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April 26, 2021  
**For immediate release**

## **Doshier Drug Drop Reports Record Turnout**

*This semi-annual medication collection event, which was on pause last year due to COVID-19, saw participation from over 700 households.*

SOUTHPORT—Local households discarded more than 30,000 expired or unwanted narcotic pills and nearly 3,700 milliliters of narcotic liquids at Doshier Memorial Hospital's semiannual Operation Medicine Cabinet, held Thursday, April 22nd. Vehicles and pedestrians drove or walked by the front entrance to drop off the medications from 730 households, which accounts for the largest community turn out for this semi-annual event, which was temporarily paused in 2020 due to COVID-19.

“We’ve had people drop off two bottles of medication and we’ve seen people bring us several bags,” said Lynda Stanley, President of Doshier Memorial Hospital and Foundation. “We are glad to take anything they want to bring us, since that means they are not flushing it into our water supplies or allowing it to get into the wrong hands.”

“The large turnout for this event speaks to our community’s desire to dispose of their medications safely and responsibly,” said Dr. Brad Hilaman, Doshier CEO and CMO. “Proper drug disposal saves lives and protects the environment, and we want to thank local residents for being conscientious about how they discard their medications.”

In addition to Doshier employees, Brunswick County Sheriff’s Department and Southport Police were onsite to assist and to provide law enforcement. Medications collected were sorted and then transported from the hospital grounds for safe incineration.

This was the 22nd semi-annual drug drop held by Doshier Memorial Hospital and has become a much anticipated community event. After a brief hiatus in 2020 due to COVID-19 safety, the hospital plans to reinstate Operation Medicine Cabinet on its traditional April/October schedule, with the next collection of unwanted prescription medications taking place on Thursday October 7, 2021, at the hospital front entrance.



**Lynda Stanley, President, Doshier Memorial Hospital and Foundation and Dr. Brad Hilaman, CEO, CMO of Doshier Memorial Hospital, stand behind a table holding some of the collected medications from their Operation Medicine Cabinet, drug take back event.**

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