



June 2, 2016

ATTN: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Room 407
Santa Barbara CA, 93101

Members of the Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to stress the urgency for the Board of Supervisors to adopt more convenient and sustainable drug collection options for Santa Barbara County to protect public health and safety, as well as the environment. On behalf of Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care of Santa Barbara, I urge you to approve the ordinance regarding the establishment of a robust and sustainable local program requiring drug producers to fund program operations, and encouraging local pharmacies to host drug collection bins to provide a safe and convenient disposal option for residents.

At Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care of Santa Barbara, we understand firsthand the importance of careful management and control of addictive prescription drugs in the home. Many other counties have implemented "Producer Responsibility" Safe Drug Disposal Ordinances across California and we believe Santa Barbara should do the same. It is time for drug producers to pay for the costs of this program to ensure the safety of citizens in Santa Barbara County. We support this ordinance which requires drug producers to fund and provide collection bins and servicing, public education, and mail-back services for safe drug disposal of unused prescription medications.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lynda S. Tanner, RN, MSN
President & CEO
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