



AARI in ACTION



2nd Annual International Overdose Awareness Day Vigil

On the evening of August 31st, we gathered at the Bozman Government Center Plaza to remember those who have lost their lives to overdose and honor family and friends impacted by overdose.

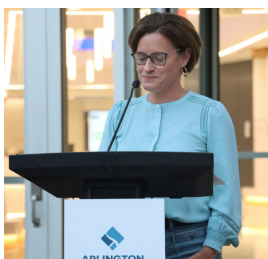
Community members, leaders from Arlington County government, peer recovery specialists, community activists, healthcare providers, first responders, AARI stakeholders, and loved ones directly impacted by overdose death made up the gathering of over 100 people who shared in this significant and memorable event.

Thank you to Jim Dooley, Denise Chiarotti, Ed Bane, and Daniel Adams for providing personal stories to help us gain a deeper understanding of the many facets of the opioid overdose crisis.

The evening closed with a meaningful time of remembrance led by Rev. Ashley Goff and Ashley Madden from Arlington Presbyterian Church. The music, candles, reading of names, and thoughtful contemplation were a powerful celebration of the lives cut short by drug-related overdose.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this special memorial possible, thank you for being present and supporting those whose loved ones have been taken away from drug-related complications.

May we continue to stand in solidarity in ending the stigma of drug use, and drug-related overdose, and may we recommit our passion for ending substance-related deaths in this community.





AARI was recently awarded an achievement award by the Virginia Association of Counties (VACo). This recognition would not be possible without the support from each of you. We once again thank all of you for being a part of this important work. [Click here to read more about this award.](#)



AARI making a difference, 3rd Quarter Highlights:

- 639 boxes of Narcan Dispensed
- 1,432 Fentanyl Test Strips Distributed
- 251 Medication Deactivation Bags
- 10 Community Tabling Events
- 846 Community Member Interactions
- 2 Presentations
- 60 attendees
- 2 Teen Narcan Trainings

Provided resources and information:

- Arlington County Fair
- National Recovery Month Forum
- Green Valley Day
- Mt. Zion Baptist Church Community Day
- Reentry Fair
- Tyroll Hill Community Day
- SUD Seminar with Arlington Bar Association
- Narcan Education with Hispanic Teen Police Academy



AARI VOLUNTEER HIGHLIGHT:

DENISE CHIAROTTI

If you have been to any AARI tabling event, chances are you have met the dynamic Denise!

Denise's energy is unmatched, she will help set up a tent in the scorching heat, train people for hours on end on how to identify an overdose and administer Narcan, all while openly sharing her personal lived experience.

Her energy and love for others is contagious and we are so fortunate to have her as one of our AARI Hero's!

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 9th Brief In-person Narcan Training @ Barcroft Apartments Resource Fair 6-8

November 15th Brief In-person Narcan Training @ 2100 Washington Blvd 4-6 p.m. & distribution up of Opioids facts yard signs

November 19th Brief In-person Narcan Training @ Columbia Pike Farmers Market 8:30-11 or 11:00-1:30 shifts.

Get more info and [sign up to help here](#)

If you have not done so, please follow us and share our posts to help spread updates and announcements to the community!



Stay tuned for an invitation to recognize the milestone of providing the **10,000th** box of Narcan!

