its devastating impact. Statewide, Maryland has also seen a concerning increase in overdose deaths, underscoring the urgent need for proactive measures to address this crisis.

Integrating Narcan training into the PGCPs Health 2 curriculum presents a proactive and life-saving solution. By equipping our students with the knowledge and skills to administer Narcan in the event of an opioid overdose, we empower them to be agents of positive change in their communities. Moreover, providing this training in a school setting helps to destigmatize addiction and promote a culture of empathy and support. We must also incorporate harm reduction education to empower students with a understanding of substance use disorders and strategies to mitigate harm.

As it stands now, Prince George's County only allows people over the age of 18 to receive Narcan Kits. With opioid overdoses now affecting youth as young as middle school age (age 13), its crucial to change the rules and policy that prohibit our youth from having the necessary tools to potentially save a life.

As members of this esteemed council, I ask you to help us to emphasize and prioritize the well-being and safety of our students by sending a letter to the PGCPs Board of Education advocating for the integration of Narcan training into the Health 2 curriculum and the Prince George's County Health Department advocating for us to receive the Narcan training and Narcan kits. By taking this proactive step, we can help save lives and build a healthier, more resilient community for generations to come.

Thank you,

The Youth Advisory Council Members