

AHEI 2017 Grant Report

Grant Project: Medication Safety: Count It! Lock It! Drop It!

Organization Name: Knoxville Academy of Medicine Alliance, Knoxville, Tennessee

Tennessee now ranks 3rd in the country in the prescribing of controlled substances. Although there has been an overall decrease in prescribing, efforts continue to further reduce prescribing, as well as educating the community on how to properly store and dispose of medications. Count It! Lock It! Drop It! is a statewide initiative to create awareness. This project enhanced these efforts by providing 75,000 pre-printed pharmacy bags throughout a 6 month period to independent pharmacies in Knoxville with the safe storage message on all the bags. The bags had the partner logos as well as the medication storage information. There were two quarterly medication collection events held in the community during this time as well, where over 700 pounds of medications were collected and incinerated. The permanent disposal box at the Knoxville Police Department also collected 702 pounds of medications. We promoted the pharmacy project through our social media outlets on Twitter and Facebook, with an organic post reach of over 60,000. We are extremely grateful to AHEI for their support of this far reaching project.