

#### ECHO IDAHO: K12 Substance Use Prevention & Treatment

#### Fentanyl Use in Idaho: New Iaws, outreach, training, and age-specific resources October 1, 2024 Dominic Tierno, Filmmaker

Please keep in mind that your School District policies and Health Services procedures, medication administration protocols, process guidelines, remain the guiding principles to your practice.

None of the planners or presenters for this educational activity have relevant financial relationship(s) to disclose with ineligible companies whose primary business is producing, marketing, selling, re-selling, or distributing healthcare products used by or on patients.

# **Learning Objectives**

- Point out recent changes in Idaho State Law concerning fentanyl
- Announce SDE and ISP's partnership to educate K-12 students
- Provide a brief training in youth drug prevention education
- Equip you with resources you can take action with today



# Idaho State Law Updates

The State of Idaho has passed two recent laws pertaining to fentanyl under House Bill No. 406 (effective July 1, 2024)

- Mandatory Minimums
  - Minimum sentences for trafficking fentanyl in Idaho
  - The severity of the sentence increases with the volume of fentanyl trafficked
  - Aimed to deter fentanyl entering Idaho from other states with more leniency
- Drug Induced Homicide
  - Homicide when an individual provides fentanyl and results in someone's death
  - Aimed to deter fentanyl poisoning deaths being treated as "overdoses"



# **Education Grant Given**

Idaho State Department of Education (SDE) and Idaho State Police (ISP) have partnered to bring Idaho Fentanyl Education to K-12 students, parents, police, and SROs.

- \$900,000 grant given from the Millennium Fund
- Cutting-edge content developed to appeal to Idaho youth
  - Includes documentary *Dead On Arrival* or another age-appropriate video
- Training and presentations began last month September 2024
- Expected to reach tens of thousands of students in 2024-2025 school year



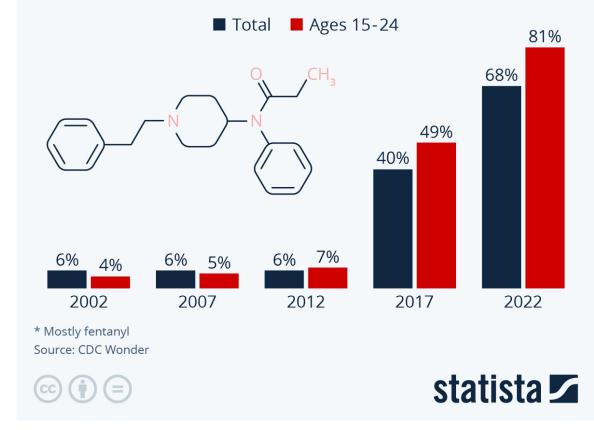


# **Fentanyl and Youth**

Fentanyl deaths have skyrocketed among young people over the past decade. Fentanyl poisoning is now the leading cause of death in ages 18-45 in the United States (CDC, 2021). It is imperative that we urgently educate our youth about this threat to their well-being and future.

#### Fentanyl Responsible for 81% Of Overdose Deaths Under 24

Share of drug overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids<sup>\*</sup> in total drug overdose deaths in the U.S.

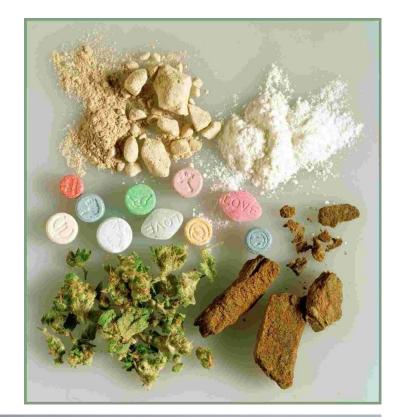




University of Idaho WWAMI + College of Education

# **Fentanyl Found in Drugs**

- Last year, Idaho State Police found fentanyl in all classes of drugs they test
- "If it is an illicit drug, it is likely to contain fentanyl"
- Yes, this can include marijuana
- Reports of vape/THC devices containing fentanyl in Idaho
- It comes down to economics





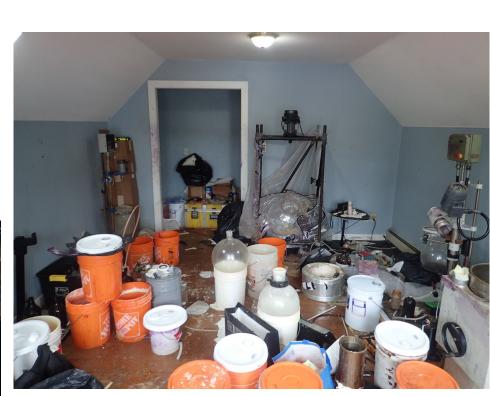


#### How It's Made

• Images we show to youth of where these street drugs come from





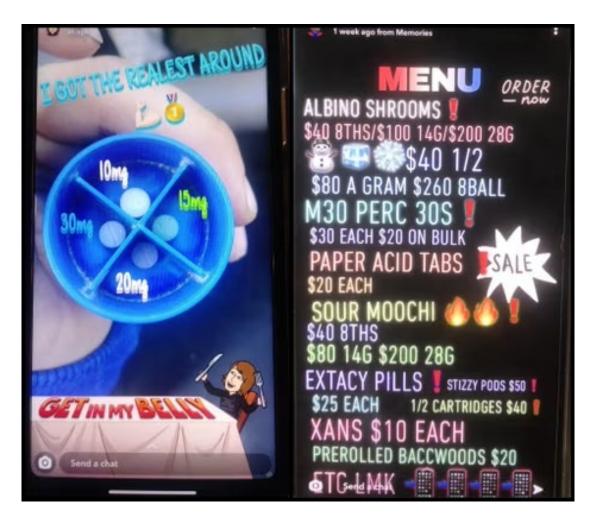






# **Social Media: Drug Playground**

**Snapchat and Instagram are** among many online platforms that drug transactions occur through today. Drugs are commonly advertised on a "menu" and are easily delivered. Buyers often presume they are getting a drug that does not contain fentanyl. Parents are often unaware any of this is taking place.





# **From Our Presentations**

• We have found that exposing deception is effective in youth





# **Pills vs. Powder**

- Recreational drug use, if not quickly resulting in death, turns into overt fentanyl addiction
- Fentanyl powder is now becoming more prevalent (even more so than pills in some areas) due to addict demand
- Again comes down to economics



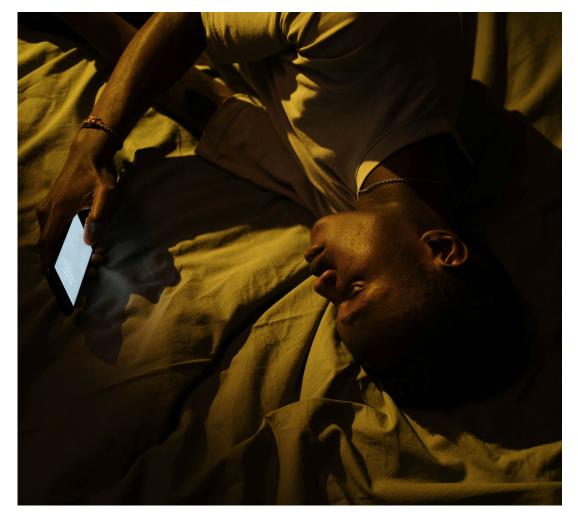




## **Mental Health: A Major Factor**

If our hope is to decrease demand, we must ask, "Why do these young people reach out for a drug (e.g. prescription pill) in the first place?

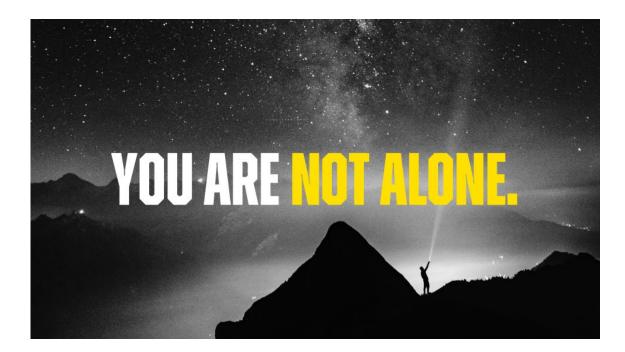
- The most common answer l've heard is mental health struggles
- This combined with pop culture promoting drug use is a deadly combination





# You Have A Purpose, You Are Not Alone

Our presentation always ends with a vision of hope. What you are going through is temporary, but some decisions last forever. You were made to have a future. You have a unique purpose that only you can live. Your life is worth so much more than to throw away on drugs. There is a better way.







#### **Free Resources**

- Watch and share Dead On Arrival
  - Find it on YouTube by searching "dead on arrival"
  - Free for educational purposes
- Natural High
  - Their distribution is part of how this came about
  - Free fentanyl toolkit at naturalhigh.org/fentanyl
- Book a free education event in your area
  - Visit idahofentanyleducation.com and fill out the form
  - Email info@idahofentanyleducation.com



# **Key Points**

- Despite all the efforts going forth to fight against fentanyl, Idaho youth must be educated to take the personal responsibility to refrain from drug use as fentanyl has made drugs significantly more available and harmful
- Everyone can commit to educating the young people in their circle of influence about fentanyl using the free resources now available
- Be a light



### References

- <u>https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/fastats/deaths.htm</u>
- <u>https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/vsrr/VSRR016.pdf</u>
- <u>https://wisqars.cdc.gov/fatal-leading</u>
- <u>https://wonder.cdc.gov/controller/saved/D157/D242F834</u>



# **Before You Ask**

- NARCAN®
  - Effective when someone educated and aware is there to promptly administer it
  - Encourage people to carry it as it could save someone's life
- Test Strips
  - Largely ineffective due to the nature of fentanyl's potency and the volume required in a substance
  - Used by dealers for further deception to show that "fentanyl is not in \_\_\_\_\_"



