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Arapahoe County to host June 1 Opioid Epidemic Town Hall

Commissioners Nancy Jackson, Bill Holen to host panel discussion on growing public health issue

LITTLETON, CO --- In Colorado alone, the statistics are staggering.

Nearly 224,000 Coloradoans misuse prescription drugs. Unintentional drug overdoses are the cause of death for 35 people each month. And, one in six Colorado 12th graders has taken prescription medicine that was not written for them, according to TakeMedsSeriously.org.

Arapahoe County is trying to do something about it.

On June 1, Commissioners Nancy Jackson, who represents District 4, and Bill Holen, who represents District 5, will host a town hall meeting on the Opioid Epidemic, a growing public health issue in Arapahoe County, in Colorado and nationwide.

The town hall will be held 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. June 1 at Arapahoe County's CentrePoint Plaza, 14980 E. Alameda Dr., Aurora.

Jackson and Holen will be joined by Arapahoe County Coroner Dr. Kelly Lear, Arapahoe County Undersheriff Louie Perea, Tri-County Health Department Executive Director Dr. John Douglas and Dr. Leslie Winter, Medical Director for Aurora Mental Health.

The purpose of the town hall is to raise awareness of the Opioid Epidemic; how Arapahoe County has led a communitywide effort since 2014 to address prescription drug abuse; and to share information about resources available to prevent this significant public health issue.

Staff from Arapahoe County, Tri-County Health Department, Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention and Aurora Mental Health also will be available to answer questions, provide educational materials and share resources for how residents can take action and get involved in preventing prescription drug abuse.

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