



## INTERNATIONAL OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY 2025

**Together, we grieve and remember those  
we've lost. Together, we work to make change.**

On this International Overdose Awareness Day, we remember the lives cut short by the unregulated drug supply, and we honour the families, friends, and communities who grieve their loss. These are not just numbers—they are loved ones, neighbours, and community members.

This year's theme—"One Big Family, Driven by Hope"—reflects our vision at the Substance Use Health Network. We believe that when people come together with compassion and respect, change is possible. We are stronger when we act as one community, rooted in the shared understanding that harms from the unregulated drug supply and harmful policies can and must be prevented.

At SUHN, we are committed to building a full continuum of substance use health care across Canada—so that everyone, everywhere, can access the support they need. This means:

- Prevention and health promotion to strengthen wellness and belonging.
- Harm reduction services that opens doors to people to connect and access care.
- Accessible treatment and recovery options that meet people where they are and support them to achieve their self-defined goals.
- Housing, mental health, and social supports that recognize the whole person and their interconnected needs.

On this IOAD, we call for investments and policies that make this continuum a reality—grounded in dignity, equity, and human rights. We urge commitment and collaboration across sectors, regions, and governments to drive the policy changes and concrete actions needed to address poverty, homelessness, stigmatization, and criminalization.

## ONE BIG FAMILY, DRIVEN BY HOPE