

Free Narcan Vending Machine Project Overview

Initiative Background

The Free Narcan Vending Machine Project is a community-driven effort initiated by Conscience Conduit, aiming to provide accessible Naloxone (Narcan) to combat opioid overdoses in Dallas. Despite the success of similar initiatives in Austin, including the remarkable efforts of the Narcan Queen, Em Gray, this solution has yet to be implemented widely in the Dallas area. We are here to help.

Key Players and Support

- **Narcan Queen (Em Gray):** Our primary consultant and support, Em has generously shared her knowledge and experience in launching Narcan vending machines. Thanks to her invaluable coaching, we've gained a clearer understanding of the challenges ahead.
- **Garland ISD:** They are expressing interest in purchasing and placing Narcan vending machines in all their high schools, with key support from Deborah Morris.
- **Dallas City Council:** Actively supporting the initiative, the council is exploring funding opportunities to ensure the project launches smoothly and effectively, striving for community-wide impact.
- **Local Health Departments:** Working closely with us to spread awareness and provide educational materials, these departments will help promote the use of Narcan and its life-saving benefits.
- **Community Volunteers:** A dedicated group of local citizens will assist with outreach, education, and machine maintenance, ensuring the initiative receives grassroots support and active engagement.
- **Pharmaceutical Partners:** Several pharmaceutical companies have shown an interest in donating supplies of Narcan to keep our vending machines well-stocked, because who doesn't love a good partnership over life-saving drugs?

Project Milestones

First Showing of Vending Machines: The initial presentation took place in Pharr, Texas, at an event featuring the top Mental Health police unit in Texas, which received Narcan supplies.

- **Upcoming Events:** A presentation is scheduled at the Deep Ellum Community Center on September 15th to showcase our machines and reduce overdoses in our community.
- **Collaboration with Local Organizations:** We've partnered with local organizations, including non-profits and health groups, to provide free Narcan and create a network dedicated to saving lives.
- **Venue Selection for Machine Placement:** We've chosen key venues for Narcan vending machines, including community centers, local pharmacies, and popular spots, ensuring easy access to life-saving nasal spray.

Logistics and Community Involvement

- **Machine Fabricators:** We collaborate with local fabricators like Jerry Fernandes and Anthony Delabano to create the vending machines. This initiative serves a critical public health need and supports the local economy.
- **Artists:** We also work with local artists such as Kaia Beggs, Tyson Summers, and Ace Cordell, promoting artistic contributions to the project.
- **Cost-Effectiveness:** We construct the machines using recycled materials to save resources while saving lives. Our efforts are cost-effective and support the economy through arts, recycling, and successful programs.

Supply Chain and Distribution

We've established connections for Narcan supplies through various networks, including:

- Be Well Texas
- NarcanDirect.com (a buyers club)
- NaloxoneTexas.com
- Recovery Resource (Dan)

We intend for distribution and replenishment will be managed through partnerships with:

- Livegy
- Conscience Conduit
- Volunteers within the community

Ongoing Commitments

Our team is committed to providing ongoing training and community engagement around the use of Narcan.

We continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with the A&R organization and local artists like Kaia Beggs, Ace Cordell and Tyson Summers to enhance the visibility and impact of this project and support the community.

Acknowledgements

A heartfelt thank you to Em Gray, the Narcan Queen, for guiding us through this complex landscape with love and constructive insights. Your passion and expertise have been instrumental in propelling this initiative forward.

This organized approach not only ensures a coherent narrative but also highlights the dedication within this project to save lives and foster community resilience.

Narcan Vending Machine Project Detail Brief

Project Overview: Free Narcan Vending Machine Initiative

Mission:

To save lives and combat opioid overdoses throughout Texas, by providing easy access to Naloxone (Narcan) through community-driven vending machines.

Inspiration:

The initiative was inspired by Em Gray's N.I.C.E. project in Austin, which successfully utilized Narcan vending machines to reduce overdose deaths and raise awareness about the opioid crisis.

Key Activities:

- Conducted a training session at Pharr Texas PD's Mental Health unit, distributing 140 pieces of Narcan to individuals in need.
- Collaborated with artists Ace Cordell, Kaia Beggs, and Tyson Summers to design vibrant, community-focused vending machines.
- Received vital support from Jerry Fernandes and Anthony Delabano, who refurbished the machines for functionality and deployment.
- Partnered with Deborah Morris from Garland ISD to eventually place vending machines in high schools, making Naloxone accessible to youth and all.

Consultation:

Worked closely with Em Gray, our primary consultant, drawing from her expertise in successful Narcan initiatives in Austin to navigate challenges and enhance our project.

Launch Event:

The first showcasing of the vending machines occurred in Pharr, Texas, at an event featuring the state's leading Mental Health police unit, reinforcing our commitment to overdose prevention.

Future Plans:

Scheduled a presentation at the Deep Ellum Community Center on September 15th to raise awareness and garner support. We aim to continue providing training on Narcan usage and explore collaborations with local artists and organizations to broaden the project's impact.

Partnership Transition:

We are excited to hand off the project, along with ongoing operations, to our new partners at Livegy, who will facilitate Narcan packaging and training across Texas.

Community Commitment:

Our initiative exemplifies the power of collaboration, creativity, and compassion. With the involvement of our dedicated team and community partners, we are committed to saving lives and fostering resilience in the face of adversity. This is not just a project—it's a movement dedicated to making a meaningful difference.

Join Us for the Unveiling!

We invite you to join us on Sunday, September 15th from Noon to 2PM for the unveiling of our Free Narcan Vending Machines! This exciting event will take place at the Deep Ellum Community Center. Come and learn about our initiative, meet our partners including Livegy, APAA, Parkland, and others, and participate in vital Narcan training and programming. Together, we can make a difference in our community's fight against opioid overdoses. Don't miss out — your involvement could save a life!

*Non-Alcoholic Complimentary Signature Cocktails will be provided by Beyond the Bar. Grab lunch before the event, next door at Velvet Taco.

RSVP: <https://conscienceconduit.org/free-narcan-vending-machines>

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