



# Law Enforcement Toolkit





# Law Enforcement

## Take Back Collections



# Purpose of Events



- ◆ 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 Events



- ◆ Promote Public Safety
  - ◆ Key Approach
- ◆ Provide Awareness/Education
  - ◆ Parent/Teen Focus
- ◆ Develop Community Relations
  - ◆ Co-Sponsor with Community Coalitions, Local Pharmacies, Hospitals, or Support Organizations
- ◆ Publicize the Agency's Efforts

# Scope of Events

- ◆ The Scale of the event depends upon the Focus of the Sponsoring Agency
- ◆ One Time vs Reoccurring Event
  - ◆ Reoccurring Events draw regular patrons
- ◆ Single vs Multiple Site Event
  - ◆ Depends upon Available Resources
- ◆ Media Event vs Promotional Program
  - ◆ Short term media vs Long Term Promotion

# Operational Plans

- ◆ Preplan Event
  - ◆ Basic Event Requires Minimum 60 day Prep Time
- ◆ Identify Resources
  - ◆ Funding, Personnel, Printing, Media, & Locations
- ◆ Secure Support Organizations
  - ◆ Co-Sponsors can assist with costs
- ◆ 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
  - ◆ By physical count, or
  - ◆ By weight



# Site Locations

- ◆ Select an Easy-Access location
  - ◆ A well recognized location with ample parking
- ◆ Pharmacies are not recommended locations
  - ◆ Patrons may attempt to drop-off drugs at the pharmacy after event
- ◆ Busy Public Locations (Pro's/Con's)
  - ◆ Community Centers draw area patrons
  - ◆ Malls/Shopping Centers may be too crowded
  - ◆ Large Parking Lots are good for Drive-Thru Events. Patrons don't need to get out of vehicles.



# Staffing Issues



- ◆ Law Enforcement
  - ◆ Mandatory – Need minimum of 3 per site to handle constant security of drugs
- ◆ Pharmacy Personnel
  - ◆ Pharmacists or Pharmacy Students can aid in Identification of Substances
- ◆ Community Supporters/Volunteers
  - ◆ Parents, Coalition Staff, etc. are great Educators



# Education Component



- ◆ Prime opportunity to educate parents, students and general public about Rx Drug Abuse
- ◆ Information via Posters, Flyers, Handout's, Media
- ◆ Can combine event with other prevention programs such as “Night out on Crime”, Health Fair, or Town Hall Meetings
- ◆ Reoccurring events can be combined with a Prescription Drug Awareness Campaign



# Cost Analysis



## Low Cost Event



- ◆ Site: Community Center, Shopping Center = \$0
  - ◆ Single Site Event
- ◆ Personnel: Adjust hours = \$0 overtime for law enforcement; use volunteers for assistance
- ◆ Local Sponsors cover material costs of flyers, posters, etc
- ◆ Use local media

## Amply Funded Event

- ◆ Site: Community Center, Shopping Center = \$0
  - ◆ Multiple Sites
- ◆ Personnel: Usually involves some overtime for law enforcement and pharmacy personnel
- ◆ Costs of campaign advertising (posters, billboards, PSA's, etc.) and media announcements
- ◆ Cost of Educational Materials



# Resource Links

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- ◆ Utah Proper Medication Disposal Program
    - ◆ <http://www.medicationdisposal.utah.gov/>
  - ◆ Drug Free Collier
    - ◆ [http://www.drugfreecollier.org/operation\\_medicine\\_cabinet.asp](http://www.drugfreecollier.org/operation_medicine_cabinet.asp)
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# End of Drug Take Back Collections Toolkit