

County of Moore
Department of Health
705 Pinehurst Avenue • P.O. Box 279
Carthage, North Carolina 28327

Robert R. Wittmann, M.P.H.
Director

Telephone: 910-947-3300
Medical Records Fax: 910-947-1663
Administration Fax: 910-947-5837

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: October 21, 2013

Contact: Matt Garner
Moore County Health Department
mgarner@moorecountync.gov
(910) 947-4512

Moore County Health Department Celebrates Red Ribbon Week

The Moore County Health Department invites the community to take a visible stand against drugs by celebrating Red Ribbon Week from October 23-31.

Red Ribbon Week raises awareness of drug use and the problems related to drugs that are facing our community. It also encourages parents, educators, business owners, and other community organizations to promote drug-free lifestyles.

This year's celebration will kick off on Saturday, October 26th with Operation Medicine Drop. Operation Medicine Drop is a collaborative effort between Moore County Law Enforcement, Drug Free Moore County, and the Moore County Drug Prevention Task Force. The program addresses the issue of prescription drug abuse by helping citizens dispose of their excess, unused, or expired medications at specified drop sites around Moore County.

Other activities scheduled for the week include red ribbon celebrations and special assembly programs presented by Sandhills Teen Challenge at various schools throughout Moore County. Red Ribbon Week will conclude with a drug prevention awareness celebration in the main lobby of the Moore County Health Department (705 Pinehurst Ave., Carthage, NC) on October 31st from 9AM to 1PM.

"Red Ribbon Week encourages our entire community to adopt healthy, drug-free lifestyles," said Health Director, Robert Wittmann. "The campaign brings together parents, schools, and businesses as we look for innovative ways to keep kids and communities drug free."

"To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury."
<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

Environmental Health
Telephone: 910-947-6283
Fax: 910-947-5127

WIC
Telephone: 910-947-2797
Appointments: 910-947-3271
Fax: 910-947-2460

County of Moore
Department of Health
705 Pinehurst Avenue • P.O. Box 279
Carthage, North Carolina 28327

Robert R. Wittmann, M.P.H.
Director

Telephone: 910-947-3300
Medical Records Fax: 910-947-1663
Administration Fax: 910-947-5837

The red ribbon symbolizes a continuing commitment to reducing the demand for illicit drugs in our communities. In 1985, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Special Agent Enrique S. "Kiki" Camarena was killed by drug traffickers. Shortly after Camarena's death, citizens from his hometown of Calexico, California, began wearing red ribbons to remember him and commemorate his sacrifice. Congress established Red Ribbon Week in 1988.

"Red Ribbon Week gives us the opportunity to be vocal and visible in our efforts to achieve a drug-free community," said Matt Garner, Health Educator for the Moore County Health Department and current Chair of Drug Free Moore County. "Research shows that children are less likely to use alcohol and other drugs when parents and other role models are clear and consistent in their opposition to substance use and abuse."

For more information about Red Ribbon Week, visit www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com. For a complete listing and schedule for Operation Medicine Drop sites on October 26th, visit www.moorecountync.gov/health.

###

"To Protect and Promote Health through Prevention and Control of Disease and Injury."
<http://www.moorecountync.gov/health/>

Environmental Health
Telephone: 910-947-6283
Fax: 910-947-5127

WIC
Telephone: 910-947-2797
Appointments: 910-947-3271
Fax: 910-947-2460