



Kendall County

Office of the Sheriff

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Kendall County Sheriff's Office and Health Dept Come Together to Launch New Effort to Address Opioid Crisis

On September 24, 2019, the Kendall County Sheriff's Office partnered with the Kendall County Health Department to launch the Detera Drug Deactivation System Kit. The kit is used to safely dispose of unused medications. The Detera pouches neutralize unused organic medications in pill, liquid, or patch form. They are made of environmentally sound materials that are biodegradable. The Detera deactivation kits can be picked up at the Sheriff's Office located at 1102 Cornell Lane in Yorkville. The Sheriff's Office will also continue to offer the Drug Collection Unit for the disposal of unwanted, unused or expired medications, including all prescription medications

The Detera Pouches were distributed to the Sheriff's Office and the Health Dept through the Rx Abuse Leadership initiative (RALI) of Illinois. The RALI comprises more than 20 health care, law enforcement, veteran, community and drug prevention organizations, all of which will work with the state leaders to support programs that promote the effective prevention, treatment, and recovery strategies.

Among the first efforts RALI Illinois will focus on is proper storage and disposal of prescription medications, which can help prevent misuse. As part of its launch, RALI Illinois is presenting 50,000 drug disposal pouches to partners and organizations who will distribute them to residents free of charge. The pouches are among the FDA-approved methods for disposing of unused medicines.

Sheriff Dwight Baird said, “Safely disposing of unused medication is critical to protecting our children, community and our environment. This will be another tool that the Sheriff’s Office will have to combat the opioid crisis and further assist our residents and their families in mitigating the direct and indirect effects of opioid abuse.”

Executive Director and Public Health Officer Dr. Amaal Tokars added, “Accidental exposure to medicine in the home is a significant source of unintentional poisonings in the United States, every day over 300 children aged 0 to 19 years are treated in an emergency departmentⁱ. We are grateful for the 24/7 safe medication drop box at the Kendall County Sheriff’s Office and now also deeply appreciative that the Sheriff and his staff have partnered with us once again by sharing their safe medication disposal supplies.”

To learn more about RALI Illinois, visit www.rali-il.org.

ⁱ *Centers for Disease Control, 2018*