

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For questions or more information please contact:

Michelle Bugg
Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator
1501 W. Commerce
Yukon, OK 73099
(405) 354-1928
michellek@red-rock.com

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International Prescription Overdose Awareness Day

The Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) and SPF-SIG Program would like the community to be aware of the upcoming International Prescription (Rx) Overdose Awareness Day on Sunday, August 31, 2014. 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 fourth 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.

One way to help decrease prescription overdose is to properly dispose of your unwanted or expired medications through the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) drop boxes. In Canadian County the drop boxes are located at the following 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

Red Rock RPC and SPF-SIG's primary focus is to serve as a prevention community liaison. Red Rock RPC educates and informs communities through multiple strategies including community based services, environmental strategies, early recognition, and referral. We take the proactive approach in reducing substance abuse among communities. Red Rock RPC is funded by the ODMHSAS. SPF-SIG project is funded by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), CSAP (Center for Substance Abuse Prevention) and the ODMHSAS. For more information about the Regional Prevention Coordinator please visit www.redrockrpc.com or contact the Red Rock RPC at (405)-354-1928 ext. 203.