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**MED-PROJECT LAUNCHING SAFE, FREE, AND CONVENIENT
HOUSEHOLD SHARPS TAKE-BACK PROGRAM**

*CVS Pharmacy, Rite Aid, and Walgreens already enrolled;
additional pharmacies, healthcare providers, and retailer sites currently signing up*

Sacramento, October 5, 2022 – California residents who rely on syringes and injectable pharmaceutical products to treat health conditions now have access to MED-Project’s free, statewide program to safely dispose of household sharps. Major pharmacy chains across the state already offer this free consumer service through an easy-to-use online ordering system. This program launch follows the passage of the 2018 California Senate Bill 212. MED-Project’s program may benefit pharmacies and other sharps retailers by increasing customer loyalty and foot traffic into stores and creating return business.

“This newly launched sharps take-back program that provides mail-back packages to consumers is free and easy for retailers to provide, convenient for their customers, and valuable to the community,” said Dr. Victoria Travis, National Program Director for MED-Project. “We are encouraging sharps users across California to ask their local pharmacies and health care providers about this new, free service.”

MED-Project is an experienced leader in household sharps and medication take-back programs. This program is free for sharps retailers and their customers and completing the retailer sign-up process to use MED-Project’s online ordering system is quick and easy. Retailers are already pre-enrolled, and simply need to visit www.med-project.org/sharpsca to fill in their facility National Provider Identifier (NPI) and contact information to finish activating their online account. Once a retailer completes the sign-up process for their online account, MED-Project handles all the details, including the distribution of materials to retailers and customers, program operation, safe and secure disposal, consumer education and outreach, and compliance with state and federal regulations.

Retailers with questions can email MED-Project at california@med-project.org or contact the 24/7 toll-free help desk at (833) MED-PROJECT / (833) 633-7765.

In December of 2021, MED-Project began implementing this important program for Californians under the oversight of the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

MED-Project was established in 2014 by the Pharmaceutical Product Stewardship Work Group (PPSWG) to implement and operate community-based pharmaceutical product stewardship programs. PPSWG funds all program operations on behalf of its pharmaceutical producer members. For more information about MED-Project's programs and available services, please contact MED-Project at (844) MED-PROJECT / (844) 633-7765 (TTY: 711) or visit www.med-project.org.

About MED-Project USA

MED-Project USA is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that develops, implements, and operates safe, effective, and complaint programs for the disposal of household medicine and sharps in adherence with state and local legislation. MED-Project works with national and local chain pharmacies, local pharmacies, law enforcement agencies, and community-based organizations to educate residents and those who care for them on the proper use, storage, and disposal of household medicine and sharps. To learn more, visit med-projectusa.org.

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