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Contact: Amanda Spice Director of Marketing and Communications, AXΩ 317-579-5050 | aspice@alphachiomega.org

> Contact: Emily Keeler Generation Rx, The Ohio State University 614-292-1996 | keeler.16@osu.edu

NATIONAL FRATERNITY AND SORORITY ORGANIZATIONS PARTNER WITH GENERATION RX TO PROMOTE MEDICATION SAFETY

INDIANAPOLIS, February 2, 2021 – Six inter/national organizations have partnered with Generation Rx, a national drug misuse prevention program housed at The Ohio State University, to enhance safe medication practices for fraternity and sorority chapters and campus communities nationwide. Alpha Chi Omega, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Sigma Nu, Pi Kappa Alpha, Pi Kappa Phi and Zeta Tau Alpha have collaborated to release new educational resources to help prevent prescription drug misuse among collegiate members.

This collaboration builds on the Generation Rx University Toolkit, which was first introduced in 2013. Generation Rx worked closely with the partners to revise existing toolkit messaging for fraternity and sorority audiences. In addition, the newly released resources now include a module focused on the misuse of sedatives. Using the University Toolkit for Fraternity and Sorority Life, campuses can now provide free prevention education focused on opioids, prescription stimulants, sedatives and general safe medication practices.

"This collaboration is a great way to highlight how the Generation Rx resources are both universal and adaptable to specific audiences," said Generation Rx Director Nicole Kwiek, Ph.D. "I'm excited for the organizations to use these materials and help educate the next generation of young men and women on the importance of medication safety."

The excitement for these resources is also shared by the organizations.

"Acknowledging the need for expanded resources for substance misuse prevention and medication safety, we are proud to have collaborated with Generation Rx and our peer organizations" said Alpha Chi Omega Chief Executive Officer Katie Lampinen Gaffin. "These new resources will be accessible to members across the country to help prevent prescription drug misuse on college campuses."



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This collaboration was greatly assisted by the efforts of the <u>Higher Education Center for Alcohol and Drug Misuse Prevention and Recovery</u> (HECAOD) and its commitment to the well-being of the fraternity and sorority communities. HECAOD, also housed at The Ohio State University, is the premier alcohol and drug misuse prevention and recovery resource for colleges and universities across the nation. HECAOD helped the various organizations connect for this project.

The new module will include a video, presentation slide deck and facilitator's guide. The guide outlines techniques for delivering the toolkit as an in-depth workshop, as well as how to use the toolkit for shorter, micro-learning opportunities. These materials are free and can be easily presented by chapter officers, organization volunteers, student life professionals or local medical professionals. While Generation Rx has historically focused on in-person programming, virtual delivery tips and tricks are included to expand the opportunities for today's campus climate.

Molly Downing, Ph.D., associate director of Generation Rx, led the creation of these materials in collaboration with the fraternity and sorority organizations.

"We are very excited to see this collaboration come to life. These new materials are addressing a well-documented need for relatable and effective ways of teaching medication safety to young adults," said Downing. "Chapters across the country can be leaders in starting these important conversations about health and safety. We hope that by expanding our resources and collaborating with these great organizations, we can combat prescription drug misuse in new ways."

The new resources are available at http://go.osu.edu/genrxfslife. The original University Toolkit was created in partnership with college students, for college students, to help prevent prescription drug misuse on university campuses. This toolkit, like all of the Generation Rx toolkits, is available for free, along with several other audience-specific resources, at GenerationRx.org.

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ABOUT ALPHA CHI OMEGA

Founded more than 135 years ago on the campus of DePauw University, Alpha Chi Omega has been a leader in redefining what it means to be a sorority. Through strength in sisterhood and a commitment to the values we share, generations of real, strong Alpha Chi Omega women have become leaders who effect change on our campuses, in our communities and around the world. Visit alphachiomega.org to learn more.

ABOUT GENERATION RX

Generation Rx was founded at The Ohio State University College of Pharmacy and has been powered through a partnership with the Cardinal Health Foundation since 2009.