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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 25, 2024 *GBHWC Offers Resources to Effectively Respond to Fentanyl and Other Drug Overdose in Guam*

Hagåtña, Guam – Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center (GBHWC) offers resources for the community regarding the recently reported cases of fentanyl and other drug misuse. Help is available. Contact GBHWC to avail confidential addiction screening and treatment services at (671) 647-5440, or to get trained on addiction prevention information at rx.marketing@peaceguam.org. Support for recovery is available through the Tohge warmline at (671) 787 or 686-WARM (9726).

Fentanyl is a controlled substance approved by the Food and Drug Administration as pain medication. Its potency is about 100 times higher than morphine, and is typically prescribed to patients undergoing chemotherapy, or those experiencing severe post-surgery pain. When misused, fentanyl can lead to substance use dependence and, in some cases, overdose deaths.

Signs of a fentanyl overdose may result in stupor, changes in pupillary size, cold and clammy skin, cyanosis, coma, and respiratory failure leading to death.

If you or a loved one are concerned about fentanyl misuse or potential overdose, Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center (GBHWC) offers a variety of resources:

- The Drug & Alcohol Division (aka New Beginnings) offers treatment services for drug dependence – from education to intensive detox, also residential and withdrawal management in our semi-medical inpatient unit. To avail of these services, contact 671-475-5440 or 671-647-5438. All calls and services are confidential.
- Project PATH under the Prevention and Training (PEACE) Branch offers free monthly trainings on addiction prevention and opioid overdose response. Contact rx.marketing@peaceguam.org for the training schedule.
- A publicly accessible Naloxone vending machine is located outside the main entrance of the Guam Behavioral Health & Wellness Center in Tamuning. Naloxone is a medicine for reversing an opioid overdose, including fentanyl. The vending machine is scheduled to be refilled on June 28, 2024.
- The Tohge warmline (671-787 or 671-686-WARM[9726]) is available for those seeking information about getting help with substance misuse. Tohge, Inc. is a peer-led group that also offer support for those in recovery from substance use, struggling to maintain their sobriety.

For more information regarding the services available at GBHWC, contact the GBHWC Main office at (671) 647-1901 or the GBHWC PEACE Branch at rx.marketing@peaceguam.org.