

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 15, 2021

One Prevention Alliance
Educational Service District 112
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT: Karen Douglass, Community Coalition Coordinator Cell: 360- 952-3330 or karen.douglass@esd112.org

Skamania County Sheriff's Office taking back unwanted prescription drugs April 24th

On Saturday, April 24th, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Skamania County Sheriff's Office, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and One Prevention Alliance will give the public another opportunity to prevent pill misuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to the Sheriff's Office at 200 Vancouver Avenue, Stevenson, WA 98648. The service is free and anonymous, with no questions asked. It will also be effortless; you won't even need to get out of your car as this is a "drive thru" event. With opioid overdose deaths increasing during the pandemic, it is not surprising that the Drug Enforcement Administration has set aside April 24th as a nationwide Drug Take Back Day.

At its last Take Back Day in October, DEA collected a record-high amount of expired, unwanted, and unused prescription medications, with the public turning in close to 500 tons of unwanted drugs. Over the ten years of Take Back Day, DEA has brought in more than 6,800 tons of prescription drugs. With studies indicating that most misused prescription drugs come from family and friends, including from home medicine cabinets, clearing out unused medicine is essential.

Our Skamania County Sheriff's Office site will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs. However, liquids (including intravenous solutions), syringes and other sharps, and illegal drugs cannot be accepted. This event will take vaping devices and cartridges provided lithium batteries are removed.

One Prevention Alliance will be giving away SaferLock Boxes so that families can secure their medication by locking them up. Whether or not you have unused medication to dispose of on April 24th, you are invited to "drive thru" to acquire a FREE locking medicine box.

Learn more about the event by contacting: Karen Douglass <u>karen.douglass@esd112.org</u> 360-952-3330

About One Prevention Alliance

One Prevention Alliance is a community coalition of dedicated volunteers who are working to reduce and prevent substance misuse by supporting a vision of "Healthy Youth, Successful Families, and a Supportive Community." We can prevent substance misuse and reach this vision by increasing the health and well-being of our youth, parents, and community members of the Stevenson-Carson School District through education, intervention, and outreach. For more information, contact Karen Douglass by phone at 360- 952-3330 or e-mail: karen.douglass@esd112.org.