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*** * FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE * ***

Mayor of Warren Recognizes Overdose Awareness Day

Warren, MI (August 30, 2024) - The City of Warren joins in recognizing August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day. This is a time to remember those lost to drug overdoses and to bring awareness to the ongoing battle against addiction. The City of Warren recognizes the devastating impact that overdose and addiction have on individuals, families, and communities.

The newly rebranded FAN, Face Addiction Now, held their annual memorial event Thursday, August 29, 2024 to honor the lives lost and to support families and individuals affected by addiction. As part of this commemoration, Mayor Lori M. Stone offered an official proclamation recognizing the significance of this day and reaffirming the city's commitment to combating the opioid crisis.

In a powerful symbol of solidarity and remembrance, Warren City Hall will be illuminated in purple throughout the evening of August 31st. This gesture aims to increase visibility within the community and to serve as a beacon of hope and support for those struggling with addiction.

"We stand with those who have lost loved ones to overdose and those who are fighting every day to overcome addiction," said Mayor Stone. "Overdose Awareness Day is a vital opportunity to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and advocate for life-saving solutions."

Warren Police Department partners with Hope Not Handcuffs, an initiative that connects individuals seeking help with the appropriate program with support, compassion, and respect. In addition, first responders are prepared to respond to overdoses with NARCAN, which provides lifesaving treatments to opioid overdoses. In collaboration with the Warren ~ Center Line Prevention Coalition, Warren participates in prescription drug take back in order to prevent the abuse of unused prescriptions.

The City of Warren encourages all residents to take a moment on this day to reflect, educate themselves, and engage in conversations about overdose prevention and addiction recovery. Our community has taken steps forward in addressing substance use, but we know there's much more to be done. We must continue to expand access to treatment, support recovery programs, and combat the stigma that so often prevents people from seeking the help they need. Warren will be taking the step of investing Opioid Settlement Funding to further this purpose in a sustainable way.

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