Drug overdoses are a major threat all across the United States. According to health law, a drug overdose occurs when a person takes too much of any substance whether it be prescription, over-the-counter, legal or illegal. Symptoms may include nausea or vomiting. Confusion or loss of consciousness. Aggression. Tremors. Hallucinations or delusions. Risk factors include dosage error or misuse. History with addiction, storage misplacement or mental illnesses. According to the CDC, drug overdose death rates have dramatically increased since 2001, and drug overdoses have skyrocketed in 2017 dominated by synthetic opioids — synthetic opioids are manmade jobs, highly potent. Examples include fentanyl and tramadol often abused for pain relief — very addictive. They reduced U.S. life expectancy in the past three years. Last year President Trump declared the opium crisis a nationwide public health emergency. These are important measures. Yet we could do much more for those affected. We can request follow ups and evaluation for addiction after opioid prescriptions. You can call the 24/7 Drug Abuse Hotline at the following number: 1-8770751-2819 for
those we care deeply about. We can spread awareness of naloxone, a drug that blocks the effects of opioids. We can limit opioid prescriptions by educating physicians of the pertinent dangers. Thank you for listening.