## **Friends Don't Let Friends Die**

## Call 911 for an Overdose

Massachusetts Law: You can't be prosecuted for drug use or possession if you get help for someone with an overdose.

But you *might* be prosecuted if you let your friend die.

#### Don't abandon them!!

If a friend is sick, unconscious, confused or stumbling from drugs, alcohol or otherwise: **Step 1** <u>Call 911</u> Say:

*"My friend has trouble breathing."* or *"A friend is unconscious & won't wake up."* Answer questions and follow instructions.

Step 2: If instructed, give Narcan

Step 3: Ensure the friend can breathe

Perform rescue breathing if stopped.

Step 4: <u>Stay with them</u> and answer paramedics's questions. Save a sample of what your friend took.

*If in a group, stay together & offer to assist the medics to get the Law's protection.* 

Save Your Friend's Life.

# **OVERDOSE SYMPTOMS:**

Stumbling, confusion or vomiting Breathing slow & shallow or stopped Choking/snoring noise "death rattle"

Face pale & clammy Blue/grayish lips, skin or fingernails No response to Shake, Pinch, Noise

### To Prevent More Harm, DO NOT:

Give your friend cold shower or bath Pick them up to walk them around Violently hit, drop or hurt them

Give any substance except Narcan Drug overdose is the #1 cause of death for young people. A leading factor is people who allow friends to die because they are afraid to get help. Many worry about being arrested. But <u>Massachusetts law protects you if you call for</u> <u>help</u> for a drug-intoxicated friend.

Their family will be grateful if you have courage to call 911 to *save a friend.* Whatever you do, <u>CALL 911</u>

Don't take a chance with life.

More at <u>www.duxburypolice.org/faqs</u>

Courtesy **Knights of Columbus** Holy Family Church, Duxbury, MA