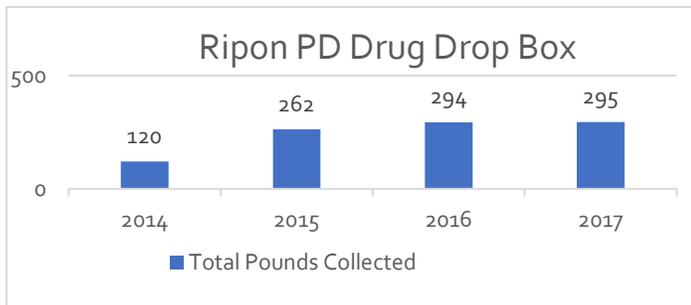


Opioid Initiative Report Card to the Community

Drug Free Communities of Fond du Lac County recognized in 2016 that in order for effective environmental change to address the opioid issue in Ripon a dedicated coordinator and initiative was needed. With funding from Ripon Medical Foundation, the Ripon Opioid Initiative began in December 2016. The first meeting was in February 2017. The coalition spent the first months building capacity, assessing community resources, collecting data and identifying problems associated with opioid use in Ripon. The Ripon Opioid Initiative has grown in capacity from 15 members to over 30 currently. Goals and objectives have been developed to prevent and address opioid abuse in the Ripon Area

Prevention focuses on practical strategies that prevent drug use before it even begins on a community level. Drug Free Communities of Fond du Lac County has partnered with the Ripon School District to administer an annual Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs Survey, to obtain baseline data on drug use trends and attitudes. Survey results are used by the school district and coalition to implement evidence-based and targeted initiatives to prevent drug use. The Ripon High School started a Students Taking Action Against Negative Decisions (STAAND) group, our youth component, in Spring 2017 with 11 students. This school year STAAND has 17 active students and chose a prescription drug project to reach parents as well as an alcohol project. For the prescription drug project, they chose to host an educational *Wake Up Call* event for parents on April 25th. The event attracted about 200 community members and had over 20 community resources available. To prevent the misuse of prescription medications at a community and environmental level, the Ripon Police Department and Ripon Opioid Initiative hosted three Prescription Drug Drop Events on April 13th at the Ripon Senior Center, Russel Manor and Willowbrook. The spring Drug Drop campaign yielded 148 pounds of prescription medications collected for disposal. Our drug drop events and campaigns take drugs off the streets and out of home's so they are not available for abuse/misuse.



Treatment refers to a series of systems and supports that enable individuals to deal with their addiction problems, make healthier decisions about their lives, and eventually resume their places in the community. The Treatment Pillar will focus on increasing the availability and access to early intervention, treatment and recovery services. The Treatment Pillar assessed current opioid related treatment services available in the community. Prior the Opioid Initiative, the Ripon Medical Center, SuaSponte Center, and Families United provided treatment and support services in Ripon. Since then, in 2017 a Narcotics Anonymous group began and a new Family Addiction Education Program started at the Ripon Medical Center (RMC). Through a coordinated approach the RMC is working to implement a substance use screening tool, allowing individuals who are at risk of or currently use substances to earlier intervention and access to treatment and support services. These partnerships will help increase access to and get more people into treatment.

Harm Reduction aims to reduce the negative consequences of opioid use, such as overdoses. Three narcan trainings were offered in 2017. Two trainings were coordinated by Families United and the AID's Resource Center of Wisconsin in Green Bay and are open to family and friends of opioid users, and the community. The third training was coordinated by Ripon College with Residential Assistants and Nursing staff. The training provides education and access to Naloxone (Narcan), which can immediately reverse the effects of an opioid overdose prior to the arrival of first responders. Twenty-two individuals have been trained, and 36 kits have been distributed to family, friends and community members to help save the life of someone who has an overdose. The Harm Reduction Pillar is working to collect more information on the risks associated with opioid use, its harmful effects, and develop evidence-based strategies to effectively address them.



Law Enforcement is often the front line that has first contact with persons dealing with addiction. The Ripon Police Department continues to be a partner in promoting and collecting prescription medications at their drug drop location. The Ripon Police Department participates in trainings and programs such as the FDL County Drug Endangered Children program. The Ripon Police Department is eager to obtain community resources for their officers which will assist people who are battling opioid addiction and their families access treatment services or get connected to support groups in the Ripon area.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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For more information and resources look at the Dose of Reality webpage <https://doseofrealitywi.gov/get-the-facts/>

Vision: "Healthier Children Today, Healthier Community Tomorrow"

Mission: To decrease substance abuse among youth and adults in our community.