

# WE RISE ABOVE

## "GIMOOKIIMIN"

We Rise Above (WRA) is an awareness campaign created to combat prescription opioid abuse. Participants in WRA are community members who live on White Earth Reservation and are taking a stand against prescription opioids. WRA gives a voice to those who have lost friends or family members to addiction, battled personal addictions, or to those who just want a change in the never-ending cycle of prescription opioids. In partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), WRA demands a decline in the number of individuals who recreationally use opioids or abuse them.

### PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS

Prescription opioids have had a devastating effect on many populations. Prescription opioids are medications prescribed by doctors to treat pain; examples of these medications include morphine, codeine, methadone, oxycodone, hydrocodone, fentanyl, hydromorphone, and buprenorphine. Non-prescription opioids include illicit drugs such as heroin.

Prescription opioids can be extremely addictive and there are serious risks being addicted to these medications. Side effects include tolerance (need to consume more and more for pain relief), physical dependence (withdrawal symptoms), increased sensitivity to pain, constipation, nausea, vomiting, confusion, depression, sweating, and more.

# THE FACTS ON PRESCRIPTION OPIOIDS



More than 191 million opioid prescriptions were dispensed to American patients in 2017.

Two out of three drug overdose deaths in 2018 involved an opioid.



One in four patients receiving long-term opioid therapy in a primary care setting struggles with opioid addiction.

Nearly 450,000 people died from overdoses involving any opioid, including prescription and illicit opioids, from 1999-2018.



Information for this fact sheet was gathered from: <https://www.cdc.gov>. We Rise Above is a collaboration by White Earth Nation Public Health and the CDC. For more information on We Rise Above, please visit: [www.whiteearth.com](http://www.whiteearth.com).



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