



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 06.14.2019

MEDIA ADVISORY

Northfield Public Library to host Public Naloxone Information through The Steve Rummler HOPE Network and information about initiatives in Northfield and throughout Rice County to reduce opioid fatalities

WHO: Gregory Lewis Overdose Prevention Manager at the Steve Rummler HOPE Foundation & representatives from the Northfield Healthy Community Initiative (HCI) and the Rice County Chemical and Mental Health Coalition

WHAT: Education about the Opioid Addiction issue and Overdose Prevention Training.

WHERE: Bunday Room, The Northfield Public Library, 210 Washington St, Northfield, MN 55057

WHEN: 6:30pm – 8:00 pm, Wednesday, June 26, 2019

WHY: Through education, to reduce the stigma associated with opioid addiction and discuss initiatives in Northfield and Rice County to address this issue.

Greg Lewis of the Steve Rummler HOPE Network, a 501(3) organization will talk about education and training they have undertaken through their Overdose Prevention Program to help people recognize and reverse an opioid overdose. The mission of the HOPE Network is to heighten awareness of the disease of addiction as it relates to the physical and emotional burdens of chronic pain and to improve associated care processes.

The Overdose Prevention Program grew out of the need to implement the Minnesota Good Samaritan/Naloxone legislation also known as *Steve's Law*, which passed unanimously through both houses of the Minnesota Legislature in 2014. *Steve's Law* provides limited immunity to those who call 911 in good faith to save a life and allows first responders, law enforcement and trained lay people to administer naloxone, which can counteract the effects of an opioid overdose within minutes.

Representatives from the Northfield Healthy Community Initiative (HCI) and the Rice County Chemical and Mental Health Coalition will also attend this event to speak about local efforts targeted to reduce opioid fatalities in Northfield and throughout Rice County.

For further information contact:

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