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Mental Health Center receives opioid crisis grant

By Bayne Hughes Staff Writer Sep 11, 2017 Updated 21 hrs ago

The Mental Health Center of North Central Alabama has received a \$58,750 grant from the Alabama Department of Mental Health to provide education and outreach on the opioid crisis.

Michele Moore, prevention director for the Mental Health Center, said the grant will allow the center to address the opioid problem on a local level. The center's opioid-specific services will begin in the next few months.

The Mental Health Center program is aimed at reducing and preventing prescription and over-the-counter drug misuse and raising community awareness about the dangers of using medications for anything other than their intended use.

The center worked with numerous community partners such as local school systems and law enforcement to raise community awareness. It also holds town hall meetings and other events.

The grant funds are in addition to the state funds used to provide drug and alcohol prevention services. The center's drug and alcohol prevention services reach thousands of children and adults each year in Lawrence, Limestone, and Morgan counties, Moore said.

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