

DEA Drug Take Back and Education Day

State Affiliate Collaboration Project within the Community

Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy

What We Did:

Objective:

The objective of our participation in the DEA Drug Take Back Day was to promote the numerous roles of pharmacists in combating the opioid epidemic and educate the community on the disposal of unused medicines. We also wanted to encourage the community to join us in the act by recognizing an opioid overdose, learning how to administer naloxone, and knowing where to find additional resources.

Plan:

Pharmacy students at Xavier University of Louisiana College of Pharmacy collaborated with the Louisiana Society of Health-System Pharmacists (LSHP), the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), area hospitals, and local law enforcement to host the "2019 DEA Drug Take Back and Education Day". In order to expose attendees to the various areas that pharmacists are actively involved in, we put together a booth and visual display that covered the pharmacist's standing order and the Good Samaritan law in Louisiana, symptoms of an opioid overdose, the use and administration of naloxone, and the proper disposal of unused medications. We provided hands-on counseling using naloxone nasal spray models to demonstrate the proper administration of this life-saving medication. To ensure the community was equipped with pertinent information at home, we distributed brochures including quick steps to administer naloxone, how to recognize an opioid overdose and where to find additional resources.

Outcome:

Our LSHP members were able to educate and counsel hundreds of people that were in attendance. We spoke on the numerous responsibilities of pharmacists, as well as showed attendees the impact that not only pharmacists, but also citizens have on our community. We believe we inspired the community to utilize pharmacists as well as the national resources available to continue making a difference and take action to save a life.

What You Can Do:

- ✓ Reach out to your local state affiliate organization to coordinate events with local law enforcement or any organization that hosts drug take back days and ask to volunteer.
- ✓ If you cannot find an organization to join, start your own educational day.
 - Please note, only DEA approved sites can take unwanted medications.
- ✓ Create visual aids and brochures for your booth.
- ✓ Advertise your educational day around campus, at local stores and pharmacies.
- ✓ Jumpstart your community and be the reason why many lives are saved!

Available Resources:

<https://takebackday.dea.gov><https://takebackday.dea.gov>

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/opioids/response.html>

https://www.narcan.com/patients/what-is-an-opioid-overdose-emergency/#isi_anchor

<https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/where-and-how-dispose-unused-medicines>

Questions?

Contact Taylor Waguespack, 2018-2019 LSHP President at twaguesp@xula.edu.