Be in the KNOW

The dramatic rise in availability and use of opioids is a critical public health concern. As the next generation of leaders in their respective communities, it is befitting that University of Arizona students are provided the education necessary to take on their role in confronting the opioid epidemic, an ongoing national crisis.

For many young people, college is their first opportunity to exercise their independence and experience the world around them. Realistically, this can sometimes include recreational experimentation with drugs and alcohol or using substances to cope with stress levels related to academic performance, social life, or other peer pressure challenges.

Unfortunately, the presence of illicit fentanyl and other dangerous substances in street drugs and counterfeit prescription pills has increased the risk of fatal drug poisonings and overdoses, especially for college populations.

Providing education about the local drug landscape, signs of drug poisoning and overdose, naloxone administration, and the Good Samaritan law are effective methods of encouraging knowledge-based decision-making, increasing life-saving interventions, reducing overdose deaths, and improving the overall health and safety of our college communities.

Every member of our college community is important, and every life matters. To that end, we are committed to:

- Providing factual education to students, families, faculty, and staff about the dangers of fentanyl and other drugs in our community.
- Teaching the signs of an opioid poisoning/overdose.
- Providing the knowledge, skills and supplies to intervene with naloxone to save lives in an emergency.
- Informing students, families, faculty, and staff about the Good Samaritan Law.

Knowledge is the key to saving lives!