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Media Advisory

91 pairs of shoes = 91 people who die every day due to Opioid overdose

Arapahoe County, Tri-County Health Department to raise awareness of this national epidemic with a shoe-in on the steps of the County's Administration Building in honor of International Overdose Awareness Day

WHAT

Opioids, including prescription painkillers and heroin, killed more than 33,000 people in 2015, more than any year on record. Nearly half of all opioid overdose deaths involve a prescription opioid according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

International Overdose Awareness Day is an event to remember those who have died from fatal drug overdoses. On Aug. 31, people worldwide will stand alongside the friends and families of fatal overdose victims to reflect on those who have been lost and to focus on ways to prevent these needless deaths.

With the number of fatalities from opioid drugs growing, International Overdose Awareness Day is a chance to see that painkillers and other pharmacy drugs play an important medical role, but their misuse can have tragic consequences.

Arapahoe County and Tri-County Health Department will participate in International Overdose Awareness Day with a "shoe-in" on the steps of the County's Administration Building. On display will be 91 pairs of shoes to represent 91 people who die from heroin and prescription drug misuse in the United States every day.

WHO

Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners: Kathleen Conti, Nancy Sharpe, Jeff Baker, Nancy Jackson and Bill Holen; Arapahoe County Sheriff David Walcher; and Tri-County Health Department Executive Director John M. Douglas, Jr., MD

WHEN

1:45 p.m., Thursday, Aug. 31, 2017

WHERE

Arapahoe County Administration Building
5334 S. Prince Street, Littleton, CO 80120

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