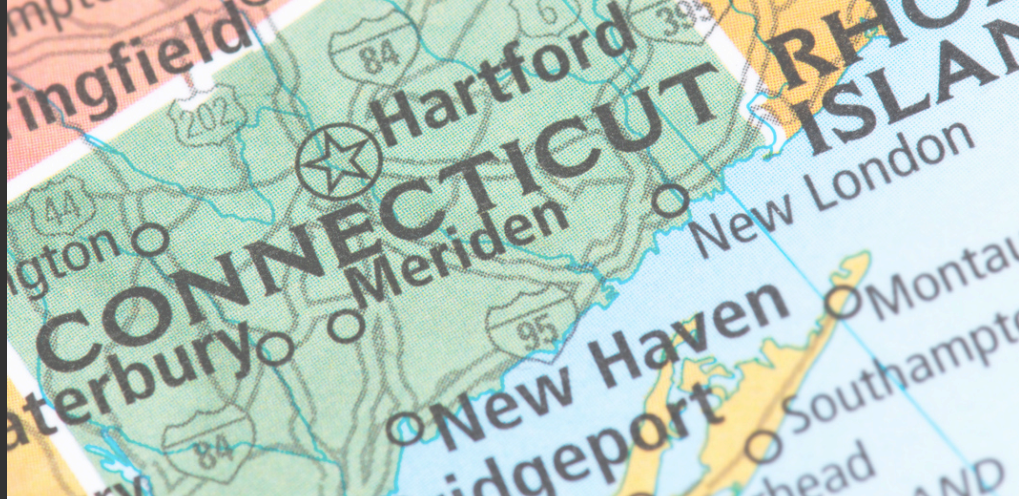


# ODMAP

## Spotlight Series:

### Meriden Department of Health and Human Services, New Haven, Connecticut



*Keep your community aware and prepared*

## ODMAP INTEGRATION

In the fall of 2017, the City of Meriden, Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), convened a group of city leaders and community organizations to discuss the increasing numbers of fatal overdoses in Connecticut.

During these meetings, a subsequent SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats) analysis in the areas of substance use disorder prevention, response, treatment, and recovery services in Meriden gave the city the foundation for the development of the Meriden Opioid Referral for Recovery (MORR) program. This program is a partnership with Meriden Police, Fire, and Health Departments and Rushford Treatment Program Center. MORR provides first responders with Narcan to reverse the effects of opioid overdose. First responders are then empowered to connect appropriate people with the Rushford MORR team for follow-up assessment, clinical treatment and case management services that are critical in the days after an overdose.

Meriden Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) signed up for ODMAP Level 2 access in 2019, after the Statewide Opioid Reporting Directive (SWORD) initiative started in Connecticut. It was however not until late 2022, through a capacity building grant, that MDHHS started using ODMAP on a daily basis. After doing an analysis of all available data to the Department, ODMAP was chosen along with a local syndromic surveillance system and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner as the top three data sets to inform the work of the MORR program and community partners who conduct harm reduction outreach in our city.



City of Meriden, Connecticut

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## OVERDOSE RESPONSE EFFORTS

ODMAP is used by MDHHS to track overdose data, including zip code, nearest intersection, date, time, naloxone deployment and suspected drug. This data is used to note current local substance trends, to notify community partners, and to adapt education and prevention efforts to address overdose in real-time.

Using Power BI, each month a visualization of the data is developed in partnership with the New Haven Health Department, who is in the same county as Meriden. Data is shared with the MORR grant team (Police, Fire, EMS, and Rushford) and those that conduct harm reduction outreach in Meriden. As to not cause further stigma, select data is published in a quarterly newsletter and posted on the MDHHS harm reduction webpage, which as of January 2024 had over 5,600 views.

## WHO IS INVOLVED

- Meriden Police Department
- Meriden Fire Department
- Hunters Emergency Services
- Rushford Center, Inc.
- New Haven Health Department
- The community

## SPIKE ALERT FRAMEWORK

MDHHS receives spike alerts based on a daily threshold set for the county. When spike alerts are received the Director of Health reviews ODMAP to determine if the spike is occurring in the City of Meriden.

If a spike is identified, city leadership and community partners are notified and given actionable steps based on the number of overdoses. A bilingual press release to the community is crafted based on whether it is a fatal or non-fatal overdose event. Information on where to obtain naloxone and other harm reduction supplies is provided in the statement, as well as information on the MORR program for treatment and recovery services. Harm reduction outreach and pop-up naloxone trainings in the neighborhood may also be conducted.

To: name@wb.hidta.org name@countyhealth.gov

From: odmap@wb.hidta.org

Subject: New Haven County, Connecticut Spike Alert

New Haven County, Connecticut is in a spike. There have been 3 total overdose incidents in the last 24 hours.

Currently, your spike alert threshold is 3 overdose incidents in 24 hours.

This spike alert was requested by the Connecticut Office of Drug Control Division.



ODMAP Spike Alert Explainer Video