



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## Prescription Drug Round Up

Prescription drug abuse is an epidemic in this country. This epidemic often starts in our own medicine cabinet. The Janesville Police Department and Janesville Mobilizing 4 Change are offering the public a safe way to dispose of their unused and expired medications.

The Prescription Drug Round Up will be held on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1pm at the Janesville Farmers Market. This event is vital to our community's health and safety. Chief David Moore comments that "While there is no single answer to opiate abuse in our community, the disposing of unused prescription drugs is one strategy that will have a direct and positive affect on this issue."

Prescription medications that are kept in home cabinets are highly susceptible to misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are at alarming rates, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, most abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends. In addition, many of us do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away – both potential safety and health hazards.

Do your part to help prevent drug abuse. Bring any unused or expired medication to the Prescription Round Up, Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Janesville Farmers Market (West Wall Street) between 8am-1pm. If you have any questions, please call Jane Golberg, Project Coordinator, at (608)741-2105.