# **NEWS RELEASE**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# LEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT RECOGNIZES NATIONAL FENTANYL PREVENTION AND AWARENESS DAY

LEE COUNTY, NC – August 18, 2023 – Lee County Government recognizes National Fentanyl Prevention and Awareness Day by continuing to raise awareness in an effort to prevent fentanyl poisonings impacting families in Lee County.

Fentanyl overdoses and deaths are on the rise in many communities across North Carolina, with nearly 80% of the overdose deaths in involving Fentanyl.

According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use as a pain relief and anesthetic. It is approximately 100 times more potent than morphine and 50 times more potent than heroin.

Lee County Government will be hosting a community forum on September 14, 2023, in the auditorium of the Dennis A. Wicker Civic Center, located at 1801 Nash Street, at 5:00 p.m. to discuss Lee County's opioid crisis response.

In order to prevent fatal overdoses in our community, the Lee County Health Department is providing NARCAN Clinics by appointment to educate individuals on the proper use of Naloxone (NARCAN) and provide individuals with the lifesaving medication.

For more information and education on this clinic, please contact the Lee County Health Department at 919-718-4640. For more information on the dangers of Fentanyl, please visit <a href="https://www.dea.gov/fentanylawareness">https://www.dea.gov/fentanylawareness</a> or #justKNOW.

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