



Today's Date: February 5, 2024

Release Date: IMMEDIATE

Gabriella Smith
*Director of Communications &
Community Engagement*
(434) 238-7727

‘Hidden In Plain Sight’ community workshops to educate parents and caregivers on fentanyl risks

Lynchburg, VA – According to a recent study, an average of 22 high-school aged youth died each week in the U.S. from drug overdoses in 2022, a record number driven primarily by fentanyl poisonings from counterfeit pills ([NEJM, 2024](#)).

Horizon Behavioral Health seeks to prepare and protect residents of Central Virginia by offering a *Hidden In Plain Sight* Workshop Series for parents and caregivers, in partnership with local law enforcement. The immersive workshop experience will simulate a mock teens’ bedroom designed to give parents, teachers, coaches, and other caring adults, the skills needed to recognize and address risky behaviors in young people. The interactive presentation will address the latest drug trends, including how to recognize items that may be contaminated with fentanyl, common items found in a teens’ room that may indicate risky behaviors, signs of mental health challenges, technology risks, available resources, and how to get help. Participants will also have the opportunity to be trained in emergency opioid overdose response and receive free resources to safeguard their and their loved ones.

Workshop Series Information

Monday, February 5th, from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Madison Heights Library

200 River James Shopping Center, Madison Heights, VA 24572

Tuesday, February 6th, from 6:00pm-7:00pm

The Outpost

402 E Main Street, Bedford, VA 24523

Monday, February 12th, from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Appomattox County High School

198 Evergreen Ave., Appomattox, VA 24522

Tuesday, February 20th, from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Lynchburg Redevelopment & Housing Authority

1948 Thomson Drive, Lynchburg, VA 24501

Tuesday, February 27th, from 6:00pm-7:00pm

Rustburg Library

684 Village Highway, Rustburg, VA 24588



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***Horizon Behavioral Health** has been the primary public behavioral healthcare provider in the Central Virginia region for more than 54 years. Horizon provides services to adults and children, addressing challenges with mental health, substance use and intellectual disabilities. Horizon is accredited by CARF International. This represents the highest level of accreditation that can be given to a behavioral health organization.*