



## Fentanyl Fathers LIVE: A High School Assembly Program to Combat the Growing Fentanyl Crisis

### Press Release:

Fentanyl Fathers is proud to present an innovative new LIVE High School Assembly Program, designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the fentanyl epidemic and its devastating effects. The program begins with a short presentation on the dangers of the counterfeit killer, fentanyl, featuring real-life case studies from families who have lost loved ones due to overdose or fentanyl induced homicide. Following that, participants will view the powerful documentary film "Dead on Arrival" which provides an in-depth look at how social media platforms are being used as avenues for drug trafficking and how counterfeit pills containing lethal doses of fentanyl are killing children every day.

Afterwards, Fentanyl Fathers volunteer(s) will lead a 20-minute discussion sharing their own stories of grief. Recognizing and responding to signs of teens in need of help, as well as providing resources for those seeking help. In addition, students will be given information on how they can get involved in the fight against this counterfeit killer and how they can make a difference in their community.

"We believe this program has the potential to save lives," says Fentanyl Father's CEO Greg Swan. "It is our hope that by raising awareness about the dangers of fentanyl use we can prevent more tragedies from occurring. We want students to understand that there is help available if they or someone they know is struggling with addiction."

Fentanyl Fathers co-founder Bob Minotti said: "We want to make sure our young people know that they can turn to us if they find themselves in trouble or need help getting out. We want them to understand that there is no shame in asking for help when it comes to dealing with addiction."

The Fentanyl Fathers program aims to provide students with knowledge of this counterfeit killer while also providing them with guidance on how they can seek help if needed. It also encourages parents and guardians talk openly with their children about drugs so that they can develop an open dialogue around these issues.

The program consists of a 40-minute presentation led by a bereaved-parent volunteer. During the discussion, the presenter will share their own personal experience and "loss" story to demonstrate the impact of opioid overdose in real life terms. Students will also learn about current trends concerning opioids, how to recognize signs of an overdose and how to respond appropriately in an emergency.

"We want our students to be aware of the dangers of Fentanyl, it's almost a certainty that it is in any pill or drug not prescriber by your doctor" said Greg Swan, Fentanyl Fathers Co-founder. "By

providing our students with this valuable information we hope they can make informed decisions about drug use and know what steps to take if someone overdoses."

At the end of the discussion, students are provided with an opportunity for free Naloxone delivery through an e-mail sign-up located on the post-test survey accessed through another QR code found on the last slide of the presentation. Fentanyl Fathers will use pre and post test data from these surveys to analyze program short term outcome measures which follow the Health Belief Model of behavior change. Expected outcomes include increased knowledge scores about fentanyl pill dangers, increased self-efficacy in recognizing and responding to a drug overdose, increased perceived threat score of overdosing on opioids and decreased intentionality among students regarding use or purchase of opioids.

"Our goal is to empower high school students with accurate information so they can make informed decisions when it comes to drugs," said John Connor, Founder of Fentanyl Fathers. "That's why we're thrilled that schools are beginning to implement our assembly program into their curriculum."

With this LIVE High School Assembly Program, Fentanyl Fathers hope to reach more young people across the country and spread awareness about the dangers of this counterfeit killer and save lives before it's too late.