

OVERDOSE IS EVERYWHERE. IN THE UNITED STATES, OVERDOSE DEATH INCREASED BY 30% BETWEEN 2019 AND 2020, WITH APPROXIMATELY 107,000 DEATHS IN 2021 ALONE.

Dear Senator/Representative _____ ,

I am a member of the _____ community. I am writing to you today because I strongly believe that more needs to be done to address overdose within our community.

Overdose is everywhere. In the United States, overdose deaths increased by 30% between 2019 and 2020, with approximately 107,000 deaths in 2021 alone.

It's not in their job description, but ordinary community members – waiters, librarians, cab drivers, friends and teachers – are having to act as frontline responders due to government inaction. It is unacceptable that we rely on these unexpected responders to prevent, recognize and respond to this growing epidemic.

There is strong evidence for practical solutions to prevent overdose deaths, such as providing free access to naloxone, fentanyl testing kits and opioid substitution treatment.

I would like to know how you plan to address the overdose issue in our community.

Sincerely,

MS/MRS/MR/MX _____