Suicide and overdose continue to harm our communities. Suicide and overdose have threatened the health of our communities for decades. Since 1999, more than 300,000 people died by suicide and more than 840,000 people died by drug overdose. In 2018 alone, 20.4 million people had a substance use disorder. Suicide and overdose impact all aspects of our communities, including:

**References**

CDC. Fast Facts: Suicide is a large and growing public health problem. Updated last May 22, 2021. Retrieved (07/12/2021)


Now is the time to address the intersection of suicide and overdose.

Although suicide and overdose may present as two distinct health outcomes, a closer look at the root causes of each reveals that they share many of the same risk and protective factors.

We can protect our communities from suicide and overdose and prevent these negative health outcomes.

All stakeholders can play a role in protecting our communities from suicide and overdose.

Many stakeholders can address the risk factors and support the protective factors within our communities and systems.

Incorporating the voices of communities that are at increased risk for both outcomes will help ensure efforts to prevent suicide and overdose are effective, accessible, and inclusive.

Together, we can implement a comprehensive approach to preventing these negative health outcomes by providing communities with resources that promote health, encourage connection, and bolster well-being.