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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 25, 2018

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RED RIBBON WEEK CELEBRATED ACROSS THE STATE

ADMH Partners Host Events October 23-31



Montgomery Ala.– [Red Ribbon Week](#) is the oldest and largest drug prevention campaign in the country. This year Red Ribbon Week is celebrated October 23-31, 2018. Red Ribbon Week serves as a vehicle for communities and individuals to take a stand for the hopes of our children through a commitment to drug prevention and education and a personal commitment to live drug free lives with the goal being the creation of drug free America.

[Red Ribbon Week](#) is put together through celebrations that project a strong, united, positive message, helping our community to take a stand toward making us drug free/violence free.

During Red Ribbon Week, partners such as East Alabama Mental Health Center’s Prevention Department encourages you to talk with the children and youth in our lives and help them understand the importance of living a drug-free life. Cherokee-Etowah-Dekalb Mental Health Center, Spectra Care, Baldwin County Community Alliance (BCCA), and The Council on Substance Abuse are also helping to raise awareness and stop the drug use seen within the youth population of Alabama.

Every year we wear Red Ribbons as a symbol for our intolerance of drugs and the violence they can produce. We encourage our youth and community to wear their Red Ribbons with pride and chose to live a drug-free life.

Some events hosted around the state include the [Cherokee-Etowah-Dekalb Mental Health Center](#) speaking at schools throughout the three counties they cover, pairing up with local law enforcement and school staff to share a message of prevention and support.

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[The Baldwin County Community Alliance \(BCCA\)](#) sponsors an underage drinking and prescription drug misuse prevention contest to coincide with Red Ribbon Week. The BCCA hosts a :30 Second commercial contest each year for middle and high schools where students use their creative skills to compose a commercial that focuses on decreasing access and availability of alcohol or prescription drugs. The contest began October 16, 2018 and ends November 2, 2018. Hard copies and electronic versions of the contest entry form template are sent and delivered to 22 middle and high schools throughout Baldwin County. These commercials are converted into radio versions when possible and aired regularly on iHeartRadio and Cumulus Broadcasting stations.

[East Alabama Mental Health Center](#) is helping to host Red Ribbon Week events at several schools in their area:

- John P. Powell Middle School ([Chambers County](#)): Door decorating and Poster design.
- Opelika Middle School (Lee County): Door Decorating Contest
- Sanford Middle School (Lee County): Door Decorating Contest and Poster Designs.
- Alexander City Middle School (Tallapoosa County): Door Decorating
- Smith Station High School (Lee County): Door Decorating
- Dadeville High School (Tallapoosa County): Poster Design
- Drake Middle School (Lee County): Poster Design

Red Ribbon Week activities this week from [Aletheia House](#) include a Sock Hop, a Parade and a Jersey day, designed to get students moving and learning about substance abuse prevention at the same time.

[Spectracare](#) hosts several events in south Alabama to inform students about the dangers of drug abuse and offer information on prevention:

- October 22nd- Lisenby Primary School- Assembly with SpectraBear at 1:15pm
- October 22nd- Mixon Elementary School- Red Ribbon Week Parade with SpectraBear as the Grand Marshall at 2:15pm
- October 23rd- CASA Substance Abuse Training (Court Appointed Special Advocate), 5:30-6:30pm- SpectraCare Office
- October 23rd- "Stomp Out Drugs" dance party and speaking engagement with SpectraBear at Greenville Middle School, 8am- 12 pm
- October 24th- Oncology Supply Health Fair- 8am- 4pm
- October 24th- Speaking Engagement at Beverlye Middle School- TBD
- October 24th- McKenzie School: speaking engagement (TBD)
- October 25th- Slocomb Prescription Drug Take Back at Slocomb Police Dept., 10am- 2pm.

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- October 25th- Interactive Health Fair with Butler County Sheriff department speaking about not using drugs. Local agencies involved.
- October 27th- Opp City Festival- TBD
- October 27th- Boll Weevil Festival- 9am

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- October 29th- G.W. Long Elementary School- TBD
- October 30th- Citywide Fall Fling- Westgate Park- 5pm -8pm
- October 30th- Community Light Up for Safety- McRae Homes- 5pm- 6:30pm
- October 31st- MHFA - Ozark Police Department Training Facility, 8am- 5pm.
- The Council on Substance Abuse offers information at events this week at Southside High School to engage students and showcase prevention strategies such as “Wear Red Day”, “Your future is brighter without drugs” (wear neon clothes), and “Tackle Drugs” (wear favorite football jersey).

Spectracare will also be at the Camden School of Arts and Technology Monday the 29th-31st for “Life is a Journey. Travel Drug Free,” a program designed for students to celebrate Red Ribbon Week.

[The Agency for Substance Abuse Prevention](#) is hosting A Red Ribbon Week Door competition among schools in Calhoun County. The National Red Ribbon Week Campaign Theme is: “LIFE IS YOUR JOURNEY, TRAVEL DRUG FREE.” Create your classroom’s best door decoration using the National Red Ribbon Week theme. Teachers and students, be as creative and unique as possible! They will also have a Proclamation signed with officials from with Calhoun County, designating the importance of the week.

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