

Medication Disposal Update • Jan. 21, 2010

Dates:

1997- The Mayor's Task Force on Youth Alcohol and Drug Use begins to research medication disposal programs and options in response to concern about the abuse of prescription medications. Rice County Chemical Health Coalitions joins their efforts.

Spring/Summer of 2009: Partnership team formed, program mission determined, education and outreach goals determined, wording and visual identity finalized, outreach materials produced.

Sept. 22, 2009 – First drop off day for program.

Nov. 13, 2009 - First disposal pick up resulted in over 300 pounds of unneeded medication taken for incineration from both sites. Controlled substances left with police until a future date. Controlled substances included: Oxycodone, Vicodin, Codeine, Diazapine, Lorazapan (Nfld. = 208 pounds of mixed medications & 18.5 pounds of controlled substance; Faribault = 115 pounds of mixed medications & 15 pounds of controlled substances)

Jan. 28, 2010 – Second pick up date scheduled for both sites. Estimated to be over of 300 pounds plus controlled substances. All controlled substances collected to-date will be specifically identified and weighted. It will be interesting to then determine the street value of these drugs.

Outreach:

Articles: Over 22 articles have been written to-date including Faribault and Northfield newspapers, MN Parent, hospital and clinic newsletters in both cities, the Rice Co. Bulletin, Carleton College online newspaper, and a number of others. Jan/Feb 2010 articles include the Northfield Allina Clinic newsletter, the Buckham Bulletin, Rice County Recorder and Northfield Hospital.

Radio/TV: several times in Northfield (Mark Taylor, Mary Nelson and Joan Janusz) and an interview coming soon for Faribault radio through Neal Pederson. We may wait to contact him until after we finish 1/28/10 medication pick up. Faribault cable with Mary Navarro on Health Matters (12/09).

Web Sites: Rice County Chemical Health Coalition houses and updates our main web site. Northfield has added information to their website about the program and has a link to the RCCHC site. Fairbault Police Department intends to do something similar.

Speaking Engagements: Bridgewater School, Faribault Senior Center, Faribault Rotary; St Peters Church in Northfield.

Displays: Rice County Fair, Night to Unite- Faribault and Northfield, International Market- Faribault, Northfield Hospital, Northfield Hospital Clinic, Faribault Senior Center. Next Scheduled: Northfield Allina Clinic. Lonsdale Clinic, a Lonsdale Health Fair, Northfield Senior Center. Another display kit will be provided to Faribault and Kept at the Rice County Chemical Health offices for use in Faribault.

Spanish: Translation of the main information card went out to all in Nfld. as an insert in the Latino Family newsletter. Information in both English & Spanish is at the Nfld. & Faribault Welcome Centers.

Faith Community: Have had information in 5 church bulletins. Will be working on this more with possibly displays in lobby or more presentations.

Mailings: Information was included in several Rice Co. Social Services mailings. Both Faribault and Northfield included an insert in city services bills to all residents. Targeted mailings were sent to all Rice County veterinarians, pharmacists, dentists, faith community leaders and more. Packets of info were provided for each doctor in county through facility manager.

Colleges: Information at St Olaf and Carleton College Wellness Centers, student centers and/or in electronic campus newsletters. South Central Community College will be also provided with material.

Seniors: Talking with medication coordinator of four assisted living facilities/homes in Faribault to regarding disposal procedures for them. Plans to meet with other senior groups and more service organizations. Discussion has started about information going out with the Meals on Wheels program as well as informing/training delivery volunteers about how to explain importance. Planning for more in this arena.

Public Placement of Information: Handouts are at most pharmacies, clinics, hospitals, and various other organizations and businesses.