



RUSA Resolution F18-8

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Sponsors: Health and Wellness Committee

Resolution to Endorse the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign

Whereas, the opioid epidemic specifically refers to the growing number of deaths and hospitalizations from opioids, including prescriptions, illicit drugs, and analogues,¹

Whereas, deaths across the US have steadily grown over time and on average, 115 Americans die every day from an opioid overdose,²

Whereas, about 80% of people who use heroin first misused prescription opioids,³

Whereas, the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign takes an informational approach, and launches in November and will run through the end of the academic year,

Whereas, this campaign features 6 messages to provide a basic overview of the opioid epidemic and a specific message will be highlighted each month:

November: What are Opioids?

December & January: What is Narcan?

February: What is the Opioid Epidemic and why is Everyone Talking About it?

March: How are Prescription Drugs Connected to the Opioid Epidemic?

April: I Don't Use Drugs. Why Should I Pay Any Attention to the Opioid Epidemic?

May: What Does an Opioid Overdose Look Like?

Whereas, the Health and Wellness Committee of the Rutgers University Student Assembly works to continuously improve and promote student health through programming, advocacy, and PR efforts, and

¹ <https://www.addictioncenter.com/opiates/opioid-epidemic/>

² <https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/index.html>

³ <https://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/opioids/opioid-overdose-crisis>

Whereas, the Rutgers University Student Assembly believes in protecting the general health of students in the Rutgers community,

Be it hereby resolved, the Rutgers University Student Assembly supports spreading awareness of the opioid epidemic on campus in an effort to prevent prescription opioid overdoses and curb the opioid epidemic, and the Public Relations Committee will promote the University-Wide Opioids Messaging Campaign through social media platforms each month with the specified message for that month from November 2018 to May 2019.

RUSA President

Date