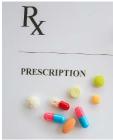


Health and Human Services Commission To Conduct Prescription Drug Misuse Prevention Town Halls

Prescription drug misuse has become a large public health problem in Texas and across the nation. Misuse may occur in people who need painkillers, sedatives or stimulants to treat a medical condition and can lead to addiction, and even overdose deaths.

For teens, it is a growing problem as well. One out of five Texas high school students have taken prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription at least once in their lifetime. The problem has resulted in increasing healthcare costs. In 2015, Texas had the second highest total healthcare costs from opioid misuse in the nation (\$1.96 billion) and Texas is home to four of the top 25 cities in the U.S. for opioid misuse.



Because of the need for prevention measures related to the emergence of prescription drug misuse, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is conducting regional Town Halls to discuss suggested best practices and solutions to prevent prescription drug misuse.



The Town Halls will be two to three hours in length. HHSC and local community representatives will make remarks and then ask for public comments and suggestions.

The ultimate goal is to develop a statewide strategic plan and community-based social marketing/public education plan to increase awareness of prescription drug misuse, the need for a coordinated approach, and promote

increased use of Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data.

Groups who are encouraged to send attendees: youth; parents; business communities; media; schools/universities; youth-serving organizations; law enforcement agencies; religious or fraternal organizations; civic and volunteer groups; healthcare professionals; state, local or tribal agencies with expertise in the field of substance misuse; and other organizations involved in reducing substance misuse.

For information or to register, go to https://www.prescriptiondrugsummit.com/regional.html
Or call 877.451.8700



Town Halls Dates/Times/Locations

Abilene

Wednesday, May 3 - 6-8:30 pm Abilene Civic Center 1100 North 6th Abilene, Texas 79601

Houston

Tuesday, May 16 - 2-5 pm
The Council on Recovery/
Prevention Resource Center Region 6
Auditorium
303 Jackson Hill Street
Houston, Texas 77007

El Paso

Thursday, May 18 - 2-5 pm El Paso Community College 9050 Viscount, Building A El Paso, Texas 79925

Bryan/ College Station

Tuesday, May 23 - 6:30-8:30 pm Blinn College Student Center – F-120 Bryan, TX 77802

Fort Worth

Thursday, June 1 - 2-5 pm University of North Texas Health Science Center MET 125 S 3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard Fort Worth, Texas 76107

Midland

Friday, June 2 - 2-5 pm Region 18 Education Service Center 2811 La Force Boulevard Midland, Texas 79706

Lufkir

Monday, June 19 - 6-8:30 pm Community Services Building Angelina College 3500 South First Street Lufkin, Texas 75904

Waco/ Temple

Monday, July 10 - 2-5 pm Education Service Center Region 12 2101 W. Loop 340 Waco, Texas 76712

Dallas

Friday, July 14 - 2-5 pm Scottish Rite Hospital for Children 2222 Welborn Street Dallas, Texas 75219

San Antonio

Tuesday, July 18 - 2-5 pm Oblate Whitley Theological Center 285 Oblate Drive San Antonio, Texas 78216-6693

Beaumont

Wednesday, July 19 - 2-5 pm Location to be announced

Weslaco

Tuesday, July 25 - 2-5 pm Location to be announced

Health and Human Services Commission Prescription Drug Misuse Prevention Town Hall



Thursday, June 1st 2017 2:00-5:00 PM UNT Health Science Center MET 125 S 3500 Camp Bowie Blvd., Fort Worth TX 76107

Presenters will include:

- John R. Parker, U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Texas
- Dr. Catherine Colquitt, Medical Director, Tarrant County Public Health
- Amanda Robbins, Program Director Fort Worth Safe Communities Coalition
 Cynthia Velazquez, Program Director- Challenge of Tarrant County
 - Dr. Carol Nati, Medical Director MHMR





