

 **DOCUMENTARY PROGRAM TOOLKIT**

 HIGH SCHOOLS: PARENT EMAIL

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**Subject Line:** Teen fatality due to prescription drug misuse is rising

**Alternate Subject Line:** One in five high school seniors report they have misused prescription drugs

**The Facts:**

* Teen fatality due to prescription drug misuse is rising.
* In addition to the recreational misuse of prescription drugs, teens who suffer from stress and depression are turning to prescription drugs to self-medicate.
* There is an alarming increase in deadly overdoses from fentanyl among young people. Teenagers unknowingly purchase Fentanyl-laced prescription pills on the street and through social media.

For the month(s) of [Month-Month], we’re making a lasting impact on the health and well-being of our students by bringing the documentary program "If They Had Known" to [Name of School]. The film shares the story of Clay Soper's tragic, accidental death at 19 from mixing prescription drugs with alcohol. The film, combined with the Program Toolkit, catalyzes peer-to-peer discussions about the risks surrounding the recreational misuse of prescription drugs.

"If They Had Known" recounts the last night of Clay Soper's life. On July 18, 2015, 19-year-old Clay Soper and his teenage friends gathered for a house party. They were ready for a typical night of fun. During the party, Clay, and some other partygoers mixed Xanax with alcohol. For Clay, it was a lethal mixture that caused his respiratory system and heart to stop. No one at the party knew combining prescription drugs with alcohol could be fatal. The film "If They Had Known" is not about drug addiction or substance abuse. It’s an honest account of a death that shouldn't have happened. The life-saving message comes from Clay's friends and peers, not actors. The takeaway is genuine and impactful. The documentary, combined with the Program Toolkit, provides teens with information that could save their life or the life of a friend.

“If They Had Known” is a program of the Clay Soper Memorial Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The mission of the Clay Soper Memorial Fund is to educate, engage and empower today’s youth with life-saving information about the risks of misusing and abusing prescription drugs and to help motivate cultural change among young people. For parents and families interested in viewing "If They Had Known," individual rental is available on Amazon and Google Play.

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