



PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELLNESS
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Memorandum for: Louisville Metro Board of Health

From: Connie Mendel, Interim Chief Health Strategist

Subject: October Director's Report - Trends and Insights from 8/31/23 - 9/27/23

- **Expanded Narcan access to help prevent fatal overdoses.** A [vending machine filled with free naloxone](#), more commonly known as Narcan, is now in the jail's exit lobby. People leaving the Louisville Metro Department of Corrections can access the overdose reversal medication that has already saved lives within the facility.
- **Medical supplies donated to Jefferson County Public Schools.** LMPHW provided critical supplies to the district, including rolling carts, Stop the Bleed kits, and high-quality medical bags. The goal is to enhance emergency preparedness, disease control and prevention efforts, as well as emergency response and recovery capabilities.
- **COVID-19 at-home test kits are available to help reduce COVID-19 spread.**
 - LMPHW and Metro Parks are partnering to make free test kits available across the county. Tests can be picked up at [14 community centers](#) during operating hours beginning 10/2/23, while supplies last.
 - Beginning 9/25/23, you can order 4 free at-home tests and have them sent directly to your home. Please visit [covid.gov/tests](https://www.covid.gov/tests) to learn more.
 - Non-profit organizations may request free COVID-19 at-home test kits by emailing covidtesting@louisvilleky.gov.
 - K-12 schools and homeless shelters may request test kits directly from the Kentucky Department for Public Health using the [resource request form](#). For more information, email KYcovidTesting@ky.gov.
- **Opioid settlement distribution advisory board appointed.** Mayor Greenberg announced the formation of a dedicated advisory board, that will be chaired by LMPHW directors, tasked with overseeing the distribution of funds from the landmark opioid settlement. A [website](#) has been created with additional information on the board, its mission, and its work.



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- **Academic Health Department [annual report](#)**. In fiscal year 2023, the student experiences program had 21 participants and supported 13 projects. Enhancements to departmental processes along with the ability to pay students contributed to program improvements and delays in the hiring process, including background checks, led to challenges in the onboarding process. Overall success can be demonstrated through the number of students continuing in the program past their initial semester, and former interns hired as full-time LMPHW employees.



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