

# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT



For the meeting of: March 20, 2018

Date:

To: Board of Supervisors

From: Supervisors Virginia Bass

March 13, 2018

Subject: Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition Presentation and Proclamation for Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month in Humboldt County

<u>RECOMMENDATION(S)</u>: That the Board of Supervisors hear the presentation and adopt the Proclamation.

SOURCE OF FUNDING: N/A

<u>DISCUSSION</u>: In partnership with many local health care providers and organizations, the Humboldt Independent Practice Association and the RX Safe Humboldt Coalition is working to improve the diagnosis and treatment of chronic pain and develop strategies for minimizing the misuse of prescription pain medication. They would like to highlight some of the successes that have been made over the last year while reinforcing the need to continue the local efforts to combat the opioid epidemic. In addition, March, 2018 is Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month in Humboldt County, and the Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition encourages citizens to educate one another about addiction, treatment and recovery and to access resources available in the community.

#### FINANCIAL IMPACT: N/A

#### OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT: N/A

Prepared by	Tracy Damico		Signature / Legenin Ock	
REVIEW:			0	
Auditor	County Counsel	Personnel	Risk Manager Other	
TYPE OF ITEM: Consent			BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT Upon motion of Supervisor Dass Seconded by Supervisor Fenne	
Departmental Public Hearing			Ayes Bass, Fennell, Sundberg, Bohn, Wilson	
XX Other Board Initiated (10 minutes)			Abstain	
PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:			Absent	
Board Order No			and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.	
Meeting of:				
			Dated: 3/20/18	
			By:	
			Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board	

### ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Proclamation and Rx Safe Humboldt information sheet

Prepared by	Tracy Damico		Signature		
REVIEW:					
Auditor	County Counsel	Personnel	Risk Manager	Other	
TYPE OF ITEM:			BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT		
XX Consent			Upon motion of Supervisor	Seconded by Supervisor	
	rtmental				
Public Hearing			Ayes		
Other			Nays		
PREVIOUS ACT	ION/REFERRAL:		Abstain		
			Absent		
Board Order No	·				
			and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the		
Meeting of:			recommended action contained in this Board report.		
			Dated:		
			By:		
			Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Bo	ard	



#### Mission

Develop and implement community standards and supporting infrastructure for diagnosis and treatment for chronic pain

- Provide patients with optimum care consistent with the risks of treatment
- Support diagnosis and treatment for acute pain recognizing the risks of treatment, across providers and settings prescribing opioids
- Develop strategies for minimizing misuse and diversion of prescription pain medications.

#### **Coalition Partners**

- Humboldt Independent Practice Assoc.
- North Coast Health Improvement and Information Network
- Open Door Community Health Centers
- North Coast Clinics Network
- Partnership Healthplan of California
- Mad River Community Hospital
- Humboldt County Sheriff's Department

- Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Service
- Humboldt County Public Health
  Department
- St. Joseph Health, Humboldt County
- Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction
- Cloney's Pharmacy
- Aegis Treatment Centers

#### **Active Workgroups**

- Coordination and Communication
- Medication Assisted Treatment
- Opioid Safety Review Committee
- Prescription Disposal

- Naloxone Training and Distribution
- Marketing and Public Outreach
- Data
- Resources

#### **2017 Workgroup Accomplishments**

- <u>Stop Overdose Humboldt</u> Campaign
- Destroyed over 2,300 lbs. of unwanted prescriptions
- 12 new Buprenorphine prescribers
- Over 3,200 Naloxone kits distributed
- Increased communication between health care providers
- 242 reported overdose reversals

RxSafeHumboldt.org

## PROCLAMATION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

WHEREAS, prescription drug abuse continues to be the nation's fastest growing drug problem and Humboldt County is deeply affected, losing many residents each year to unintentional drug overdoses; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, drug overdoses in the United States caused more than 63,600 unintentional deaths (more people than those who were killed in the Vietnam War) with 29,728 caused by prescription drugs; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County drug poisoning mortality rates have been significantly higher than the US and California rates for over a decade, ahead of the opioid epidemic that is currently affecting the entire country; and

WHEREAS, in Humboldt County, opioid overdose deaths are 4.9 times the state rate; and

WHEREAS, there were 546 drug overdose deaths in Humboldt County from the years 2005-2017, equaling 42 overdose deaths each year; and

WHEREAS, more people died from unintentional drug overdoses than car crashes in 2017 in Humboldt County; and

WHEREAS, the 2016 rate of opioid prescribing decreased in Humboldt County; however it was still nearly two times the state rate; and

WHEREAS, the Rx Safe Humboldt Coalition has developed and implemented community standards and created strategies for minimizing misuse and diversion of prescription pain medications, creating a forum to bring all health care providers, local pharmacies, law enforcement, public health and other community allies together; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt County's Department of Health & Human Services, Public Health Branch and the Humboldt Area Center for Harm Reduction has been instrumental in the distribution of Naloxone, the opioid overdose antidote; and

WHEREAS, Humboldt Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) has worked to raise awareness of the negative impact of prescription drug abuse, promote safe disposal and storage of medication; and

**WHEREAS**. Local Community Pharmacies, in partnership with Rx Safe Humboldt and the Humboldt Allies for Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) has established six medication disposal bins where community member can dispose of unused medications, including controlled substances such as prescription opioids.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors and the National Coalition Against Prescription Drug Abuse hereby declare the month of March as Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness Month, and encourage the continuous development of strategies to decrease prescription drug abuse, promote safe disposal and storage of medications, and encourage all members of our community to participate in prevention and education.

Dated: March 20, 2018

van Sundberg, Chair