

## Good Samaritan Policies

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**Life-saving measures that enable people to make responsible decisions by shielding them from punishment when they call for medical help during an alcohol or drug-related emergency.**



Good Samaritan Policies are preemptive policies that promote responsible behavior rather than reactive policies that reward responsible behavior after the fact.

**Since the threat of punitive policies can often cause hesitation during confusing and stressful party situations, the existence of a Good Samaritan Policy is essential to ensuring that people are able to stay alive and receive help when they are in trouble.**

Good Samaritan Policies have been proven to be effective at saving lives. A 2006 study in the International Journal of Drug Policy found that emergency calls increased after Cornell University's Good Samaritan Policy was enacted in 2002, although alcohol abuse rates have remained constant.