MEDIA RELEASE

"One Pill Can Kill" Campaign Week Three: TVF&R and Metro West Discuss Responding to Fentanyl Overdoses

July 28, 2021

In week three of the "One Pill Can Kill" campaign, we're featuring our partners at <u>Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue</u> (TVF&R) and <u>Metro West Ambulance</u> about the calls they are responding to related to Fentanyl. <u>This video</u> gives insight of first-hand experiences, the usage of Naloxone (aka Narcan) and how the dangerous drug Fentanyl is affecting our community.

Recently, TVF&R and Metro West Ambulance have responded to several overdose calls where they are finding the person has taken pills laced with Fentanyl that were not prescribed by a doctor. These calls usually generate responses from partnering agencies, such as the Sheriff's Office, to help administer Naloxone to people who are overdosing. Unfortunately, not all calls have had positive outcomes.



According to Metro West Ambulance, in the first half of 2021, they have had 74 Naloxone reversals. This does not include every overdose call as some did not reach the level of requiring the use of Naloxone. The ambulance service has also noticed that this issue is affecting not only younger people, but older adults as well, including some patients in their 70s.

Next week, we conclude with week four of this campaign which will focus on what we can do as a community to help address issues surrounding Fentanyl, provide tools and resources to help combat this deadly drug, and hear from a local community member about their struggles with Fentanyl and drug addiction.

For more information on this campaign, visit: bit.ly/WCSO_OnePillCanKill

