DRUG TAKE BACK

The Hampshire and Franklin County Triad groups first became involved with the DEA in the National Drug Take Back initiative in 2011, both in the form of permanent drug boxes and National Drug Take Back days. This initiative gives community members the opportunity to dispose of unwanted prescription and non-prescription medication in a safe, free, discrete manner. It has been estimated that 70% of people 12 and older who abuse prescription drugs get them from family and friends. Helping elders clean out their medicine cabinets can help prevent accidental overdoses and the misappropriation of prescription drugs by personal care assistants and loves ones. Since 2011, over 22 tons of unwanted medication has been collected from both Hampshire and Franklin Counties combined. At the most recent Drug Take Back Day, April 28, 2018, a total of 1232 pounds were collected. There are currently 23 permanent drop boxes located in police department throughout both counties. From promoting the cause, to working the sites, to transporting the drugs in a safe and controlled manner, Hampshire and Franklin County Triad groups have been essential in the success of the National Drug Take Back days as well as the permanent boxes.

