

A TOWN HALL SERIES

# KNOCK OUT OPIOID ABUSE

Dec. 12, 2017  
 Jo Ann Magistro  
 Performing Arts Center  
 Hammarskjold Middle School  
 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.



**Moderator:** Bert Baron, WCTC AM - New Jersey Broadcasters' Association Radio Hall Of Fame  
**Welcome:** Dr. Paul Alexander, VP and Chief Medical Officer, Government Programs, Horizon BCBSNJ  
 East Brunswick Mayor Brad J. Cohen

## Middlesex County Knock Out Opioid Abuse Town Hall Panel



### Middlesex Prosecutor Andrew Carey

Prosecutor Andrew Carey has served as Middlesex County Prosecutor since May 2013. Prior to his appointment, Carey was an Assistant United States Attorney in New Jersey. While at the U.S. Attorney's Office, Carey served as Chief of the Narcotics/

Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force Unit and served as the lead task force attorney. Previously, Carey served as an assistant district attorney in New York County and was assigned to the Office of Special Narcotics. He earned his law degree from the Dickinson School of Law in 1996.



### NJ State Senator Joseph Vitale

Senator Joseph Vitale has served in the New Jersey State Senate since 1998 and is currently Chairman of the Health, Human Services, and Senior Citizens Committee and Vice Chairman of the Labor Committee. Senator Vitale has focused on

the opioid epidemic, introducing nearly three dozen bills targeted at combating the crisis, with more than a dozen currently signed into law. One of the most notable pieces of legislation, the Overdose Prevention Act, allows law enforcement to save lives by using naloxone to reverse the effects of an overdose.



### Dr. Shuvendu Sen

Dr. Shuvendu Sen is Associate Program Director of the Internal Residency Program and Director of Medical Student Education at Raritan Bay Medical Center, where he also serves as chairman of the Opioid

Task Force Committee. A Diplomat from the American Board of Internal Medicine, Dr. Sen holds double Master of Science research degrees in medical microbiology and pharmacology/toxicology from Long Island University. Dr. Sen is the recipient of multiple awards for his contributions to education and the community, and he has authored and co-authored many research papers and projects.



### Assemblywoman Nancy Pinkin

Assemblywoman Nancy Pinkin, a resident of East Brunswick, was first elected to the General Assembly in November 2013 and twice re-elected in 2015 and 2017. She served on the East Brunswick Township Council from 2005-2014, including a two year term as Council President.

Assemblywoman Pinkin represents the 18th Legislative District which includes East Brunswick, Edison, Helmetta, Highland Park, Metuchen, South Plainfield and South River. She received her undergraduate degree from Rutgers while working full time. She holds a Master of Public Administration with a specialization in health administration from New York University, and completed a postgraduate fellowship in Health Policy and Research at UMDNJ -- where she also served as health policy advisor to the late Senator Jack Sinagra. Assemblywoman Pinkin serves on the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee, the Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee and as Vice Chair of the Assembly Homeland Security and State Preparedness Committee.



### Dr. Bonnie Nolan

Dr. Bonnie Nolan serves as the Addiction Services Coordinator for Woodbridge Township, leading several initiatives including the municipality's Peer Recovery Coach Program. She received her doctorate in neuroscience from Rutgers University and University

of Medicine and Dentistry and has worked at Rutgers University as a researcher in many areas, including addiction. Bonnie also has lectured on topics in psychology, pharmacology and alcohol/drug dependence and has published a number of articles on substance abuse.

## Collaborating Organizations:



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**Vanessa Vitolo**

Vanessa Vitolo is the Outreach Coordinator at Victory Bay Recovery Center in Laurel Springs, and volunteers as a recovery advocate. She has dedicated her life, both professionally and personally, to helping others by sharing her story of addiction and recovery.

Vanessa draws on her experiences as a former addict to offer a message of hope, reduce the stigma of addiction, and to advocate for change that can positively impact the national opioid crisis.



**Mara Carlin**

Mara Carlin is a coalition coordinator and certified prevention specialist with Wellspring Center for Prevention. Starting in 1999, she worked for the NYC Board of Education, providing prevention programs to students at Sheepshead Bay High School. In 2002, Mara joined the NCADD team as the coordinator for REBEL, NJ's youth anti-tobacco movement. She then transitioned to a prevention educator before becoming the education coordinator for the agency. She now coordinates the Coalition for Healthy Communities in Middlesex County.

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**Collaborating Organizations:**



**Thank you for joining us today!**