FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INDIANA PROFESSIONAL LICENSING AGENCY WORKS WITH FEDERAL AND LOCAL PARTNERS TO COLLECT 486.6 POUNDS OF EXPIRED MEDICATION FOR DRUG TAKE-BACK DAY

Indianapolis, IN – Despite rainy weather over the weekend, six sites sponsored by the Indiana Professional Licensing Agency (IPLA), the Indiana Board of Pharmacy, and community partners, succeeded in collecting 486.6 pounds of unused prescription drugs for Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.

Twice a year, the IPLA works in collaboration with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), pharmacies, local fire and law enforcement, and community leaders to host sites across Indiana to allow citizens to drop off any unused medications. The safe disposal of prescription drugs decreases the number of prescription drug-overdoses and other harmful outcomes. Preventing drug-overdoses is a crucial element of Governor Eric Holcomb's five pillar agenda.

This event, started by the DEA in 2010, partners the DEA with state and local agencies across the country to provide communities with safe and convenient ways to dispose of unused medications. Prior to this initiative, Americans often kept expired and unused medication or disposed of them by flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash. Both methods leave the medications open to misuse and could potentially harm the environment.

Prescription Drug Take Back Day is held twice a year in the spring and fall.

The following sites in Indiana were sponsored by IPLA, the Board of Pharmacy and local partners.

## **April 28 2017**

Walgreens 330 West State Blvd Fort Wayne, IN Sponsored by the Allen County Triad and in partnership with the Fort Wayne Police Department

## **April 29 2017**

Marsh 6965 West 38th St Indianapolis, IN 46254 In partnership with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department

Marsh 14450 Mundy Drive Noblesville, IN 46060 In partnership with the Noblesville Police Department

North Vernon Fire Department 2000 North Madison Avenue North Vernon, Indiana 47265 In partnership with the Jennings County Sheriff's Department Marsh Supermarket & Pharmacy 2940 Broadway, Anderson, IN 46012 In partnership with the Anderson Police Department

**Community Surgery Center Pharmacy** 801 Mac Arthur Blvd Munster, IN 46321 In partnership with the Community Health Hospital

Total prescription drugs collected: 486.6lbs



Photo Credit: PLA/Allen County Triad