HCDrugFree

"Little by little, a little becomes a lot."

-Tanzanian proverb

It's Ready! Enjoy Our Take Back Slideshow!

Check out the highlights from our April 26 Take Back Day event. HC DrugFree is proud to share photos of our community in action—working together to promote safety and substance misuse Prevention.

Again, thank you to our amazing volunteers, our law enforcement and other partners, and the hundreds of community members who brought their items to our collection site. You all showed up and made a difference in our community!

Watch the slideshow

DEA Disposes of 620,000 lbs. of Medication

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and nearly 4,500 law enforcement

agencies joined forces on April 26 to dispose of more than 620,000 pounds of unneeded and expired medications in an effort to prevent drug misuse and abuse.

The spring collection event marked DEA's 28th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

Since its inception 16 years ago, DEA Prescription Drug Take Back Day has helped Americans safely remove nearly 19.8 million pounds of expired, unwanted, or unused medications from their homes. **HC DrugFree has been partnering with the Howard County Police and DEA on national Drug Take Back Days since 2012.**

On April 26, our site in the Wilde Lake Village Center collected 1,359.5 lbs. (48 bins) of medication as weighed/reported by the Howard County Police. Sharps collected at our site are not included in the weight.

"We want to thank our state, local, and tribal partners for their continued support of DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day," said DEA Acting Administrator Robert Murphy. "For sixteen years you have continued to show up to protect your communities by helping to remove the threat of medications from falling into the wrong hands. This program would not be possible without the support of our law enforcement and community partners."

Safe Storage of Meds

HC DrugFree gave away 177 medication storage boxes at the April 26th National Drug Take Back Day event!

These boxes help families safely store prescription and over-the-counter medications, reducing the risk of accidental ingestion and misuse.

If you did not receive a storage box from us, we encourage you to use your own secure location, such as a locked cabinet, drawer, or safe, to store medications safely in your home.

Senior Week (Beach Safety for All Ages)

Senior Week should be a celebratory, memorable time with friends—not a risk! With the right planning, it can be a safe and fun experience for everyone. Check out our **recorded webinar** for graduating high school seniors and their parents! The tips shared by Howard County teens, the Ocean City Police, and the Ocean City Beach Patrol are appropriate for all families or anyone visiting Ocean City, MD this summer or throughout the year.

Note: This webinar was recorded in 2024, so please be aware that some policies/laws may have changed. Stay safe!

Teen Advisory Council Meeting: May 19

HC DrugFree invites **all Howard County students in grades 8-12** to attend our **Monday, May 19** Teen Advisory Council (TAC) Meeting from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. **Students: Register to receive the May 19 meeting link** or **learn more** about TAC.

Donate Today!

Your support allows us to provide our FREE resources and programs to the community. Please donate today by visiting **hcdrugfree.org/donate** or mailing a check to: HC DrugFree, 5305 Village Center Drive, Suite 206, Columbia, MD 21044

Donate here!

What Do You Think?

Please take our 2-second survey to let us know what you think of the content provided in this newsletter!

Take Our Survey

Additional Resources

For more information, contact

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