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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
INCREASED DRUG OVERDOSES WITHIN LAST 24 HOURS IN MIAMI COUNTY

TROY, OHIO (4/21/2017) – The Ohio Department of Health (ODH) has alerted Miami County Public Health that there has been a significant increase in drug overdoses in Miami County. During the time period between 9:00AM on 4/20/2017 and 9:00AM on 4/21/2017, 10 drug-related visits were reported to the local hospital, which is 7 more than the predicted number of encounters, based on historical data.

Anyone who is aware of, or has contact with, a person with an opiate, heroin, or other drug addiction is advised to remain aware of this current situation and maintain access to Naloxone in the event an overdose occurs. The timely administration of Naloxone (trade name: Narcan) can reverse an overdose. Naloxone is available in many local pharmacies without a prescription. If you believe someone is overdosing, call 9-1-1 as soon as possible. For individuals who are actively using, we remind them not to use alone, since this increases the risk that an overdose will be fatal.

Miami County and the surrounding area have experienced a rapid increase in heroin and opioid overdoses over the last few years. The increase in opioid overdoses is due in part to illicit fentanyl, which is 30 to 50 times more powerful than heroin and is mixed with heroin to make supplies more profitable. The addition of even a small amount of fentanyl to a batch of heroin increases the deadliness significantly.

For more information on addiction treatment contact: Tri-County Board of Recovery and Mental Health Services at 1-800-351-7347 or text 4HOPE to 741-741.

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