

PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS ARE BELOVED BY GOD

**Overdose and Drug Use Ministries
Health and Wholeness Advocacy**



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

FAITH IN HARM REDUCTION

<https://faithinharmreduction.org>

- A national network of faith leaders that work in partnership with people who use drugs to advance liberation, health, and wholeness for communities impacted by overdose, the stigma of substance use, and racialized drug policy.

HARM REDUCTION COALITION

<https://harmreduction.org>

- A national advocacy and capacity-building organization that promotes the health and dignity of individuals and communities impacted by substance use and creates space for action and dialogue that help heal the harms of racialized drug policy.

DRUG POLICY ALLIANCE

<https://www.drugpolicy.org/>

- A national organization focused on promoting health-centered drug policies and empowering youth, parents and educators with honest, reality-based drug education.

CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC) - OVERDOSE

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/>

- A leading national public health institute providing educational resources, data, and publications on opioid overdose and other health issues affecting people who use drugs.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA)

<https://www.samhsa.gov/>

- A division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance behavioral health and aims to reduce the impact of substance use and mental illness.

URBAN SURVIVORS UNION

<https://ncurbansurvivorunion.org>

- A national coalition of people who use drugs and do sex work who provide leadership, strategies, and technical assistance to develop strong community-led organizations that center the voices of the people with lived experience.

THE WORDS WE CHOOSE MATTER - USING PERSON-FIRST LANGUAGE

When talking about drug use and people who use drugs we must move away from stigmatizing and dehumanizing language and toward people-first language that confers dignity and respect. Here are two helpful glossaries.

Glossary by the Peer Network of New York and Drug Policy Alliance:

<http://bit.ly/PWUD-Peer-Network-Glossary>

Glossary by the Huffington Post:

<http://bit.ly/DrugGlossary>

hwa@ucc.org +1 216-736-3217

ucc.org