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Ogden Residents Invited to Participate in Community Meetings to Address Opioid Misuse and Abuse

(Ogden, UT) – The Ogden Civic Action Network (OgdenCAN) and its community partners are holding two community meetings to help residents take an active role in preventing opioid misuse and abuse.

The first event, on Aug. 14, is a training to educate residents on naloxone, commonly known as Narcan, and how to administer it. Naloxone can help reverse an opioid overdose if administered in time. Guest speaker Jacob Zimmerli with Utah Naloxone, a group of physicians and pharmacists founded by Dr. Jennifer Plumb who lost her brother to an overdose in 1996. The organization works to raise awareness and increase access to naloxone.

The second event, on Sept. 3, is a town hall style event for key community leaders to discuss ways to address local needs. Ogden currently ranks third in deaths due to opioid related overdose and poisoning. Participants will be asked a series of questions and provide local feedback to identify gaps in community resources and outline ways to stop the cycles of abuse and misuse.

OgdenCAN is an alliance of several anchor institutions, founded by Weber State University, involving stakeholders and partner organizations committed to aligning resources to improving health, housing and education among the 15,000 residents of Ogden's east-central neighborhood.

For more information on OgdenCAN, please visit www.weber.edu. To order copies of the OgdenCAN community opioid resource toolkit, email hpstaff@webercountyutah.gov.

Registration to both events is free but required due to limited seating. For naloxone training, visit <http://bit.ly/naloxone-training>. Those who want to attend the community conversation can register at <http://bit.ly/Stop-Opioid-Epidemic>.

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