

TN Department of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services

Regional Overdose Prevention Specialists

ROPS

Tennessee's front-line overdose preventionists serving communities and saving lives across the state

Tennessee's ROPS serve all 95 counties as points of contact for free training and education on overdose and for overdose prevention through the distribution of naloxone.

ROPS bring diverse lived experience, including personal or family recovery journeys, and many are Tennessee Certified Peer Recovery Specialists; some also have backgrounds in nursing, emergency response, or other helping roles.

TDMHSAS has 24 ROPS operating in 13 regional divisions across the state. ROPS are affiliated with local Substance Use Prevention Coalitions or other community-based organizations, and are equipped to connect people with treatment and recovery reosurces.

Free training from a ROPS covers

- Causes and Impacts of the Overdose Epidemic
- Impact of Substance Misuse on the Brain
- Recognizing and Responding to an Overdose
- How to Administer Naloxone

150,000+
Documented lives saved. Actual number believed to be much higher due to under-reporting.

1,075,626+
Units of naloxone distributed. Each unit of naloxone contains 2 doses.

Contributing to nearly
50%
reduction in overdose deaths since peak in 2022

Data for October 2017-September 2026

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TN.gov/behavioral-health/ROPS