



Indian Affairs - Office of Public Affairs

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WHAT: In October of this year, President Obama announced a series of public and private sector efforts to address the prescription drug abuse and heroin epidemic. As part of those commitments, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service; and the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs will host a press conference to announce an agreement to equip BIA officers with naloxone for responding to incidents of opioid overdose. Following the press conference, there will be a community forum on preventing and treating prescription drug abuse and heroin use. Naloxone is a drug that reverses the effects of a prescription opioid or heroin overdose and saves lives.

WHO: Michael Botticelli, Director of National Drug Control Policy at the White House Dr. Susan V. Karol, Chief Medical Officer, Indian Health Service Michael S. Black, Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Charles Addington, Deputy Associate Director of Field Operations, Bureau of Indian Affairs

WHEN: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Central time, Wednesday, December 16 1 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Press conference (credentialed press only) 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. Community forum on responses to opioid epidemic (open press)

WHERE: Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa 500 S Peoria Ave Tulsa, Oklahoma 74120

LIVE WEBCAST: The events will also be video Webcast. To watch LIVE online, visit:

<http://www.nativetimes.com>

CONTACT: Indian Health Service Public Affairs newsroom@ihs.gov 301-443-3593 Bureau of Indian Affairs Public Affairs 202-208-3710

<https://www.bia.gov/as-ia/opa/online-press-release/press-conference-new-effort-curb-drug-overdoses-indian-country>