

SPOKANE REGIONAL FENTANYL/HPSO SAFETY SYMPOSIUM

For Spokane, Stevens, Ferry, Pend Oreille, Whitman, Adams, Lincoln, Asotin and
Garfield Counties

Nov 18th, 2024

Convened by the Washington Association of Child Advocate Programs and the
Administrative Office of the Courts

**NORTHERN QUEST CASINO AND RESORT
Pavilion Area**

100 N Hayford Rd, Airway Heights, WA 99001

AGENDA

9:00 AM **Welcome and opening remarks**

9:10 AM **General Fentanyl/HPSO Overview**

Addy Adwell, Ellie Navidson, WA Dept of Health

High potency synthetic opioids, such as fentanyl and its analogs, pose a significant public health crisis, particularly affecting families involved with child welfare courts. These powerful substances are not only highly addictive but also dangerously potent, leading to increased risks of overdose and severe health consequences. Understanding how high-potency synthetic opioids impact child welfare involved families allows court systems to better protect the safety of children while providing families with the supports and services they need to address opioid misuse. This presentation will provide essential information on the impact of these opioids on families and the role of child dependency courts in addressing these challenges.

In 2024, the Washington State Legislature passed [SB 6109](#) which requires that "the court shall give great weight to the lethality of high-potency synthetic opioids and public health guidance from the department of health related to high-potency synthetic opioids, including fentanyl..." when making removal and placement decisions. The DOH expects the guidance will change over time, as they continue to learn more about the impacts of high potency synthetic opioids on children and families. SB 6109 provided funding for additional training resources, new services, and several pilot programs.

10:30 AM **BREAK**

10:45 AM **Prevention Kits Demonstration and Use of Narcan**

Samantha Carroll, Spokane Regional Health District

DCYF can provide Harm Reduction Kits to families which include a lockbox, test strips, Naloxone, gloves, masks, informational brochures and resource lists. This presentation will discuss what's inside these kits as well as how to get them.

Naloxone (also referred to as "Narcan") is an FDA approved medicine used to quickly reverse an opioid overdose. According to the CDC, Naloxone is safe to give to people of all ages, from infants to the elderly.

This presentation will provide a demonstration on how to use Narcan and other general information on its safety and impact.

11:00 AM **The Recovery Process**

Tyler Vermillion
Ideal Option

This presentation will feature presenters from Ideal Option, a local resource and treatment facility for those wishing to end their addiction to fentanyl. The presentation will focus on the recovery process, medications used, testing as well as what to expect during the recovery process.

11:45 AM **Testing for Fentanyl and HPSOs**

Dominique Delganes, Averhealth

This presentation will look at recent drug trends including fentanyl, methamphetamines, New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), synthetic and over-the-counter drugs along with street drugs and the testing challenges departments encounter with these emerging trends.

12:15 PM **LUNCH**

1:00 PM **A Fentanyl Lived Experience**

Heather Cantamessa

Long time parent ally Heather Cantamessa will share a personal story of how her family has been impacted by fentanyl and what she needs to share with all participants.

1:30 PM **Synthesizing and sharing our learning**

The afternoon portion will feature opportunities to discuss applying the morning's learnings to various scenarios presented by the coordination team. Participants will be asked to develop safety plans in group settings, discuss how individuals and organizations can assist in keeping children and families safe and share how fentanyl and opioids has impacted their work and community.

5:00 **Wrap up and go home!**