

KNOCK OUT OPIOID ABUSE

May 9, 2018
Route 12 County Complex-
Assembly Room
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.



Moderator: Bert Baron, WCTC AM - New Jersey Broadcasters' Association Radio Hall Of Fame
Welcome: Dr. Nathan Negin, Executive Medical Director, Horizon BCBSNJ

Hunterdon County Knock Out Opioid Abuse Town Hall Panel



Michael Sweeney, Hunterdon County Executive Assistant Prosecutor

Michael Sweeney is the executive assistant prosecutor in Hunterdon County, providing supervision over the team of assistant prosecutors. He is assigned to and embedded with the Hunterdon County Gangs, Guns, and Narcotics Task Force, providing legal guidance and supervision to a team of narcotics detectives tasked with interdicting the illegal trafficking, distribution and use of controlled dangerous substances. EAP Sweeney is a career prosecutor who previously served in the Orange County (NY) District Attorney's Office, the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office and the Richmond County (NY) District Attorney's Office.



Lesley Gabel

Lesley Gabel is the co-executive director and chief executive officer at Prevention Resources and has been with the agency since 2009. Lesley graduated with a marketing degree from Hofstra University in 1988, and she has more than 20 years' experience in key corporate leadership roles. Lesley has received multiple awards from the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) for her work as a project director for Safe Communities Coalition of Hunterdon and Somerset, and she has been involved in several other community organizations.



Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman

NJ State Senator Christopher "Kip" Bateman has represented New Jersey's 16th legislative district in the Senate since 2008, and he previously served in the General Assembly from 1994 to 2007. He currently serves on the Environment and Energy, Law and Public Safety and Judiciary committees. Senator Bateman attended public schools in Somerset County and graduated from Ithaca College with a bachelor's degree in history and political science in 1980. He is also a graduate of Seton Hall Law School, and in 1987, he was admitted to the bar.



Frank Lovell III

Frank is currently the clinical director for Freedom House. He has received many awards dating back to 1990 from Hunterdon County Board of Social Services for his work. In 1991, Frank became a certified addiction specialist (CAS) through the American Academy of Health Care Providers. Three years later, he became the first graduate of Freedom House to become a Certified Drug and Alcohol Counselor. In 2003 Frank was presented the graduate achievement award from the Freedom House as well. Frank became a licensed clinical alcohol and drug counselor (LCADC) in 2005.



Karen Widico

Karen is the co-executive director of Prevention Resources. Karen has worked in the nonprofit sector for her entire career, first in treatment for 15 years, and in prevention for the past eight years. Karen received her master's degree in social work from Rutgers University and is a certified prevention specialist. Karen has been with Prevention Resources for 18 years and has helped the agency grow from a small single-county agency to one with four divisions serving four counties. Prevention Resources has received many community awards.



Christine Cochrane

Christine Cochrane, MAS, BSN, RN-BC is the Director of Acute Behavioral Health & Addiction Treatment Services at Hunterdon Medical Center where she has worked for over 30 years. Christine has over 40 years nursing and administrative experience in healthcare in the behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment field of practice. She is Board Certified by the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) in psychiatric-mental health nursing.

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