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Gabriella Smith
*Director of Communications &
Community Engagement*
(434) 455-1758

Horizon Behavioral Health Recognizes International Overdose Awareness Day

Lynchburg, VA – Horizon Behavioral Health is committed to raising awareness and preventing the risks associated with opioid misuse and addiction in our homes and communities across Central Virginia. Emergency department visit data collected by the [Virginia Department of Health](#) for opioid or unspecified substance overdose among Virginia residents indicates a 32% increase in annual opioid overdose from 2019 to 2020.

In honor of International Overdose Awareness Day on August 31st 2021, Horizon Behavioral Health is inviting all residents, ages 18 and older, to attend a Rapid REVIVE training where they can gain knowledge and skills to recognize and respond to an opioid overdose emergency with naloxone. This Tuesday, Horizon's prevention team will be located at 2215 Langhorne Road, Lynchburg, Virginia 24501, from 10:00 am to 2:00pm and 4:00pm – 6:00pm. All of those who complete the 10-minute Rapid REVIVE! training will receive free Naloxone and other resources needed to help save a life.

International Overdose Awareness Day is the world's largest annual campaign to end overdose by allying with affected communities to remember without stigma those who have died and acknowledge the grief of the family and friends left behind. This day serves as a platform for individuals, families, community partners, and others to send a strong message to current and former people who use drugs that they are valued and initiate discussions about overdose prevention, treatment options and drug policy.

“Horizon recognizes our responsibility to provide valuable information on the range of treatment services and preventative resources that are available in our community by supporting evidence-based initiatives and programs proven to prevent and reduce drug-related harm.” says Damien Cabezas, CEO of Horizon Behavioral Health.

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Horizon Behavioral Health has been the primary public behavioral healthcare provider in the Region 2000 area for more than 50 years. In the last year, Horizon provided services to approximately 16,000 adults and children, addressing problems with mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities. Horizon is accredited by CARF International. This represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to a behavioral health organization.