

Fentanyl – 1

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MonAM

Across the country, Red Ribbon Week is this week. In Arkansas, the week-long effort to educate school children about the dangers of drug abuse is focusing on opioids. This week on Arkansas PBS, the state's Drug Director, Kirk Lane, said use of the synthetic opioid, fentanyl (fen-ton-ill) has risen in recent years.

NEWS20 0:11 "...going past that."

On Saturday, the state sponsored its annual Drug Take Back Day, encouraging Arkansans to return unused prescription drugs, some of which contain addictive opioids, at designated drop off sites. There are 270 drop off sites around the state open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Fentanyl – 2

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Overdoses of the synthetic opioid fentanyl (fen-ton-ill) are causing more deaths than methamphetamines in Arkansas. On Arkansas PBS this week, Kirk Lane, the Arkansas Drug Director, said the state's efforts to address the latest trend in the opioid epidemic include more than law enforcement initiatives and educational programs.

NEWS21 0:22 "...abilities to recover."

On the program, agents based in Little Rock with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Drug Enforcement Agency said large amounts of fentanyl are entering the state in the form of counterfeit pills, or pills that are made to look like legitimate prescription medication like Xanax or Valium.