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International Prescription Overdose Awareness Day

Red Rock RPC would like the community to be aware of the upcoming International Prescription (Rx) Overdose Awareness Day on Wednesday, August 31, 2016. The International Rx Overdose Awareness Day was started by the Salvation Army in Australia in 2001 to mourn publicly the loss of loved ones without feeling the guilt or shame.

There are a number of events planned across the United States, in addition to Australia, Canada and England. You can find them listed at <http://www.overdoseday.com/events/>.

According to Center for Disease Control, “Drug overdose was responsible for 41,340 deaths in the US in 2011. US overdose deaths have increased for 12 successive years. In 2011 and for the fifth year in a row, the number of US citizens whose deaths were drug-related exceeded the number of fatalities in road traffic accidents (33,561). Almost five people per hour died of overdose in the US in 2011.”

In honor of International Rx Overdose Awareness Day, the silver badge is the universal symbol of awareness of overdose and its effects. Wearing silver can signify the loss of someone cherished or demonstrate support to those bearing a burden of grief.

International Overdose Awareness Day (IOAD) is a global event held on August 31st each year and aims to raise awareness of overdose and reduce the stigma of a drug-related death. It also acknowledges the grief felt by families and friends remembering those who have met with death or permanent injury as a result of drug overdose. Overdose Day spreads the message that the tragedy of overdose death is preventable.

Red Rock RPC takes a proactive approach in reducing substance abuse among communities. They identify factors in a community that cause the risk of substance abuse and work to promote protective factors that serve to minimize the risk of substance use/abuse. Red Rock RPC is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.

For more information regarding International Prescription Overdose Awareness Day, please visit www.overdoseday.com. For more information on the RPC, please contact Red Rock RPC Director, Lauren Greenfield at (405)422-8873 or visit www.redrockrpc.com.