

August 5, 2024



International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is a global event held annually in August that seeks to raise awareness about overdose, reduce the stigma of addiction and drug-related deaths, and acknowledge the grief felt by families and friends when someone they love is fighting a battle with their addiction.

Each year Millstone Alliance to Prevent Substance Misuse members and Township staff work with the Prevention Coalition of Monmouth County to bring this initiative to our community in remembrance and honor for those whose lives have been affected by overdose. Purple flags placed at the Township Building represent those whose lives have been lost in Monmouth County for the first quarter of the year. It is a strong visual representation of how devastating the effects of addiction and overdose can be in our families and communities.

The Alliance takes this and moves it to action by providing prevention education to students in our District and at Allentown High School helping them to develop important coping and refusal skills. We provide information resources to residents on request and at various community events, and can help navigate the confusing system of treatment and recovery options. Reach out by phone (732-446-4249, x3106) or email ([millstonealliance@gmail.com](mailto:millstonealliance@gmail.com)) for confidential information and referrals. If you want to be a part of this effort, please reach out for more information on becoming a member of our Alliance team.