Opioid Summit “Building Bridges and Finding Answers:
The Opioid Crisis in Connecticut”

November 9, 2018

8:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.  Registration and Breakfast

8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m.  Welcome Remarks
Jennifer G. Brown, Dean, Quinnipiac University School of Law
Andrea Barton Reeves, President, Connecticut Bar Foundation; President/CEO, HARC, Inc.
Ralph Monaco, Chair, Connecticut Bar Association Opioid Task Force; Conway Londregan Sheehan & Monaco PC

8:40 a.m. – 8:55 a.m.  Storytellers – People with Direct Experience
Jaclyn Lucibello
Joel Cartner

9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.  Talking the Same Language - Opioid Addiction Primer:
What is it? How it Works. How it Happens.
Introduction of Dr. Daniel G. Tobin:
Dr. Howard Andrew Selinger, Chair of Family Medicine, Frank H. Netter, MD, School of Medicine and ProHealth Physicians

Speaker:
Dr. Daniel G. Tobin, FACP, Associate Professor of Medicine, Yale University

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.  Storytellers - First Responders
Peter Canning, EMS Coordinator, UCONN John Dempsey Hospital
Thomas J. Curcio, Chief, New London Fire Department

9:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.  The Opioid Impact in Connecticut & Response
Raul Pino, Commissioner, CT Department of Public Health
Miriam Delphin-Rittmon, Ph.D., Commissioner, CT Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Gary A. Roberge, Executive Director, CT Judicial Branch, Court Support Services Division

10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.  Governor’s Address – The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy,
Governor of Connecticut
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.  Break

10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.  Storytellers – Treater/Navigator
Lauren Goodkin, In Angel’s Arms
Shelley Halligan, DNP, PMHNP-BC, CARN-AP,
Director of Clinical Services, Aware Recovery Care
Dede Dwyer, RN, DARC, CARN, CT Care Coordinator Educator,
Aware Recovery Care

10:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Treatment Options
Panel Introduction:
Karen Ragaisis, DNP, APRN, PMHNP-BC, PMHCNS-BC, CARN-AP,
Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing, Quinnipiac University School of Nursing
Panelists:
Dr. J. Craig Allen, Medical Director, Rushford, Hartford Health Care
Dr. Vincent McClain, Associate Medical Director for
Residential Addiction Services and Assistant Program Director for
ACGME approved Addiction Medicine Fellowship, Rushford,
Hartford Health Care
Melissa Monroe, LPC, Clinical Director, Rushford,
Hartford Health Care

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Harm Reduction
Introduction of Mark A. Jenkins:
Ramona Anderson, Program Manager, Opioid & Prescription Drug Overdose
Prevention Program, Office of Injury Prevention,
CT Department of Public Health
Speaker:
Mark A. Jenkins, Founder/Executive Director,
The Greater Hartford Harm Reduction Coalition

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  Lunch Pick Up

12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.  Lunch Panel: Storytellers from Families/Obituaries
Moderators:
Theresa Dalton, Supervisory Assistant Public Defender
Millie Hepburn PhD, RN, ACNS-BC, SCRN, Assistant Professor,
Quinnipiac University School of Nursing
Panelists:
Heide Kapral, GRASP (Grief Recovery After Substance Passing)
John H. Lally, MA, MS, APRN, BC, Executive Director, Today I Matter, Inc.
David Onusko

1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m.  Glimmers of Hope – Programs with Success
Jeanne Milstein, Director for Human Services, City of New London
Trisha Rios, Recovery Navigator, NL CARES
Carol Jones, Director of Medical Case Management, Alliance for Living;
Project Manager, NL Cares/Recovery Navigators
1:15 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Strategies
Introduction of Dr. David A. Fieellin
Dr. Howard Andrew Selinger, Chair of Family Medicine, Frank H. Netter, MD, School of Medicine and ProHealth Physicians

Speaker:
Dr. David A. Fieellin, Professor of Medicine, Emergency Medicine and Public Health at Yale

1:30 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. Setting the Stage/Expectations
Bill Logue, The Logue Group

1:50 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Join Your Working Group

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Working Groups

1. **Towns/Cities/Municipalities/Regional Groups – Room: SLE:221**
   Jeanne Milstein, Director for Human Services, City of New London

   Connecticut comprises 169 municipalities, all of which are impacted by the opioid epidemic. While many Connecticut cities, towns and regions have task forces to help with public awareness aimed at prevention, treatment, and recovery, collaboration among various public and private groups is critical. This working group will look at the crisis from rural, suburban, and urban perspectives and allow local task forces to share ideas, promote successful initiatives, discuss challenges, and generate ideas about how municipalities can fight the opioid epidemic.

2. **Family Support – Room: SLE 230**
   Millie Hepburn, Assistant Professor, Quinnipiac University School of Nursing

   This working group will determine the gaps in support for families and establish priority areas and available resources for family members of persons with an addiction. This group will also envision strategies to address these gaps and identify what will be needed to provide this support.

3. **Medical Provider Education – Room: SLE 116**
   Dr. Howard Andrew Selinger, Chair of Family Medicine, Frank H. Netter, MD, School of Medicine and ProHealth Physicians

   In the current era, most opioid use disorder evolves from exposure to and abuse of prescription opiates. We are the prescribers. This working group will identify prescribers’ roles and recommend concrete actions to mitigate opioid use disorder. Pain management is the principal reason for prescribing opiates. How do we redefine the paradigm and change clinical habits for managing pain? Are there more steps to be taken in Connecticut and elsewhere to facilitate optimal opiate prescribing practices, dosing, drug selection, duration, and overdose rescue? How can we most effectively disseminate “best practices” to ensure adoption, accountability, and self-enforcement?
4. **First Responders – Room: SLE 233**  
Karen Ragaisis, Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing, Quinnipiac University School of Nursing

In terms of the opioid crisis, what is important, and why, to first responders? This working group will describe the tangible and intangible barriers to providing patient care, define current interventions, and specify what an ideal outcome might look like for any given patient or person with an opioid use disorder. To bring about that ideal outcome, what concrete action steps are required from first responders?

5. **Opioids and Kids/Families – Room: SLE 117**  
Kasia Lessard, Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing, Quinnipiac University School of Nursing  
Mary K. Peterson, Clinical Assistant Professor of Nursing, Quinnipiac University School of Nursing

This working group will explore the impact of opioid addiction on families and children. The group will identify available and needed resources, describe issues and barriers, and generate ideas for public health policies, community interventions, and outcome measures. This discussion may be of particular interest to individuals working within or in close cooperation with the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Social Services, the Office of the Child Advocate, the juvenile/family court system, and medical professionals involved in the care of pregnant women, children, and families.

6. **Opioid Awareness through Communication – Room: SLE 121**  
Greg Williams, Executive Vice President, Facing Addiction with NCADD  
Kyle Zimmer, Health & Safety Director, IUOE Local 478

This working group will assist journalists to better understand the legal and medical issues surrounding opioid use. This group will also engage in partnerships to address the public stigma of addiction, and to develop partnerships that will develop an action plan to address focused public education on the opioid crisis in Connecticut that engages the public to participate in a plan to alleviate the magnitude of this epidemic.

7. **Law Enforcement and Legal – Room: Courtroom**  
Jennifer L. Herbst, Professor of Law and Medical Sciences, Quinnipiac University School of Law and Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine

This working group will discuss current police practices, best practices for law enforcement, and alternatives to prosecution and incarceration for drug dependent individuals involved with the criminal justice system in Connecticut. Given limited resources and public opinion, what reforms are both most practical and most promising?

8. **People in Recovery and Treatment Providers – Room: SLE 150A**  
Theresa Dalton, Waterbury Superior Court, Division of Public Defender Services

This working group will comprise Individuals in Recovery and Representatives from Treatment Providers. They will collaborate using their unique perspective as Insiders to identify ways to reach people in active addiction and identify treatment options available. They will identify challenges to obtaining treatment and provide insight into gaps in reaching those in active addiction and gaps in treatment options. They will make recommendations for improving outreach and treatment availability.
The opioid crisis is a growing concern among employers. Opioid use disorder negatively impacts, among other things, employee productivity, workplace costs, the availability of labor, absenteeism and disability costs, workers’ compensation claims, as well as overall medical expenses. Employer drug testing and Employee Assistance Programs are just two of the ways that employers are trying to tackle the problem of opioid use disorder among employees. This working group will discuss the impact that the opioid epidemic is having on employers, and what employers are doing, or should be doing, to address this problem in the workplace.

School leaders and policy makers will explore ways to implement educational best practices and preventive measures to avoid opioid addiction in our youth in schools. Leaders will address present and future curriculum and instructional needs and resources to address this complex issue facing students representing all zip codes (urban, suburban and rural).

Our working session welcomes leadership representatives from CAPSS (Connecticut Association of Public School Superintendents), C Abe (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education), AFT (American Federation of Teachers) and a public school psychologist, as our expert panel.