

KNOCK OUT OPIOID ABUSE

May 7, 2019
Galloway Senior Center
6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



Moderator: Angelo M. Valente, Executive Director, Partnership for a Drug-Free New Jersey
Welcome: Jennifer Goudy, Senior Program Officer, The Horizon Foundation for New Jersey

Galloway Knock Out Opioid Abuse Town Hall Panel



Chief Donna Higbee

Born and raised in Galloway Township, Chief Donna Higbee is a 1994 graduate of Absegami High School and a 1998 graduate of Stockton State College with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. Chief Higbee has served in every rank and division in the department before being named chief in 2015. She is a graduate of Top Gun and a 2015 graduate of The New Jersey State Chiefs of Police West Point Command and Leadership Academy. Chief Higbee is also a graduate of Seton Hall University with a master's degree in human resources education and a master's certificate in business leadership and management.



Dr. Brian Acunto

Dr. Acunto is a 2005 graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his residency in emergency medicine at Lehigh Valley Health Network in Allentown, Pa., where he was chief resident. Dr. Acunto obtained his Executive Juris Doctorate from Concord Law School in 2019. He currently works for Atlantic Emergency Associates in Atlantic City. Locally, Dr. Acunto has worked with Join Together Atlantic County and the Atlantic County Prosecutor's Office Opioid Task Force to help turn the tide on the opioid epidemic affecting Atlantic County.



Reverend Mike Walker

Reverend Mike Walker leads Highland Community Church in Galloway. He and his family serve with Village Missions. Pastor Mike and his wife Katie graduated from Davis College in upstate New York in 2006 and returned to his hometown of Columbia, Md., where he worked in various churches in the area. He worked at Hillside Children's Center in upstate New York, a residential treatment center for traumatized and at risk youth. Highland Community Church has been active in addressing the opioid crisis by helping provide transportation for people struggling with addiction.



Chief Chuck Uhl

Chief Chuck Uhl has been an emergency medical technician and firefighter for 24 years. During his time as chief of the Galloway Township Ambulance Squad, it became the first agency in Atlantic County to provide naloxone for opioid overdoses to both emergency medical services and Galloway Police. Chief Uhl is in his 10th year as chief of emergency medical services for Galloway Township, and he serves as a captain in the Galloway Township Fire Department. Chief Uhl is a resident of the Smithville section of Galloway Township.



Laurie Smith

Laurie Smith is the Community Initiatives Coordinator for Atlantic Prevention Resources. She is in her 21st year with the agency and is the coordinator of Join Together Atlantic County and the Atlantic County Opiate Task Force. Laurie is also an advocacy leader for the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of NJ. She has received numerous awards in the field of prevention including the 2016 Outstanding Service Award from the Hope All Day Foundation.



Scott Gras

Scott Gras is a person in long-term recovery - he's been sober since March 18, 2013. He is a certified Peer Recovery Specialist. Scott has been working in the recovery field for about five years. He started his career for Lighthouse of Mays Landing, and is currently employed by the Atlantic County Sheriff's Office as the coordinator of the Hope One Mobile Unit - a program started by Sheriff Eric Scheffler. It's responsible for putting more than 200 clients into treatment since last year.

#KnockOutOpioidAbuse

Collaborating Organizations:

