

# lock up your meds

protect your kids, family, and environment

Washington State Health Care Authority

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### Ending opioid misuse in our community begins in our homes.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- ✓ LOCK UP opioid medications in a cabinet, drawer, medicine safe, or locking bag.
- ✓ DISPOSE of unused pills at a take back site to keep your family, home, and environment safe. Find one at MED-Project.org.
- ASK a nurse, doctor, behavioral health provider, or pharmacist about safe opioid disposal near you.

#### Know the facts.

#### WHAT IS AN OPIOID?

Opioid pain medications prescribed by doctors include oxycodone, hydrocodone, codeine, morphine, and many others. Heroin is also considered an opioid. These drugs can be highly addictive.

- ✓ Overdose rates in Indian Country are nearly triple the rate of any other community in Washington.<sup>2</sup>
- Opioids are a leading cause of injury-related deaths in Washington State. More people die from overdose than from car crashes.<sup>2</sup>
- √ 75 percent of opioid misuse starts with people using medication that wasn't prescribed for them – usually taken from a friend or family member.³

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