

STOP OPIOID ABUSE



act of courage

HELP A FRIEND. SHARE THE FACTS.

It begins with just one step.

One act of courage.

One honest conversation.

When it comes to preventing opioid misuse, you can make a difference.

KNOW THE FACTS

WHAT IS AN OPIOID?

Opioids are a specific class of drugs commonly used to reduce pain.

The illegal drug heroin is an opioid, as are many pain relievers prescribed by doctors.

Opioids can negatively affect the reward center in the brain. Over time, a user may need more and more, making these drugs highly addictive¹.

Prescription pain meds are now
**the leading cause of
accidental death in our state**
– more than guns and car crashes².



Each day, more than
**1,000 people are treated
in emergency departments**
for not using prescription
opioids as directed³.

In 2015 alone,
**718 people in
Washington died**
from overdoses
involving opioids.



YOUR CHOICES MATTER



Dispose of unused medications safely
at a take-back program near you.
Find one at **TakeBackYourMeds.org**

Suspect abuse or neglect of a resident?
REPORT IT!

DSHS Complaint Reporting for Long-Term Care
ONLINE: www.dshs.wa.gov/altsa/reportadultabuse
TOLL FREE: 1-800-562-6078

Learn more at
GetTheFactsRx.com

SOURCES

- ¹ National Institute on Drug Abuse for Teens
- ² Washington State Department of Health
- ³ Center for Disease Control and Prevention



Washington State
Department of Social
& Health Services

Transforming lives