RECOVERY STORIES · WEEKLY EDITION

Global Digest — November 3, 2026

Seven continents. Recovery, community care and human-centered policy — with sources to read further.

NORTH AMERICA · UNITED STATES

Smartphone app adds peer support to opioid use disorder treatment

A study reported by MedPath examined a smartphone app used alongside medication for opioid use disorder. Combining peer recovery support with financial incentives for treatment goals, the app was associated with fewer days of opioid use and longer treatment retention than medication alone. The findings concern an addition to treatment, not a replacement for medication or clinical care.

Source: MedPath · trial.medpath.com

SOUTH AMERICA · CALI, COLOMBIA

Cali outlines a center for prevention and comprehensive care

Cali’s municipal announcement identifies Hospital Cañaveralejo as the planned location for a center focused on prevention and comprehensive care for psychoactive-substance use. The supplied city page currently displays a temporary service notice, so the original announcement cannot be read there at present. This is a planned-care resource, not confirmation that the center has opened or that community gardens or supervised consumption services are operating.

Source: Alcaldía de Santiago de Cali · cali.gov.co · temporarily unavailable

Global Digest — continued

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EUROPE · INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR

Beyond Labels: confronting stigma and protecting dignity

Dianova and Last Mile4D announced an October 28, 2026 webinar examining how stigma undermines health, dignity and human rights. The discussion was designed to explore barriers to services, justice and social participation through intersectional and trauma-informed perspectives. Its focus is rights-based, person-centered responses; the source describes the event's aims rather than reporting its outcomes.

Source: Dianova · dianova.org

AFRICA · UGANDA AND ZIMBABWE; ALSO EL SALVADOR

Community health workers turn local knowledge into practical support

International HELP's January–February 2026 update reports work across its community health worker network, including planning and training in Uganda, a response to flooding in Zimbabwe and first-aid practice in El Salvador. In Uganda, workers provided health monitoring and counseling on diet, safe water, smoking and alcohol. The update illustrates community-led health education and practical support, with activities reported by the organization.

Source: International HELP · intnlhelp.org

ASIA · KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA

Malaysia summit puts public health at the center of drug policy

Health Equity Matters reports on a drug policy summit held in Kuala Lumpur on November 3–4, 2025. The event brought together 170 participants and 15 international experts to discuss drug policy, stimulant use and the shortcomings of punitive approaches. The report describes calls for evidence-based, public-health and harm-reduction responses; it does not document AADK recovery milestones or confirm subsequent policy changes.

Source: Health Equity Matters · healthequitymatters.org.au

Global Digest — continued

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OCEANIA · VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

COPE training builds skills for opioid overdose response

Penington Institute’s Community Overdose Prevention Education (COPE) training covers recognizing opioid overdose, responding with naloxone and providing aftercare. It also addresses naloxone access, storage and supply. Sessions run online for 90 minutes with a short assessment, and eligible workers in Victoria’s Take-Home Naloxone program can access free training. Organizations can also arrange tailored professional development.

Source: Penington Institute · penington.org.au

ANTARCTICA · AUSTRALIAN ANTARCTIC PROGRAM

Counseling and family support across Antarctic deployments

The Australian Antarctic Program outlines liaison and support services for expeditioners and their families. Its Employee Assistance Program provides free, confidential counseling during pre-departure training, deployment and for up to six months after return. Immediate family members can also use the service. Family liaison and communication guidance help people manage separation; the page does not announce satellite tele-therapy or screening upgrades.

Source: Australian Antarctic Program · antarctica.gov.au