

# LIBRARIES AS SAFE HAVENS

Libraries serve as a trusted place within a community, often providing services beyond their primary purpose.



Libraries often serve as warming centers, offer diverse programming, and provide computer access. However, many struggle to address rising overdoses, leading to reduced hours. Librarians lack training for comprehensive support. There's potential for libraries to play a bigger role in community substance use response.



## Secure Funding

for naloxone inclusion in first aid kits, with staff training and post-administration support.



## Collaborate

with community partners for overdose reversal and mental health training, including police, schools, and non-profits.



## Normalize Conversation

Normalize conversation around substance use, reduce stigma, and centralize resources.



## Engage Parents

through prevention education, offer teen-friendly hours, and create safe spaces for youth.



## Provide Space

for peer recovery specialists, recovery meetings, and parental education on safe storage and disposal.



## Implement

a compassionate approach to individuals using drugs on library property, and connect to health department resources online.



## Host Events

and discussions on substance and mental health recovery with local authors.



## Establish

harm reduction initiatives like vending machines and participate in local stakeholder groups.



## Share Resources

with businesses, schools, libraries, and prisons, fostering community connections.

# SAFE PROJECT RECOMMENDED BOOKS



## > PARENTS

AGE: 18+

- The Addiction Inoculation by Jessica Lahey

## > ADULTS

AGE: 18+

- Chasing the Scream: The First and Last Days of the War on Drugs by Johann Hari
- The Urge: Our History of Addiction by Carl Erik Fisher
- Undoing Drugs: How Harm Reduction is Changing the Future of Drugs and Addiction by Maia Szalavitz
- Unbroken Brain: A Revolutionary New Way of Understanding Addiction by Maia Szalavitz
- Myth of Normal: Trauma, Illness, and Healing in a Toxic Culture by Daniel Mate and Gabor Mate
- In Pain: A Bioethicist's Personal Struggle with Opioids by Travis Rieder
- Never Enough: The Neuroscience and Experience of Addiction by Judith Grisel
- Drug Use for Grown-Ups: Chasing Liberty in the Land of Fear by Dr. Carl L. Hart

## > MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

AGE: 12-17

- A Better High by Matt Bellace
- Life is Disappointing and Other Inspiring Thoughts by Matt Bellace
- Talk Ugly and Other Poems by Joseph Green

## > YOUNG CHILDREN

AGE: 10-11

- Lambi Learns About Addiction by Trish Luna
- Timbi Talks About Addiction by Trish Luna
- My Brother Is Not a Monster by Lee Varon
- Someone I Love Died from a Drug Overdose by Melody Ray