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Contact: Lauren Johnson
Community Engagement Facilitator
Prevention Council of Putnam
ljohnson@preventioncouncilpunam.org
(845) 225-4646

Putnam County's Medication Take Back Day Collects Expired Medications and Sharps

Carmel, NY – The Putnam Communities That Care Coalition, the Putnam County Department of Health, Putnam Hospital Center, the Putnam County Sheriff's Department, and the Putnam County Sherriff's Cadets joined forces to facilitate National Medication Take Back Day at Putnam Hospital on October 28, 2023. Medication Take Back events provide safe, convenient, and anonymous means of disposing prescription, over the counter and pet medications, while also educating the general public about the potential for misuse and the dangers of improper medication disposal. The event was a huge success collecting 153 pounds of medications.

In addition, Putnam Hospital was able to collect 200 pounds of sharps at the event and identified a growing need for safe sharps disposal in Putnam County. Safe disposal of sharps mitigates safety and public health concerns of improperly disposed of sharps including communicable disease and injury. While additional resources continue to develop, Putnam Hospital continues to accept sharps/syringes (no medications) Monday-Friday from 9am-4pm in the main lobby. For questions of Putnam Hospital's sharps disposal program call (845) 279-5711.

Volunteers from the Communities That Care Coalitions helped to facilitate the smooth running of the event and provided information, and resources for year-round disposal at local drop boxes. For a complete list of medication return boxes located throughout Putnam County, please visit: <https://preventioncouncilputnam.org/medication-return-programs/>

In addition to the collection of medication, The Putnam Communities That Care Coalition distributed FREE Detera Drug Deactivation Kits, Drug Checking Kits and naloxone kits. Naloxone is an intranasal medication that can reverse opioid overdose. For information or to obtain FREE Detera Drug Deactivation Bags, Fentanyl Test Kits or Naloxone Kits, please call the Prevention Council of Putnam at (845) 225-4646. Please email us at info@preventioncouncilputnam.org

To find out more information on the Prevention Council of Putnam, check out Prevention Council's social media or follow us on Facebook@putnamctc, Facebook@preventioncouncilputnam, Twitter@putnamctc, Twitter@preventionptnm, and Instagram@preventionpntm.

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