

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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International Prescription Overdose Awareness Day

The Red Rock PFS (Partnership for Success) Program would like the community to be aware of the upcoming International Prescription (Rx) Overdose Awareness Day on Friday, August 31, 2018. 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. This year's theme is "Time to Remember. Time to Act."

According to 2017 World Drug Report, The United States accounts for approximately one quarter of the estimated number of drug-related deaths worldwide, including overdose deaths, which continue to rise. Mostly driven by opioids, overdose deaths in the United States more than tripled during the period of 1999-2015, from 16,849 to 52,404 annually.

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 pain medications through the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) drop boxes. There are now MedSafe Disposal Boxes in the Grady County pharmacies listed below to utilize as well. The drop boxes are located at the following locations:

OBN drop box locations



- **Grady County Sheriff's Office**
302 N. 3rd Street
Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018
405-222-5085
- **Chickasha Police Department**
2001 W. Iowa Ave.
Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018
405-222-6050

MedSafe Disposal Box locations



- **Cedar Springs Pharmacy**

5310 E. HWY 37
Tuttle, Oklahoma 73018
405-381-4425

- **Chickasha Clinic Pharmacy**
2224 W. Iowa
Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018
405-224-4851
- **Grand Care Pharmacy**
2103 W. Iowa
Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018
405-222-2273
- **Liberty Drug Pharmacy**
315 Chickasha
Chickasha, Oklahoma 73018
405-224-1204
- **Tuttle Police Department**
4 SE 2nd Street
Tuttle, Oklahoma 73089
405-381-4467

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 PFS Program's primary focus is to serve as a prevention community liaison. Red Rock SPF-PFS 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. The SPF-PFS project is funded by SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), CSAP (Center for Substance Abuse Prevention) and the ODMHSAS. For more information, please visit www.redrockrpc.com, [http:// Takeasprescribed.org](http://Takeasprescribed.org), or contact the Red Rock SPF-PFS Coordinator at (405)-422-8874.