



Executive Summary: Together for Resilient Youth

You Have the Power to Save Lives

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Total Impact June Through November 2025

TRY distributed 1,500 naloxone kits across 54 unique community locations and delivered 116 trainings reaching 422 community members. The organization trained 52 Health Ambassadors spanning ages 13 through senior adults and documented 28 life-saving interventions during this seven-month period. TRY hosted 12 advisory meetings, eight community meetings focused on homelessness and harm reduction, and facilitated 16 harm reduction sessions.

TRY's Direct Community Role

Together for Resilient Youth operates a comprehensive harm reduction program bringing naloxone directly to barbershops, salons, small businesses, college campuses, and community members. Our Community Health Ambassadors provide education and, when necessary, emergency administration. Our detailed distribution records show consistent, strategic placement in high-need locations where overdoses have occurred.

Health Ambassador Training and Leadership Development

TRY successfully implemented comprehensive Health Ambassador training with specialized focus on vulnerable populations including people who use drugs and those experiencing housing instability. The program completed orientation sessions featuring trauma-informed approaches and evidence-based prevention strategies. TRY developed a peer-to-peer model ensuring authentic community leadership infrastructure through targeted community outreach and relationship-building across Durham. Age-specific programs include Health Ambassadors ages 13-17, 18-24, and Adult through Senior Health Ambassador programming. Evidence-based distribution was successfully tested in the community by people who use drugs and those in recovery.

Strategic Distribution Highlights

Examples of TRY's strategic placement: Kendrick's Kave Barbershop received 12 kits after a client overdosed while getting a haircut. Tobacco R. Barbershop received 12 kits following multiple client overdoses in chairs. Sabrina Hair Loss Specialist Durham received 12 kits when a family member was struggling with fentanyl. Masterworks Barbershop received 144 kits during a community event. Durham Technical Community College received systematic coverage across 12 departments with 82 kits. People who use drugs at Durham's five homeless encampments received 56 kits. Small businesses including Capital Seafood, In and Out Store, and Bull City Suds Laundromat received 126 kits combined.

Life-Saving Impact and Community Voices

TRY documented 28 life-saving interventions including direct intervention with a homeless individual in a parking lot. Community members were equipped and ready to respond in critical moments. One mother expressed her confidence: "IT IS SO EASY TO DO THIS." One participant described the profound impact: "Being able to provide a resource for someone is always a powerful moment for me. Seeing people in tears of joy, because I am able to take away some of their fears." Tearfully, "If only I had known about this before." Homeless care packages were delivered in the community and in Durham Public Schools.

Specialized Programs and Training Materials

TRY created 13 specialized s incorporating opioids, trauma, grief and harm reduction principles for: Adults, Business Partners, College Students, Community Organizations, Court Judges, Faith Communities, Healthcare Workers, Parents and PTA Members, People Who Use Drugs (PWUD), Recovering Community, SROs, Youth, College Students, and Seniors. Additional training programs included the Opioid Misuse and Overdose Prevention Guide, the Resilient Recovery Training Guide both introduced an enhancement to traditional peer support training. Five facilitators trained engaging 25+ participants. A Youth Empowerment "Master Class" reached 48 participants. A personal history on substance use and recovery, a "Master Class "inspired viewers. ACEs 4 (levels) and Opioid Awareness presentations reached 444 participants. Self-Harm Prevention training was delivered tailored to ages 9-20. Black Health and Trauma training incorporated John Henryism, Dr. Sherman James and addressed root causes and the 4th ACE (Atrocious Cultural Experiences). Change Your Words. Change Your World - Writing for Health in both generic and faith-based versions were offered.

Community Response

TRY documented overwhelming acceptance from diverse community members, businesses, and organizations. Professional partnerships were established with probation officers, sheriff's deputies, business managers, and healthcare providers. Community feedback captured 27 themes demonstrating "overwhelming acceptance across diverse populations," "productive engagement across law enforcement, healthcare, and business sectors," and "community members celebrating how simple naloxone distribution is for everyone."