

# Key Considerations for Episodic Overdose Prevention Services (eOPS)

## HOUSING & SHELTERS

Using substances alone increases risk for dying from drug poisoning.

Harm reduction services in supportive housing and emergency shelters can prevent accidental drug poisonings.

### Prioritize drug poisoning prevention

- Offer eOPS to people who use alone in their rooms
- Implement drug poisoning monitoring systems

### Focus on support

- Check if your policies and practices support people who use substances
- Provide harm reduction supplies and access to overdose prevention and response services

### Housing first

- Abstinence policies create barriers for people to use more safely in their homes
- Access to quality housing is critical to health and well being, particularly for people who are at risk for drug poisoning

### Create more safe spaces

- Add an overdose prevention site or space for eOPS in your setting
- Support safer substance use by changing policies to allow guests

### Focus on relationship building

- Approach resident wellness checks using trauma informed practices
- Support residents seeking harm reduction or drug poisoning prevention and response services

### Collaborate with residents

- Develop wellness check policies together with residents
- Consider implementing peer-led wellness checks and drug poisoning prevention programs