

SPF-SIG Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2014

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- September 9- Canadian County Coalition Meeting @ Noon at Youth & Family Services
- September 11- Yu-Can @ 8:00 a.m. at the Yukon Administration Building
- September 16- MPACT @ noon at Mustang Methodist Church
- September 30- SPF-SIG Coalition Meeting @ noon at Red Rock BHS in El Reno

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Preventing Opioid Abuse

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) every year thousands of children are hospitalized - and some die - after taking medicine not meant for them. Teens share stolen prescription drugs at "pharm parties" and toddlers are tempted by colorful pills that look like candy. Parents can take action within their own home to protect their teens (and their friends) and younger children from accidental overdoses from prescription drugs.

Easy steps to take:

- Lock away all prescription medications
- Talk with your teen to NEVER accept any medication from a friend - even someone trustworthy - it can be dangerous
- Dispose of old or unused medications properly
- Always take medication as prescribed
- Do not take or give medication prescribed for someone else

Prescription Drug Abuse and Addiction

Addiction: When drugs are abused it can change the way the brain functions so that there is a powerful craving and physical need for that drug. Over time, a person will need a higher and higher dose of the medication to feel the same effect. These brain changes make it extremely difficult to quit without help.

Social Impact: The high volume of prescription drug abuse in Oklahoma impacts us all. People struggling with this addiction can be our family, our coworkers, someone in the car next to us, a parent to children in the neighborhood, anyone. Therefore, it is our responsibility as organizations interested in the well-being of our state to do our best to educate others about this dangerous epidemic.

Common Signs

- Stealing prescriptions, faking prescriptions or selling prescriptions
- Often "losing" prescriptions so more prescriptions must be written
- Trying to get the same prescriptions from more than one doctor
- Taking higher doses than the doctor prescribed
- Sudden changes in behavior or personality, excessive mood swings or aggression
- Sudden loss of weight, declining hygiene, teeth deterioration
- Increase or decrease in sleep
- Appearing to be high, unusually energetic or periods of drowsiness
- May often ask others for money or be in financial difficulties for no reason

Signs in Teenagers

- Having bloodshot eyes or dilated pupils; using eye drops to try to mask these signs
- Skipping class; declining grades; suddenly getting into trouble at school
- Missing money, costly items, or prescriptions (their own or that of family members)
- Acting abnormally angry, depressed or prefers to be alone
- Dropping one group of friends for another; being secretive about the new friends
- Loss of interest in old hobbies; lying about new interests and activities
- Demanding more privacy; locking doors; avoiding eye contact; sneaking around

Source: Oklahoma Health Care Authority



Contact Us!

Ashley Cline
Director of Prevention Programs
E-mail:
Ashleyc@red-rock.com

Michelle Bugg
RPC Director
E-mail:
Michellem@red-rock.com

Julia Cochran
SPF-SIG Coordinator
E-mail:
Juliac@red-rock.com

Red Rock RPC
1501 W. Commerce
Yukon, OK 73099
Phone: 405-354-1928
Fax: 405-354-1296

Check us out on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/redrockrpc



Prescription Drop Box Locations:

Canadian County Sheriff's Department

304 N. Evans
El Reno, Oklahoma 73036

Mustang Police Department

650 E. State Highway 152
Mustang, Oklahoma 73064

Yukon Police Department

100 S. Ranchwood
Yukon, Oklahoma 73099

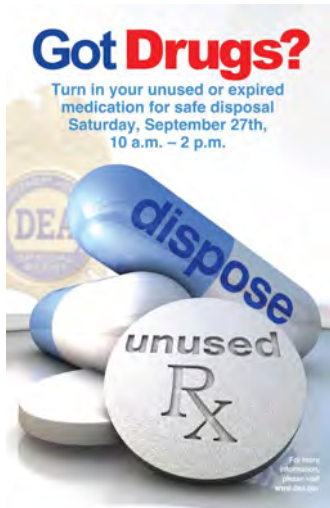
Piedmont Police Department

400 Edmond Road NW
Piedmont, Oklahoma 73078



Helpful Websites

- * www.RedRockRPC.com
- * www.Drugfree.org
- * www.Ok.gov/odmhsas
- * www.ok.gov/obnndd
- * www.findtreatment.samhsa.gov/



September Fun Facts

- **labor day is September 1.**
- **September 23 is the first day of Autumn**
- **September's birthstone is Sapphire**
- **Grandparent's day is September 13**
- **September is the month college and professional football begins**
- **The zodiac signs of September are Virgo and libra**