Tehama County Opioid Prevention Efforts

Adam Zuccato, Supervisor
Tehama County Health Services
Substance Use Recovery
How Did It All Start?

In 2010 with an idea from our D/A prevention counselor, John Gehrung.

John took a poll of customers at 4 local pharmacies.

His results found that of 226 participating customers 75% reported not locking up their medications.
Keep Our Kids Safe
Lock Up Your Prescriptions
Drug and alcohol education, prevention and treatment services are available for all ages. It is important to know that recovery is possible for those who seek help. Staff at the Drug And Alcohol Division of Tehama County Health Services Agency understand and are experienced in dealing with problems caused by drug and alcohol use and abuse.

HELP IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY. Don’t wait, Alcohol and Drug Abuse or Dependency can be DEADLY.

FOR SERVICES AVAILABLE
RED BLUFF CALL (530) 527-7893
CORNING CALL (530) 824-4890

Tehama County Health Services Agency
Drug and Alcohol Division
PO Box 400
Red Bluff, CA 96080
Phone 530-527-7893
www.tehamahealthservices.net

Alcohol is the most commonly used addictive substance in the United States.

A 16 year old is more likely to die from an Alcohol-Related problem than any other cause (Injuries, Crashes, Overdose).

More than 15 million people nationwide reported abusing prescription drugs, more than the combined number who reported abusing cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants and heroin.

Prescription drug abuse causes the largest percentage of deaths from drug overdosing in the U.S.
Another poll in 2013 at the same pharmacies showed improvement. Of 324 participants 54% reported not locking up their medications.
We were happy with our results, but needed to do more...

An special insert in the November 2017 Chico News and Review stated:

There are more Opioid prescriptions In Butte and Tehama Counties than people!

Butte: 1,376 prescriptions per every 1,000 people
(2.2x the rate for California)

Tehama: 1,120 prescriptions per every 1,000
(1.8x the rate for California)
Take Back events

- Our 1st Take Back event was in April 2013, in Red Bluff and Corning.
- We collected 535 lbs. of medication.
- We have Take Backs in the spring and fall, and now in 3 locations.
- From April 2013 – October 2016 we collected 2198 lbs.
Our 1\textsuperscript{st} permanent kiosk was installed in the Tehama County Sheriff’s office in October 2016.

Our 2\textsuperscript{nd} came shortly after in the Corning PD’s office in January 2017.

Since installing our 1\textsuperscript{st} kiosk we have collected an additional \textbf{2209 lbs} of medication.

Our total since 2013 is a staggering \textbf{4407 lbs} of unneeded medication properly disposed of.
In 2015, with numerous community partners and stakeholders we started working on an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Ordinance for Tehama County.

A big step in the process was presenting to the Tehama County Board of Supervisors.
Tehama County Pharmaceutical Drug Disposal

Presented by:

MARCH 2016
Stakeholders Involved

- Tehama County Health Services Agency
- Tehama County Department of Education
- Tehama County Sheriff’s Office
- Tehama County Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board
- Tehama County Solid Waste Management Agency
- Tehama County Environmental Health
- Hospitals
- Pharmacies
- Others?
Nationwide Trends

- 4 BILLION prescriptions were filled in 2014
- Almost one-half (48.7%) of Americans used at least one prescription drug in the last month
- 76% of Americans 60 and over used two or more
- 2 of 3 prescription drugs are reportedly unused
Issues With Unused Prescription Drugs

1. Addiction
2. Misuse/Abuse
3. Environmental Concerns
Misuse/Abuse in Tehama County

Overdose Deaths from Prescription and Illicit Drugs

Source: Tehama County Sheriff’s Office
Environmental Concerns

- Wastewater treatment plants are not designed to treat pharmaceuticals
- Landfill leachate has been found to be contaminated with pharmaceuticals
  - Tehama County/Red Bluff Landfill Leachate is sent to Red Bluff Wastewater Treatment Plant
Current Disposal Options in Tehama County

- National Drug Take-Back events in September and April funded by the Drug Enforcement Administration
- Donations from St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, hold additional one or two take-back events
- 1,546 lbs. of pharmaceutical drugs have been collected since 2013
Other Options to be Explored

- Develop, fund, and manage a governmental program
  - Where do we get funds, staff, resources?
- Pass an Extended Producer Responsibility Ordinance for Pharmaceutical Drugs
Requires that a manufacturer of a product manage their products’ waste at end-of-life

Pharmaceutical ordinance would require manufacturers to finance and operate a program to collect, transport, and dispose of unused pharmaceuticals

Alameda County, City & County of San Francisco, San Mateo County, Santa Barbara County, Santa Clara County, Marin County, and Santa Cruz County have all passed similar EPR ordinances (L.A. County is set to pass ordinance on 3/29/16)
Next Steps

➢ Give direction to County Counsel to draft an Extended Producer Responsibility Pharmaceutical Drug Ordinance.
A few of our community partners: