POULSBO POLICE STREET BEAT

EDITION 2

What should I do if I see someone who appears slumped over in public, possibly under the influence of drugs?

We've received questions about encountering individuals who seem to be unconscious with their chin on their chest or their body slumped over. This posture could suggest opioid use (including fentanyl) or other substances that depress the central nervous system, putting the person at serious risk of respiratory distress or overdose.

Why It's Important to Act:

- **Airway and Breathing Risks:** When someone is slumped over, their airway can be partially or fully blocked, leading to low oxygen levels or even respiratory arrest.
- **Overdose Dangers:** Opioid drugs, including fentanyl, can slow or stop breathing, making timely intervention critical.
- **Poulsbo Police Carry Narcan:** Officers are equipped with Narcan (naloxone), a medication that can reverse opioid overdose and save lives.

What You Should Do:

- **Call 9-1-1:** If you suspect someone's health or safety is at risk, please call 9-1-1. Even if it's not a "true emergency," we would rather respond and ensure everything is okay than miss an opportunity to prevent tragedy.
- **Allow First Responders to Assess**: Poulsbo Police Department officers and Poulsbo Fire Department personnel can evaluate the individual's condition. If it's an overdose, having Narcan on hand allows for a potentially lifesaving intervention.
- **Opportunities for Help**: If there isn't an immediate medical crisis, officers can offer referrals to the North Kitsap Recovery Resource Center to help the individual get support for substance use issues.

North Kitsap Recovery Resource Center (NKRCC):

The NKRRC is a walk-in, no-cost center available to anyone interested in recovery from drug or alcohol misuse.

- **Location & Hours:**
  - 19351 8th Avenue NE Suite 141, Poulsbo Village Upper Building (up from Centennial Park)
  - Open Monday to Friday, 10am to 4pm

- **Available Services:**
  - Assistance with court requirements
  - Peer support and substance use disorder evaluations
  - Mental health counseling
  - Housing navigation and employment services
  - Medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) and alcohol addiction
  - Groups & classes (SMART Recovery, Narcotics Anonymous, Anger Management, etc.)
  - 24/7 Narcan located outside the center

For more information, call the NKRRC at 360-564-9635 or check out www.cityofpoulsbo.com/recovery-resource-center.

By staying vigilant and informed, we can all help keep Poulsbo a safe and caring community! If you have a general question about traffic laws or law enforcement procedures, email us at streetbeat@cityofpoulsbo.com.

****Reminder: This email is not monitored 24/7. For emergencies, always call 9-1-1****