



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **SCPHD** Presents Upcoming Fentanyl Awareness Informational Event on May 7

**SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO** – Between 2021 and 2022, 381 Idahoans lost their lives to drug overdoses. That is an 8% increase from the year before, according to a recent report from the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW). 188 of these deaths were related to fentanyl.

## Join experts on National Fentanyl Awareness Day to learn more about the drug, how to prevent addiction, and how to reverse an overdose.

Fentanyl is a pain medication that is 100 times stronger than morphine. It can be prescribed by physicians, but Idaho is seeing a growing rate of illegal fentanyl being transported in the state. Often, fentanyl is mixed with other illegal substances or fake prescriptions.

On Tuesday, May 7, SCPHD, the Blaine County Sheriff's Office, Men's Second Chance Living, Blaine County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Blaine County Coroner's Office, and Hailey EMS will present a community panel and information session in Hailey, Idaho:

National Fentanyl Awareness Day | Expert Panel and Information Session Tuesday, May 7 | 6 PM Minnie Moore Room | Community Campus 1050 Fox Acres Road Hailey, ID 83333

The event will cover fentanyl information, using naloxone to reverse overdose, treating addiction, and substance misuse prevention. There will be time for questions throughout. Topics will include information appropriate for teenagers and adults.

"Exposure to dangerous drugs, especially fentanyl, is becoming more common," said Taylor Bybee, SCPHD Health Education Specialist. "One of the best ways to prevent drug-related deaths and addiction is education. Empowering ourselves with the information we need to avoid substance use, or treat it in a healthy and sustainable way, gives our community more time to fight back and prevent drug-related deaths."

Learn more about National Fentanyl Awareness Day and fentanyl facts here: fentanylawarenessday.org