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HC DrugFree is keeping Howard County *In the KNOW!!!*

1,212 Pounds of Meds and 17 Bins of Sharps Collected by HC DrugFree's Team

With beautiful weather and an army of more than 50 volunteers, HC DrugFree's team put on their green t-shirts and collected medications and sharps at our convenient drive-thru collection site in the Wilde Lake Village Center.

At our location, we collected 1,212 lbs of meds and 17 bins of sharps in 4 hours on Saturday.

Even after all these years, it was surprising to see the amount of expired or unwanted over-the-counter and prescription medication and "sharps" (needles, syringes and EpiPens) collected. Truly, you need to see it to believe it (so please come out and volunteer for our next event). It makes us wonder how much more is in homes throughout the community.

What's left in your home? Call us to walk you through how to properly dispose of your medications and sharps.



Pictured: Some of HC DrugFree's team of more than 50 volunteers

We were pleased to be joined by Maryland's Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford. As a Columbia resident, the Lt. Governor wanted to participate in this medication and sharps collection and hear from Howard County residents.

Reducing overdoses and saving lives are issues that we all must care about in Howard County. We thank Lt. Governor Rutherford and his staff for the continued support they have shown HC DrugFree and families across Maryland.

Our list of thank yous is endless and we're sure we'll forget someone, but here goes...

Thank you to our partner, the Howard County Police for guarding and transporting the medications, and to our favorite DEA agent for requesting to work our collection site and partnering with HC DrugFree throughout the year.



Pictured: Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford collecting medications and sharps

Thank you to the Howard County Health Department, Howard County General Hospital, the Howard County Public School System, Columbia Rotary Club, Soroptimist Club, and Drug & DUI Treatment Court. Thank you to Kevin McAileley from the Wilde Lake Village Center Board.

Thank you to Stephano and the Wilde Lake Village Center UPS Store staff for printing and donating the hundreds of handouts we distributed on Saturday. Again, when you are mailing a package or placing a print order at the UPS Store in the Wilde Lake Village Center, please thank Stephano for his generosity and taking care of HC DrugFree throughout the year.

Thank you to Becky Mangus for designing our ads, stretching our marketing dollars, and being on our team throughout the year.

Thank you to HC DrugFree's videographer, Rob Hix. You may see shots of Saturday's collection in future videos.

We're still verifying all the school participation, but at least 11 out of 12 public high schools were represented at the event through their teens or PTAs/PTSAs. We were thrilled to have middle schools represented for the first time and enjoyed the creative school signs. We look forward to seeing more schools represented and more school or PTA/PTSA signs at our next collection.

Thank you to the Wilde Lake High School cheerleaders for bringing your enthusiasm and sharing a few cheers.

Thank you to Nancy Dankos, Charlie and Sharon Shoemaker, and many concerned parents looking to give back to the community.

Thank you to all the parents of our Teen Advisory Council members. You joined us at the event, drove your teens to volunteer, and helped oversee all our teen volunteers. A special thank you to Sony Somaroutha, the mother of Kathy Mendu. Kathy is a student at Howard High School and a member of our Teen Advisory Council. As a volunteer, Sony stayed with us until the very end.

Finally, thank you to HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council and all the teens willing to get

up on a Saturday morning to protect other teens and families. If you know a high school teen wanting to join this fun group, we accept ALL Howard County high school students. For a registration form, please visit the Teen Advisory Council page at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council-1/>.

HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council members are today's leaders and our hope for tomorrow.



Thank You, Howard County Residents - From Our Hearts To Yours

After another successful medication and sharps collection on Saturday at HC DrugFree's drive-thru in the Wilde Lake Village Center, saying thank you seems like so little. You trust your children to us, you share your most painful family secrets and know we will do our best to help, and like clockwork, you return every 6 months to support our collection events held on the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA's) national Drug Take Back Days.

These collection events are emotional for us because several of you bring leftover medications after losing loved ones or share updates about your own health challenges.

Some of you tell us about the children and grandchildren you are trying to protect from misusing your medications; we see the concern and love in your eyes.

Others of you bring what remains from the medications used to save your 4-legged family members; as you talk with us, your furry friends stick their heads through the open windows to get to know us too.

Your tears tug at our hearts and your hugs keep us going. Our promises to continue praying for you and your families will be kept.

On behalf of the board and staff, we sincerely thank you for allowing HC DrugFree to serve you. We wish you all good health, much love, and the comfort of knowing so many others in our community care about you.

Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Executive Director

HC DrugFree Invited to Workshop Presented by CDC at HIDTA

HC DrugFree was invited to participate in a workshop to identify key elements of overdose response protocols.

The workshop was held at The Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (W/B HIDTA) office in Greenbelt and facilitated by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).



HIDTA continues to be a generous partner to HC DrugFree and concerned about Howard County families.

Pictured: Leadership Maryland classmates and friends, Jeff Beeson, Deputy Director of Management Coordination at W/B HIDTA, and Joan Webb Scornaienchi, Executive Director of HC DrugFree.

**If You Like Our Work,
Then We Need YOUR HELP!**
**Invest TODAY in Howard County Youth
and Our Community's Future!**

HC DrugFree is a 501(c)(3) so your donations are tax deductible.

[Donate online](#) or mail checks to HC DrugFree, 5305 Village Center Drive, Suite 206, Columbia, MD 21044.

For more information, contact HC DrugFree's Executive Director, Joan Webb Scornaienchi at Joan@hcdrugfree.org or 443-325-0040.

Howard County Resource Guide Updated 10-30-17

Looking for local treatment providers? Want easy access to their addresses, phone numbers, and their websites? Want to know if they will accept your insurance including Medicaid?

[Click here](#) for the recently updated copy of the Howard County Resource Guide for Substance Use Disorder Treatment or visit HC DrugFree's website Facts and Resources page at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/facts-and-resources/>. The Resource Guide is updated by the Bureau of Behavioral Health, Howard County Health Department.

Upcoming Teen Advisory Council Meetings

Monday, November 6 and Monday, December 11: HC DrugFree's Teen Advisory Council (TAC) meeting will be held at The Barn (Teen Center) in the Oakland Mills Village Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

TAC meets once a month and is **open to all Howard County high school teens**. Free and forms can be found on the TAC page at <http://www.hcdrugfree.org/teen-advisory-council-1/>

Free Magnet

To receive a magnet, send your request along with your name and mailing address to Admin@hcdrugfree.org. Magnets are free, but please consider becoming a 2017-18 Friend of HC DrugFree. To donate, [click here](#).



Howard County Police Department

Police Emergency911
Non-Emergency Line410-313-2200
Drug Activity Tip Line 410-290-DRUG
Anonymous Tip Line.....410-313-STOP

Three out of four people using heroin began with the use of prescription medication.

Get expired and unwanted medicines out of your home! For proper disposal locations, contact:



www.hcdrugfree.org
443-325-0040



For more information, contact
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