



# NARCAN AT CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARIES

The Chicago Department of Public Health and Chicago Public Library have partnered to make Narcan freely available in every public library in Chicago.

## WHAT is Narcan?

Narcan is the brand name of the medication naloxone. Naloxone saves lives by reversing an opioid overdose. In Illinois, individuals can carry and use naloxone without facing civil or criminal liability.

Narcan is nonaddictive and safe to use, even for those not experiencing an opioid overdose

## WHY libraries?

**More people die each year in Chicago from opioid overdoses than from homicides and traffic crashes combined.** Narcan prevents fatal overdose, but it can be expensive and inaccessible. Libraries are safe, accessible community spaces. This program lowers barriers to crucial harm reduction tools in every community in the city.

In 2021, over 1,426 people died of an opioid overdose in Chicago, the highest number ever recorded.

## HOW does it work?

CDPH trains librarians at every branch on opioid overdose prevention and how to use Narcan. The Narcan is available in small boxes on the wall at each library. **Anyone can take Narcan from the box, no questions asked.** However – if you do have questions, ask your local librarian!

## WHAT is the impact?

Between January - December 2022, this program **has distributed over 2,000 Narcan kits** to the community. Over 300 library staff have been trained on overdose prevention. CDPH is evaluating the relationship between public access Narcan at libraries and fatal overdoses to determine the impact of this program on Chicago's overdose crisis.

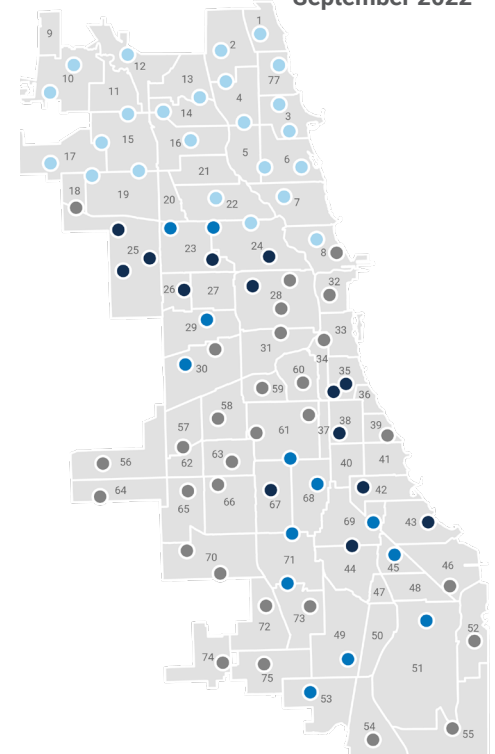
## WHERE are libraries with Narcan?

Every library branch in Chicago now has Narcan! Check out the map at [bit.ly/FindNarcan](https://bit.ly/FindNarcan) to find the branch closest to you.

## Narcan at CPL Rollout Timeline

CDPH and CPL rolled out this program by starting in libraries within communities with the highest numbers of opioid overdoses.

- January 2022
- April 2022
- August 2022
- Beginning September 2022



To request fentanyl test strips & Narcan, email [OSU.CDPH@CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG](mailto:OSU.CDPH@CITYOFCHICAGO.ORG)

