

FENTANYL IS EVERYWHERE

Help us End the Emergency. Awareness Is the First Step.

FOR IMMEDIATE

RELEASE

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(Oneida, WI) – Fentanyl is everywhere. And it's right here in greater Green Bay in alarming quantities. "Fentanyl is now added to almost every kind of illicit drug available, often times unbeknownst to the person using them," explained Mari Kriescher, Director of Oneida Behavioral Health.

"That's why we're kicking off a Fentanyl is Everywhere campaign," added Kriescher. "Our goal is to drastically raise awareness about fentanyl and the lifesaving resources you can use to counter its deadly effects." Leadership with the Oneida Nation participated in a press conference announcing the initiative on Thursday, May 30. It will run for the next several weeks. The campaign will use social media, yard signs, window clings, business card handouts and outreach to local media to help raise awareness.

"We want you to know that we are not only aware of this threat to our community, but that we're also taking specific actions to educate and protect Oneida community members with lifesaving resources and professional support services, as well as supporting our county and private sector partners in their efforts to do the same," explained Tehassi Hill, Chairman of the Oneida Nation. "To make these efforts a success, we need your help."

Hill added, "Community members are asked to share what they learn about fentanyl and local resources with their friends and family. Your message may reach just the right person in just the right moment." The lifesaving resources include fentanyl test strips and NARCAN (naloxone). Please make the time to visit the following websites to learn more about fentanyl and the resources available.

Fentanyl test strips can help detect the presence of fentanyl in various types of drugs. It's important to test for the presence of fentanyl because it takes only two salt-sized grains of fentanyl to kill.

Whether for yourself or a loved one, learn about fentanyl, where you can find free fentanyl test strips and how to use them at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/facts.htm#fentanyl>

NARCAN (naloxone) can help reverse the effects of an opioid overdose, saving a life. Sometimes it may take more than one dose to counteract an overdose if fentanyl is involved. If you, or someone you know, uses opioids, please consider keeping NARCAN (naloxone) on hand.

Learn about naloxone, how to use it and where you can either purchase it or find it for free at <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/opioids/safer-use.htm#Narcan>

Members of the Oneida Nation can receive fentanyl test strips and NARCAN for free at Oneida Behavioral Health on West Point Road.

Learn more here <https://oneida-nsn.gov/resources/health/behavioral-health/prevent-opioid-overdose/>

Kriescher added, “Despite recent news of a relatively small decrease in overdose deaths in 2023, the truth is, across the U.S. and here in our community, we are losing family and friends to overdose at an alarming rate and fentanyl is responsible for a majority of those deaths. The number of 2023 deaths related to fentanyl reached almost 75,000. The national overdose epidemic has claimed more than a million lives since 1999.”

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