



## Town of Northborough

**What are Opioids?** Opioids are substances that act on the receptors in the brain to produce a morphine-like effect. They include various prescription painkillers such as Vicodin, Hydrocodone, Fentanyl, and Percocet. Illegal opioids include heroin, illegally produced Fentanyl and illegally obtained prescriptions. Often various drugs are mixed together to produce different effects.

**Is there a crisis?** Yes. In 2015 there were over over 1500 deaths in the state and over 2000 in 2016. Worcester county has had roughly 1700 deaths since 2000. Worse, fentanyl is now providing a cheap and powerful opioid for illegal use.

**But what should I do?** The problem is growing but so are the resources to fight this crisis. If you have children consider educating them. If you use or may need painkillers understand the risks and dangers. If you have old prescriptions dispose of them. If you have a loved one fighting addiction there are recourses and counseling groups to help. You could save a loved one buy purchasing Narcan. Included is a list of valuable resources.



**For family members with a loved one who is fighting addiction.**

<http://learn2cope.org/>

508-245-1050

**Substance Abuse Hotline. MA Department of Public Health.**

<https://helpline.ma.org/>

800-327-5050

**Wayside Youth and family Services**

<http://www.waysideyouth.org/>

508-879-9800

**Information about Narcan.**

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/substance-abuse/naloxone-info.pdf>

**Behavior Partners of MetroWest**

<https://www.bhpmw.info/>

844-528-6800

**Recovery Connection**

<http://www.therecoveryconnection.org/about-us.html>

508-485-0298

**Addiction Referral Center**

<http://www.theaddictionreferralcenter.com/>

508-485-4357

**Information presented by the  
Northborough Health Dept.  
63 Main Street 508-393-5009**