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## THE IDEA

What areas do you want to focus on for improvement?

Increasing numbers of individuals are using opioids and heroin-type substances. Naloxone is a life-saving medication that temporarily reverses the action of the opioid substance. Making the medication available at school by developing and implementing a school policy will save lives. The students and school community will benefit from targeted interventions that increase knowledge, awareness and prevention regarding substance abuse.

## GOALS

What exactly is it that you want to achieve?

- Implement a policy for naloxone administration in school.
- Implement targeted interventions and learning opportunities for students and the school community.
- Promote awareness and screening for substance abuse and referral to appropriate resources when necessary.
- Enhance collaboration between school/district student support services and community support. For example: health, access to resources, addressing other issues that may be present.
- Contribute to needs assessment of school community regarding resources required in the school and community.

## ACTION STEPS

- Consider who will be affected and how?
- Get buy-in for your initiative. Who are the individuals who must be involved and engaged in your initiative?
- Who can lead the initiative? What partners/stakeholders should be involved?
- What resources will be needed? (i.e. types of staff and required time; supplies and materials, equipment, other resources; estimated costs).
- What are possible challenges and barriers? Reflect on these and think about possible solutions and strategies.
- What is your timeline?
- Do you have a short-term outcome to demonstrate early visible improvements?
- How will you share/communicate your proposed initiative and with whom?
- Have you thought about sustainability for your project? Will this be a project you can continue annually?

## RESOURCES

- What resources can guide this project using evidence-based, best-practices?
- Are there templates, information, guides already in place?
- What are others doing? Find out about other initiatives. What are other schools, districts, states doing? Do not limit yourself to nursing-related initiatives. Be sure to ask what were the lessons learned.
- What are funding sources and grants that can help offset set costs?

## MEASURE OUTCOMES

- How will you measure progress and success?
- What are your outcome measures?
- How often will you check and measure your progress?
- Who will be responsible for collecting and reporting the information/data?
- How will you evaluate your initiative to determine success?

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For more details on this project, see Chapter 3, Idea 1.