

PREVENTION FIRST

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Prevention First Commemorates National Drug Take Back Day on October 28, 2023

[Springfield, Illinois] - October 28, 2023 - Prevention First is proud to recognize and support National Drug Take Back Day on October 28, 2023. This important initiative, organized by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), aims to provide a safe and responsible means for individuals to dispose of unused or expired prescription medications, ultimately working towards the prevention of drug misuse and abuse.

National Drug Take Back Day serves as a vital reminder of the significance of proper medication disposal in safeguarding our communities and protecting public health. Millions of Americans have unused prescription drugs lingering in their homes, often unaware of the risks they pose. These medications can potentially fall into the wrong hands, leading to misuse, accidents, or even fueling the ongoing epidemic of substance abuse.

Prevention First Executive Director, Karel Homrig, emphasizes the importance of this day, stating, “National Drug Take Back Day offers a critical opportunity for individuals to take proactive steps towards ensuring the safety and well-being of their families and communities. By participating in this event, we can all contribute to the prevention of drug abuse, protect the environment, and reduce the potential for accidental overdoses or poisoning.”

Illinois children and residents are unfortunately impacted by the presence of unused and expired prescription medications. According to a 2021 study conducted by the Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy, 53% of Illinoisians who misused prescription drugs obtained them from a friend or family member, often without their knowledge. This alarming statistic highlights the need for initiatives like National Drug Take Back Day, which provides a safe and convenient way for Illinois residents to dispose of their unused medications, reducing the risk of misuse or accidental ingestion.

Prevention First encourages all individuals to participate in National Drug Take Back Day on October 28, 2023. Drop-off sites will be available nationwide, providing a safe and anonymous way to dispose of prescription drugs. This initiative ensures that medications are disposed of in an environmentally friendly manner, preventing them from entering our water systems or landfills.

For more information about National Drug Take Back Day and to find a nearby drop-off location, please visit prevention.org

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About Prevention First:

Prevention First is a nonprofit organization committed to building healthier, safer communities through evidence-based prevention strategies. By collaborating with schools, communities, and other stakeholders, Prevention First aims to educate, engage, and empower individuals to make informed choices, preventing substance abuse and promoting overall well-being.

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