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Student Pharmacists' Critical Training Key in Opioid Epidemic

CEDARVILLE, OHIO -- As Ohio battles the current opioid epidemic, the Cedarville University School of Pharmacy will host training for its student pharmacists on how to treat overdoses with Naloxone, the life-saving drug.

The Naloxone training is February 20 and 27, from 4-5 p.m. in Cedarville's Health Sciences Center (HSC). All first-, second- and third-year professional pharmacy graduate students (P1, P2 and P3s) are invited to attend and will receive two free packaged doses of Naloxone afterward in case they ever encounter a person overdosing.

The free training comes just a few weeks after the "Your Voice, Your Future" national townhall opioid forum held at Cedarville January 30, moderated by former Fox News host Eric Bolling and featuring Ohio Gov. Mike DeWine via video, former Ohio Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor and dean of the Cedarville University School of Pharmacy, Marc Sweeney. [National Town Hall Highlight Video](#)

The Greene County Deaths Avoided With Naloxone (DAWN) Program will be administered at Cedarville University through The Community Network (TCN) Behavioral Health Services from Xenia, Ohio. TCN is a prevention program that includes mental health and substance abuse treatment services and is a Project DAWN training site in the state of Ohio. Project DAWN was started by The Ohio Department of Health in 2013.

The DAWN Program is a community-based program that seeks to distribute Naloxone in the community and educate the public on overdoses. Naloxone is the active ingredient in NARCAN, a brand-name nasal spray that reverses the effects of an overdose by blocking the opioid receptors in the brain.

"TCN will teach us about Naloxone, how you administer it, determine how you detect an overdose and give you the tools to save someone's life," said Elizabeth Wandling, a P3 from Davenport, Washington. "We thought it was important to receive this training so we know how to treat people and also help others," added Madeline Meister a P3 from Lake Elmo, Minnesota.

Students who participate in the training will learn the signs and symptoms of an overdose, recognize different types of overdoses, inform the appropriate authorities, administer Naloxone and perform rescue breathing.

Wandling and Meister are both members of the National American Pharmaceutical Association Academy of Students of Pharmacy (APhA-ASP) and are responsible for bringing the event on campus. Wandling serves as the APhA-ASP international vice-president and Meister serves as co-chair of operations for over-the-counter medicine safety.

Located in southwest Ohio, Cedarville University is an accredited, Christ-centered, Baptist institution with an enrollment of 4,193 undergraduate, graduate and online students in more than 150 areas of study. Founded in 1887, Cedarville is recognized nationally for its authentic Christian community, rigorous academic programs, including its [doctor of pharmacy](#) program, strong graduation and retention rates, accredited professional and health science offerings and leading student satisfaction ratings. For more information about the University, visit www.cedarville.edu.