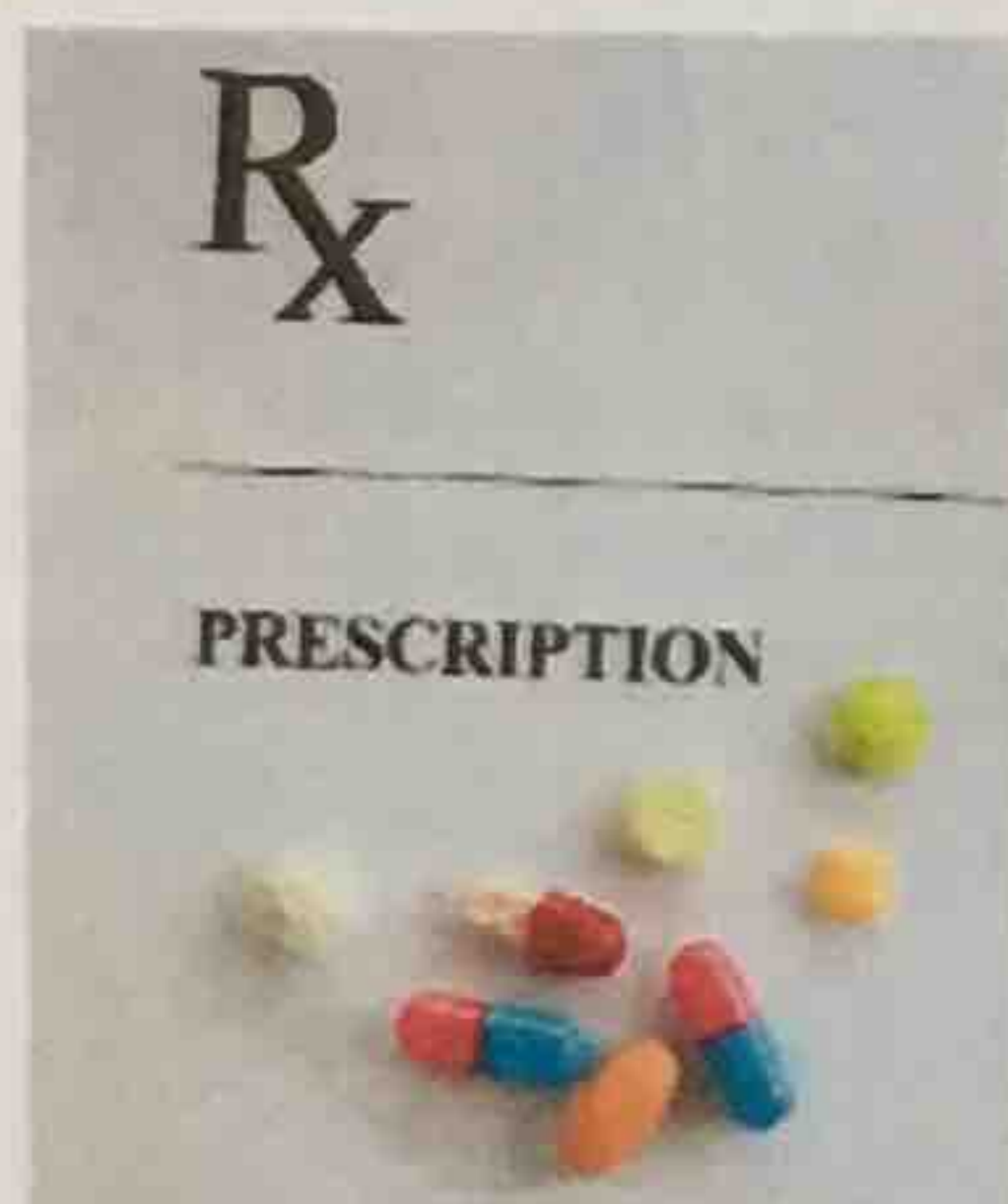




## Health and Human Services Commission To Conduct Prescription Drug Misuse Prevention Town Halls

Prescription drug misuse has become a large public health problem in Texas and across the nation. Misuse may occur in people who need painkillers, sedatives or stimulants to treat a medical condition and can lead to addiction, and even overdose deaths.

For teens, it is a growing problem as well. One out of five Texas high school students have taken prescription drugs without a doctor's prescription at least once in their lifetime. The problem has resulted in increasing healthcare costs. In 2015, Texas had the second highest total healthcare costs from opioid misuse in the nation (\$1.96 billion) and Texas is home to four of the top 25 cities in the U.S. for opioid misuse.



**Because of the need for prevention measures related to the emergence of prescription drug misuse, the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is conducting regional Town Halls to discuss suggested best practices and solutions to prevent prescription drug misuse.**



The Town Halls will be two to three hours in length. HHSC and local community representatives will make remarks and then ask for public comments and suggestions.

The ultimate goal is to develop a statewide strategic plan and community-based social marketing/public education plan to increase awareness of prescription drug misuse, the need for a coordinated approach, and promote

increased use of Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) data.

**Groups who are encouraged to send attendees:** youth; parents; business communities; media; schools/universities; youth-serving organizations; law enforcement agencies; religious or fraternal organizations; civic and volunteer groups; healthcare professionals; state, local or tribal agencies with expertise in the field of substance misuse; and other organizations involved in reducing substance misuse.

**For information or to register, go to**

**<https://www.prescriptiondrugsummit.com/regional.html>**

**Or call 877.451.8700**



**TEXAS**  
Health and Human  
Services

### Town Halls Dates/Times/Locations

#### Abilene

Wednesday, May 3 - 6-8:30 pm  
Abilene Civic Center  
1100 North 6th  
Abilene, Texas 79601

#### Houston

Tuesday, May 16 - 2-5 pm  
The Council on Recovery/  
Prevention Resource Center Region 6  
Auditorium  
303 Jackson Hill Street  
Houston, Texas 77007

#### El Paso

Thursday, May 18 - 2-5 pm  
Texas Tech Health Sciences Center  
4801 Alberta, 3rd Floor, Class A-3500  
El Paso, Texas 79905

#### Bryan/ College Station

Tuesday, May 23 - 6:30-8:30 pm  
Blinn College Student Center - F-120  
Bryan, TX 77802

#### Fort Worth

Thursday, June 1 - 2-5 pm  
University of North Texas  
Health Science Center MET 125 S  
3500 Camp Bowie Boulevard  
Fort Worth, Texas 76107

#### Midland

Friday, June 2 - 2-5 pm  
Region 18 Education Service Center  
2811 La Force Boulevard  
Midland, Texas 79706

#### Lufkin

Monday, June 19 - 6-8:30 pm  
Community Services Building  
Angelina College  
3500 South First Street  
Lufkin, Texas 75904

#### Waco/ Temple

Monday, July 10 - 2-5 pm  
Education Service Center Region 12  
2101 W. Loop 340  
Waco, Texas 76712

#### Dallas

Friday, July 14 - 2-5 pm  
Scottish Rite Hospital for Children  
2222 Welborn Street  
Dallas, Texas 75219

#### San Antonio

Tuesday, July 18 - 2-5 pm  
Oblate Whitley Theological Center  
285 Oblate Drive  
San Antonio, Texas 78216-6693

#### Beaumont

Wednesday, July 19 - 2-5 pm  
Location to be announced

#### Weslaco

Tuesday, July 25 - 2-5 pm  
Location to be announced