



Message from our CEO

As the summer comes to an end and we approach the start of a new school year, it is hard to believe August is already here. At ACTS, we continue to acclimate to our new normal way of life during this current state of the Coronavirus pandemic. Our programs are still fully operational with the modifications we instituted in early spring to protect our staff and persons served. We closely monitor state and local data and tweak our protocols accordingly. ACTS is working closely with other community partners to meet the needs of the community. As an essential agency, we are proud to offer our clients a full array of behavioral health services. Please continue to stay safe and well.



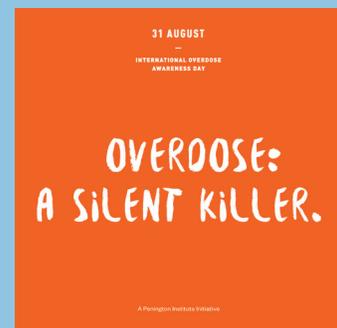
Asha Terminello
ACTS CEO

Do You Know What An Overdose Looks Like?

August 31 is International Overdose Awareness Day. [71,999 Americans died from drug overdoses in 2019](#), including illicit drugs and prescription opioids—compared to 16,849 drug overdose deaths in 1999. Here are common signs of overdose for opioid drugs:

- No response to stimuli
- Shallow, labored or no breathing
- Cannot be woken up
- Snoring or gurgling
- Blue/grey lips or finger tips
- Floppy arms or legs

Overdose symptoms vary depending on the substance used. Click to see common overdose signs for [alcohol](#), [depressants](#), [opioids](#), [psychoactive substances](#) and [stimulants](#). If you or a loved one have a substance use issue, call us at 813.246.4899 for help.



Meet Janice Zengotita

Janice Zengotita, ACTS Quality Improvement Director, started at the agency in July 2019. Before COVID-19 impacted the agency, Janice oversaw performance monitoring, system and operations improvement, risk management, operational data analysis activities, health information management, and the Wellness Committee. Starting in March, she now also serves as ACTS infection control point of contact – helping to develop and implement best practices to protect staff and clients from COVID and other infections. “I love that every day my job is different,” said Janice. “One of my favorite things about working at ACTS is that I am serving our community by helping our programs provide the best care they can to our clients.” Since March, Janice has been an active member of the ACTS COVID Response Task Force. Janice and this team have implemented universal mask requirements and screening tools, updated the infection control policies and procedures, implemented visual protective measures, ensured staff and clients have the proper PPE, educated staff and clients about COVID-19, and worked with the Department of Health to ensure protocols are set to meet CDC guidelines. “Being a non-profit, we have had to be creative. At the beginning of April, we were sewing our own masks to make sure all our staff members had them,” Janice said. To find out more about how the QI team has responded to the pandemic, [click here](#).



ACTS Holds Blood Drives

ACTS held two blood drives in July – the first at ACTS Firemen’s Hall, and the second at ACTS main office. Between the two drives, 30 employees participated with 21 pints of blood coming from both drives. These pints can positively impact more than 60 different patients. ACTS CEO Asha Terminello was one of the people who was able to make a successful donation. “I’d like to thank each and every team member who donated blood,” said Asha. “When the calendar year started, one of ACTS initiatives was to implement a wellness committee, which has been paused with COVID. With this blood donation, I feel like we are moving in the right direction.” ACTS is planning two additional drives in September.



For More Information

ACTS, Agency for Community Treatment Services, Inc., is a non-profit serving the Tampa Bay area since 1978. As a comprehensive, community-based behavioral health organization, ACTS mission is to apply the best of contemporary physical and behavioral health interventions and social support services available to assist individuals and families to engage and succeed in recovery. Call us today to find out how we can help you - 813.246.4899 or visit us online at www.actsfl.org.

