



# Law Enforcement Toolkit





# Law Enforcement

## Drop Box Collections



# Purpose of Event



- ◆ Reduce Environmental Pollution:
  - ◆ Studies have found prescription drugs in drinking water and natural waterways
- ◆ Promote Safe Households:
  - ◆ Proper disposal helps ensure that the elderly, children, and pets avoid accidental poisoning
- ◆ Prevent Prescription Drug Abuse:
  - ◆ Proper and timely disposal of prescription drugs reduce the likelihood of abuse by family, friends, or visitors.



# Strategy for Event



- ◆ Promote Public Safety
  - ◆ Key Approach
- ◆ Provide Convenient Access
  - ◆ Drop Boxes Available 24/7 or Regular Business Hours
- ◆ Develop Community Relations
  - ◆ Cater to Community Needs for Central Location
- ◆ Maintain Law Enforcement Control
  - ◆ Drop Box Locations in Law Enforcement Facilities

# Scope of Event

- ◆ The Scale of the event depends upon the Focus of the Sponsoring Agency
- ◆ Quantity of Drop-Boxes
  - ◆ Require Large Initial Investment
- ◆ Single vs. Multiple Site Event
  - ◆ Depends upon Available Resources
- ◆ Promotional Program
  - ◆ Sites maintain a constant resource to the community





# Operational Plan



- ◆ Preplan Event
  - ◆ Basic Event Requires Strategic Prep Time
    - ◆ For ordering of equipment and materials
    - ◆ After initial Capital Investment the event **SHOULD** Coincide with Normal Operating Procedures
- ◆ Identify Resources
  - ◆ Funding, Personnel, Printing, Media, & Locations
  - ◆ Identify potential Grant Opportunities
- ◆ Prepare Educational Material
  - ◆ Printing Requires Time (Development, Formatting, and Printing)



# Legal Mandates



- ◆ Law Enforcement Officers **MUST** Maintain Physical Possession and Security of **ALL** Drugs from the Point of Drop-Off to the Point of Destruction
  - ◆ This is a Legal Requirement
  - ◆ Drugs must be secured on-site and securely transported to law enforcement drug vault until proper destruction
  - ◆ Drugs must be destroyed by State Mandated method of destruction (usually a controlled burn)



# Legal Mandates (Cont'd)



- ◆ Law Enforcement Officers receive drugs as “ABANDONED PROPERTY”
- ◆ NO Personal Information is recorded from the participants. Names should be “blacked-out”
  - ◆ There is NO HIPAA Concern
- ◆ Controlled Substances should be separated from other Non-Controlled Substances
- ◆ Drugs must be logged
  - ◆ Generally by weight





# Site Locations



- ◆ Must be maintained by Law Enforcement Personnel at all times
- ◆ A well recognized location such as a Police Station
  - ◆ Main Office, Substation or Evidence Unit
- ◆ Boxes can be relocated to Special Events
  - ◆ MUST BE SECURED AT ALL TIMES
- ◆ Pharmacies are not recommended locations
  - ◆ No Law Enforcement Security



# Staffing Issues

- ◆ Law Enforcement
  - ◆ Mandatory – Regular shift personnel can provide constant security of drugs
    - ◆ Any sworn personnel can maintain Drop-Boxes (empty, clean, log drugs, transport to secure facility)
- ◆ Community Supporters
  - ◆ Parents, Coalition Staff, etc. are not necessary for this type of event



# Education Component



- ◆ Event can be combined with a Prescription Drug Awareness Campaign
- ◆ Prime opportunity to educate parents, students and general public about Rx Drug Abuse
- ◆ Information via Posters, Flyers, Handout's, Media
- ◆ Boxes can be combined with other prevention programs such as “Night out on Crime”, Health Fair, or Town Hall Meetings
  - ◆ Boxes can be relocated to events
  - ◆ MUST BE SECURED AT ALL TIMES



# Cost Analysis



## After Initial Capital Expense of Drop Boxes (Prices Vary)

- ◆ **Low Cost Event**
  - ◆ Site: Law Enforcement Location = \$0
    - ◆ Single Site or Multiple Sites
  - ◆ Personnel: Run with scheduled personnel = \$0
  - ◆ Local Sponsors can cover material costs of flyers, posters, etc
  - ◆ Can use website advertising or use local media

## Amplly Funded Event

- ◆ **Site: Law Enforcement Location = \$0**
  - ◆ Single Site or Multiple Sites
- ◆ **Personnel: Run with scheduled personnel = \$0, or combine with other community event (may involve some overtime for law enforcement personnel)**
- ◆ **Costs of campaign advertising (posters, billboards, PSA's, etc.) and media announcements**
- ◆ **Cost of Educational Materials**





# Resource Links



- ◆ Take Back Express
  - ◆ [http://www.takebackexpress.com/category\\_s/1.htm](http://www.takebackexpress.com/category_s/1.htm)
- ◆ Salt Lake County Sheriff Pharmaceutical Drug Disposal Program
  - ◆ [http://www.medicationsdisposal.utah.gov/docs/Salt\\_Lake\\_County\\_Sheriff\\_Pharmaceutical\\_Drug\\_Disposal\\_Program.pdf](http://www.medicationsdisposal.utah.gov/docs/Salt_Lake_County_Sheriff_Pharmaceutical_Drug_Disposal_Program.pdf)
- ◆ Drug Free Collier
  - ◆ [http://www.drugfreecollier.org/operation\\_medicine\\_cabinet.asp](http://www.drugfreecollier.org/operation_medicine_cabinet.asp)
- ◆ Washington State Unwanted Medicine Return Program
  - ◆ <http://www.medicinereturn.com/>





# End of Drop Box Collections Toolkit