

Iowa Department of Public Health
Division of Behavioral Health/Bureau of Substance Abuse
Opioid Update for Wednesday, January 9, 2019

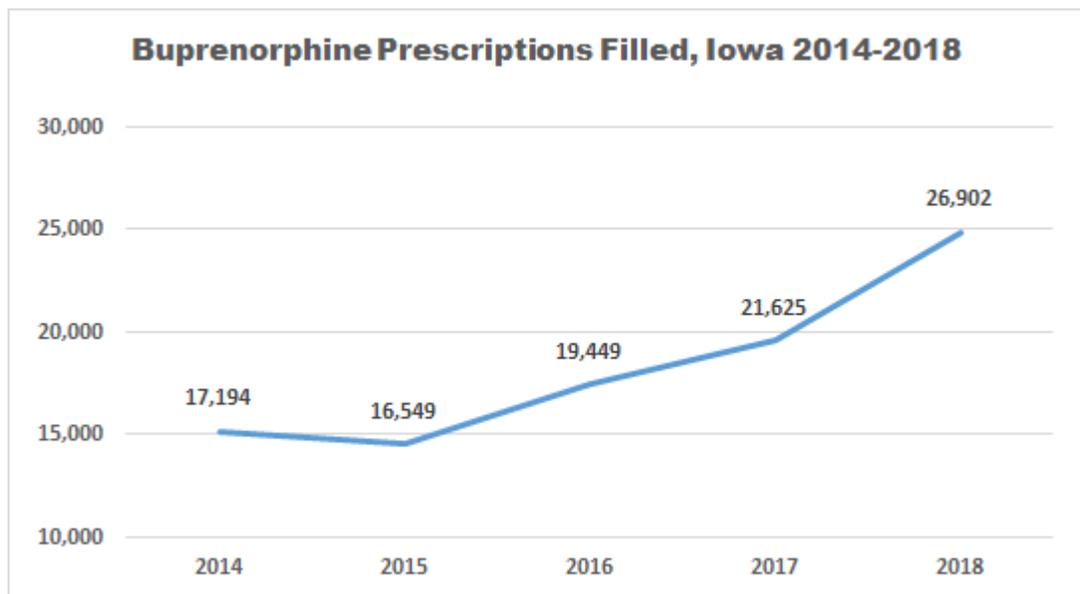
The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) offers the Opioid Update to share information about opioid use and Iowa's efforts to address the national opioid epidemic. Please feel free to submit topics to Julie Jones at julie.jones@idph.iowa.gov.

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Iowa News

Buprenorphine Prescriptions Dispensed in Iowa Increase



Iowa Prescription Monitoring Program 2018

Data from Iowa's Prescription Monitoring Program indicate that since 2015, Buprenorphine (an FDA-approved form of medication-assisted treatment for an opioid use disorder) prescriptions dispensed have risen by more than 61 percent. This increase coincides with the rise in the number of Buprenorphine Waivered prescribers, which increased from 31 in 2015, to 115 in 2018, and to the expansion in service availability through new Opioid Treatment Programs and Medication Units across the state.

Hy-Vee Announces New Restrictions on Opioid Prescriptions

Hy-Vee no longer will allow its pharmacies to refill prescriptions of certain controlled substances more than 72 hours early without a doctor's authorization. The policy, effective January 1, 2019, pertains to refills for Schedule III and Schedule IV drugs or subsequent fills of a Schedule II prescription. "Our goal is to have as few unused opioids in the marketplace as possible," Hy-Vee Director of Public Relations Christina Gayman said.

To read the entire article, please click on the following link: [The Gazette](#)

Department News

AmeriCorps Update

IDPH currently has half-time, quarter-time, and minimal time member slots available in the IDPH AmeriCorps Substance Abuse Prevention Program. These positions are perfect for summer projects. Members can serve any amount of time from May 1, 2019, through November 30, 2019. As part of AmeriCorps, members can:

- Help with mentor and volunteer recruitment
- Enhance, improve, or commence program sustainability and growth
- Train volunteers and mentors and assist with curriculum development
- Enhance and improve parent and family engagement
- Assist and take lead on special projects and initiatives
- Plan, organize and facilitate community based education on substance abuse prevention
- Help establish recovery community organizations and other prevention programs throughout the state
- Create, enhance, and improve volunteer recruitment programs, policies and procedures

This program year, AmeriCorps members will be focusing their efforts on the opioid and prescription drug misuse epidemic within the state of Iowa. The IDPH AmeriCorps Substance Abuse Prevention Program will focus on theory of change around education, community engagement and capacity building. These three components together address the needs outlined and impact the long-term goal of reducing substance use, and addressing opioid and prescription drug abuse.

To learn more about AmeriCorps positions, please click on the following link: [AmeriCorps](#). For more information on funding opportunities, please go to [IowaGrants.Gov](#). The next application deadline is March 14, 2019.

Upcoming Trainings:

- **Second Annual Chicago Summit for Clinical Excellence on the Opioid Crisis**
March 4-5, 2019.
For more information, please click on the following link: [Chicago](#).
- **NatCon19**
March 25-27, 2019.
For more information, please click on the following link: [Nashville](#).
- **Governor's Conference on Substance Abuse**
April 16-17, 2019
For more information, please click on the following link: [Des Moines](#).
- **National Rx Drug Abuse and Heroin Summit**
April 22-25, 2019.
For more information, please click on the following link: [Atlanta](#).