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Horizon Behavioral Health Partners with Local Law Enforcement to Collect Unused and Expired Prescription Medications

Lynchburg, VA – Fatal prescription (Rx) opioid overdoses continue to be the leading category of drugs causing or contributing to death in Virginia with 497 fatalities reported in 2020 according to the [Virginia Department of Health](#). Each year, Horizon Behavioral Health teams up with local Police and Sheriff's Departments on National Prescription Drug Take Back Day to reduce barriers in safe medication disposal, a crucial public safety and public health issue.

“When it comes to minimizing risks for substance misuse,” shares Melissa Lucy, Interim CEO of Horizon, “the effort starts in the home. Safe storage, proper disposal, education, and open communication, especially among our adolescents, young adults, and older adults, is key in preventing overdose deaths due to prescription medications. This annual initiative would not be possible without the support of community partners who dedicate their time and resources to this valuable effort.”

On Saturday, October 23, from 10:00am to 2:00pm, Horizon will be present at six locations throughout the community for residents to dispose of expired, unwanted, or unused medications as well as share valuable resources to safeguard our communities. Rapid REVIVE Trainings will also be offered at each location for individuals interested in receiving free Narcan and becoming trained in opioid overdose emergency response.

Lynchburg Locations:

- Horizon Behavioral Health, 2215 Langhorne Road, Lynchburg VA 24501
- Kroger, 2012 Wards Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502
- Kroger, 4119 Boonsboro Road, Lynchburg, VA 24502

Amherst Location:

- Hometown Pharmacy, 196 Amelon Square Shopping Center, Amherst VA 24572

Appomattox Location:

- Farmer's Bank, 169 Old Courthouse Road, Appomattox VA 24522

Bedford Location:

- Tractor Supply Co, 1128 E Lynchburg Salem TPKE, Bedford VA, 24523



***Horizon Behavioral Health** has been the primary public behavioral healthcare provider in the Region 2000 area for more than 50 years. In the last year, Horizon provided services to approximately 16,000 adults and children, addressing problems with mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities. Horizon is accredited by CARF International. This represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to a behavioral health organization.*