

**HEALTH, SOCIAL, EDUCATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING  
TO BE HELD IN THE  
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
ROOM #318  
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

**(Chairwoman Scuccimarra, Legislators Addonizio & Gouldman)**

**Wednesday** **April 12, 2017**  
**(Immediately following the Personnel Committee Meeting at 6:30pm)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 P.M. by Chairwoman Scuccimarra who requested that Legislator Addonizio lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislator Addonizio and Chairwoman Scuccimarra were present. Legislator Gouldman was absent. Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated Legislator Albano would sit on the Committee in Legislator Gouldman's absence.

**Item #3 - FYI/NYS Department of Health Offers Free Lead Testing in Putnam Homes/Acting Commissioner of Health Dr. Michael Nesheiwat**

Legislator Albano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Chairwoman Scuccimarra. All in favor.

Acting Commissioner of Health Dr. Michael Nesheiwat stated at the March 23, 2017 Health, Social, Educational, & Environmental Committee Meeting he gave an informational presentation about carbon monoxide. He stated he had mentioned bringing a carbon monoxide detector on vacation. He stated since then an incident occurred where a group of children became unresponsive, due to carbon monoxide at an indoor swimming pool while on vacation. He stated one (1) child passed away.

Legislator Addonizio questioned how that could be prevented.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated bringing a carbon monoxide detector.

Public Health Supervisor Rick Carano and Rebecca Wittenberg, Supervising Public Health Nurse, gave the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Supervisor Carano stated they work under a grant, and a requirement of the grant is educating the public about lead. He stated lead poisoning is an issue because it reduces a person's potential in life. He stated 73% of Putnam County's lead investigations have involved lead based paint as either the source or a contributing source. He stated the main actions that cause a problem are when people renovate a home.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra noted there are a lot of older homes in Putnam County that probably still have lead paint.

Supervisor Carano stated lead was taken out of paint after 1978. He stated if a home was built or painted before then, lead paint was most likely used. He stated when lead is investigated, they look at where children play, what they are playing with, how the house is constructed or painted, and what products people have that are from overseas, where the standards are not as strict as here. He stated the situation with the water in Flint, Michigan has made people concerned about the amount of lead in drinking water. He stated in 2016 the water in schools was tested for lead levels. He stated in 2017 New York State has put \$1.5 million into funding for free residential water testing. He stated there are three (3) ways for people to access the program: there is a website; an email address; and a telephone number. He stated when the funding is finished, the testing will no longer be offered. He explained the testing process. He stated water is tested first thing in the morning to test contamination levels of water sitting overnight and also in the middle of the day to test what people may be ingesting while the water is being used.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated another purpose of having the two (2) different tests is to determine the location of the contamination. He stated in 1996 lead ceased being used in plumbing fixtures. He stated these tests help determine if the lead is coming from the fixture or the actual plumbing of the house.

Supervisor Carano encouraged people who have children in the house or who have more acidic water to look into getting their water tested.

Legislator Addonizio questioned what the remedy would be if the lead is in the plumbing.

Supervisor Carano stated the source would have to be found and replaced.

Legislator Addonizio stated that would be a big undertaking.

Supervisor Carano stated sometimes, if it is in the walls.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned what the treatment is for children who test positive for lead.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated it is recommended that testing is done at age one (1) and two (2).

Ms. Wittenberg stated ages one (1) and two (2) are the state mandate that pediatricians test the children because those are the ages when they are most likely to have lead poisoning. She stated children must have at least one (1) test before they enter preschool. She stated the treatment depends on the level of lead and for most of the levels they try to find the source of the lead and eliminate the exposure. She stated the body will naturally shed the lead poisoning.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated in regards to the lead paint, it is not just the paint on the wall, it is dust that comes off the wall in areas of friction. He stated the dust becomes airborne and can be breathed in.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned if there is a level of lead poisoning where a child will not be able to recover.

Ms. Wittenberg stated if enough damage is done, they do not recover. She stated most of the time the poisoning is caught early enough that very little damage is done. She stated that is why screenings are so important, so the exposure can be caught and eliminated.

Supervisor Carano stated New York State sets a level of 15 micrograms per deciliter as to when an investigation should take place. He stated Putnam does not wait for it to hit 15, they investigate at 10. He stated if children are between five (5) and nine (9) and the screening show an increase or persistent levels, they treat that as a time to investigate. He stated it is one of the most aggressive lead programs in the State.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra questioned if children are tested at the doctor's office between ages one (1) and two (2) through a blood test.

Supervisor Carano stated ideally, yes.

Legislator Addonizio questioned if that is a requirement.

Supervisor Carano stated yes.

Ms. Wittenberg stated it is a State law. She stated the physician does not have to do the test at the office, they can give a prescription. She stated Putnam County has a testing rate of children in the mid to high 70's. She stated they have been aggressive in trying to increase the rate, which has been increasing over the last few years.

Supervisor Carano stated there have been 73 investigated cases in Putnam County with one (1) definite and one (1) possible contamination from the water. He stated the rest are from lead based paint.

**Item #4 - Update/Deputy Commissioner of Social Services Joe DeMarzo**

**a. Comprehensive Update/Communities that Care/Substance Abuse Trends**

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Deputy Commissioner of Social Services Joseph DeMarzo gave the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated this presentation is a comprehensive update on drug trends and statistics in Putnam County. He stated in the Department of Mental Health they have had discussions with their partners in the Health Department, Sheriff's Department, and Communities That Care Coalition (CTC) and there is information out there that they want to correct. He stated Doreen Lockwood, from the CTC, would assist with the presentation. He



noted the collaborative efforts in the community have helped get ahead of the curve on the fight against an epidemic of addictions. He stated they interact daily with all of the providers in the communities. He stated they have been collecting data from the providers based on their admission rates, including what the latest trends and demographics are. He stated since the CTC started in 2005 they have been in the schools, surveying young people every two (2) years. He stated they use the results of the surveys to institute risk and protective factors to address the behaviors, look at what changes, and do a scientific analysis. He stated there has been a decline in certain behaviors that they have been able to address, some have leveled off, and he will explain others that have increased. He stated needs assessments drive services based on the needs of the community, not based on perception of risk. He stated the media does a good job of selling the perception of risk as reality.

Doreen Lockwood, CASAC, Project Coordinator, Partnership for Success, stated in 2015 over 52,000 Americans died from drug overdoses, with 33,000 of those related to opioids. She stated 9/10 people who have used heroin have used at least one (1) other drug.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated not everyone who uses marijuana becomes a heroin addict but a very high percentage of heroin addicts have used alcohol or marijuana.

Ms. Lockwood stated more than half of the people who have used heroin started with prescription drugs. She stated the drugs were very accessible due to aggressive marketing by the drug companies and the false assumption that they are not addictive. She stated 88,000 Americans die from alcohol related illnesses every year, which has been on a steady decline for a while. She stated over 142,000 Americans die from an alcohol or drug related death each year, which far exceeds the number from car accidents and gun violence combined. She stated it is also three (3) times the number of people who died during the height of the AIDS epidemic, which was about 43,000. She stated this is a public health issue. She stated the more this issue is talked about and the silence is broken, hopefully more people will not be afraid to access services and seek help.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated people have stated overdose numbers that are incorrect. He stated if the number of overdoses does not come from Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat, who is the Coordinator of Coroners and reviews all of the cases of death in Putnam County, then the number is not realistic. He stated there are three (3) overdose deaths in the County, year to date. He stated of the overdose deaths, two (2) are mixed intoxication, meaning there was heroin and other drugs in their system, it was not a heroin overdose. He stated the other overdose death was from fentanyl.

Ms. Lockwood stated since 2012 there have been 77 deaths in Putnam County from drug overdoses. She stated the majority of them are from mixed intoxication, which is important to note because it sheds a light on the broader issue which is addiction. She stated 18 of the mixed intoxications included heroin and 10 deaths were from heroin only. She stated she believes there have been two (2) fentanyl deaths, which is much stronger than heroin.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated in speaking with colleagues in other communities he has found that there is a large increase in deaths from fentanyl. He stated they are seeing more fentanyl in the heroin than actual heroin because it is cheaper and easier to get out there.

Legislator LoBue questioned what fentanyl is.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated it is a very powerful painkiller. He stated it is used by anesthesiologists in the operating room.

Ms. Lockwood stated it is a synthetic opiate. She stated what Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat mentioned is pharmaceutical grade, but what is on the street is manmade. She stated people are making it with chemicals from China and Mexico and making fentanyl in homegrown labs, which is why it is so dangerous.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated fentanyl is dangerous to the touch. He stated they are working on a grant with the DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) to get machines which determine the level of what the drug is, without touching it. He stated it can make you ill.

Legislator LoBue questioned if it is absorbed through the skin.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated yes.

Ms. Lockwood stated 12 of the overdose deaths have been individuals under the age of 25. She stated a 16 year old passed in 2005. She stated any death from this epidemic of addiction is a preventable death because help is available. She stated there are people over 55 years old and up to 75 who have passed away from drug overdoses. She stated they just received a grant with Putnam Family and Community Services and the Office for Senior Resources to target people over 55 with substance abuse and mental health medical issues.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated it is important to look at the age groups and the larger numbers, because the perception is that only kids are affected, but it is happening in all age groups. He explained the 2016 needs assessment through the school districts. He stated over 5,000 kids took the survey. He stated it is self-reporting and very scientific based and explained some of the trends and responses found in the answers.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra noted that energy drinks were part of the survey.

Ms. Lockwood stated that is new on the survey.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated many people are drinking energy drinks with alcohol. He stated kids are confused because they are getting mixed messages from the medical society in regards to medical marijuana and recreational use. He stated kids question how it can be bad for you if it is being prescribed as a medication. He explained the complications of explaining medical marijuana.



Ms. Lockwood stated even prescription drugs are from a doctor and they cause people many problems.

Legislator Addonizio noted synthetic marijuana is now included in the survey.

Ms. Lockwood listed the other survey responses. She stated there is a spike in amphetamine use and experimentation. She stated when one drug spikes it usually means there will be many cases of mixed intoxication.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated 18% of 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders have gotten in the car with someone who is intoxicated, along with roughly 15% of 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders.

Ms. Lockwood listed some of the initiatives the CTC has taken part in since its inception in 2005.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated year to date, they have collected four (4) tons of unwanted medication.

Ms. Lockwood stated they are not allowed to count the drugs specifically, but in the past, when pharmacists were involved in taking back the medication, it was counted and between 10% and 15% were narcotic medications. She stated there is Narcan training in Putnam County every month.

Legislator Albano questioned the need for a person to be trained with Narcan. He questioned the accessibility of Narcan.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated Narcan is either an injection or nasal spray. He stated all the police departments and paramedics in Putnam County are trained.

Legislator Albano stated it is accessible to professionals who may need to use it.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated an additional 600 people have gone through the training and have Narcan in their home.

Legislator Addonizio stated she took the training class.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated there have been some parents who were able to save their children's lives due to the training.

Legislator Addonizio noted that an issue with the kit is that it is very temperature sensitive.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated the Bureau of Emergency Services has had over 230 Narcan training classes this year. He stated many local pharmacies will give you Narcan with a prescription.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo noted that people have to pay for the Narcan through the pharmacies but if they go to the classes to train, they would be given it for free.

Ms. Lockwood noted there are now medication take back boxes in all municipalities in the County. She thanked the Legislature and everyone involved for their help.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated over 500 kids take part in SIDNE (Simulated Impaired DrivINg Experience) annually. He stated some school districts mandate their seniors take the course in order to park on campus.

Ms. Lockwood stated a person who took part in one of the first Narcan training classes was saved and he is now sober.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo noted some of the issues that may be on the horizon. He stated drug prevention is not reimbursable, it is done through the County budget and New York State. He stated through the new payer system, it could get cut out by the State because they are going to be looking at the payers to fund prevention. He stated that would result in cuts of prevention services, when we actually need more. He stated there needs to be more recovery support services in the community.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the lack of recovery support services is a topic that comes up a lot. She stated people question why there are not more facilities for people that need help. She stated Dutchess County just put in a big facility, but is a bigger county.

Ms. Lockwood stated it is a 23 hour a day stabilization center. She stated she confirmed with Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro that out of county people would not be turned away.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated more discharge planning is needed for people whether it be out of jail or from the hospital, etc. He stated the County Jail and Sheriff's Department provide people with referrals to a treatment provider. He stated people choose not to use the referrals and that is part of the issue with the strength of addiction.

Ms. Lockwood stated the earlier social, emotional, and behavioral problems are addressed in our youth and better coping skills are taught to deal with life, the less likely they are to abuse substances.

Legislator Nacerino questioned if there is a way that early intervention can be pinpointed in our youth so they do not get to the point where addiction takes over. She questioned if just trying marijuana or alcohol could really lead to an addiction.

Ms. Lockwood stated yes as the majority of people try alcohol or marijuana or other drugs stop at some point but addiction depends on the individual. She stated there are many factors like environmental, genetic, undiagnosed mental health problems, etc. She stated it is complex and that is why it is so important. She stated the schools do a tremendous amount of early intervention. She stated Haldane is doing a program called social-emotional learning which is

teaching kids to be mindful of their feelings, how to express them, and how to cope. She stated she believes there has been a generation of kids who never learned to do that.

Legislator Nacerino stated people are fragile at all ages. She stated in her job at Brewster High School she has seen the various issues that kids deal with today. She stated seeing what kids have to endure is very sad.

**b. FYI/Putnam County Chapter of National Alliance on Mental Illness Presents Dinner and a Movie**

Ms. Lockwood stated there will be a screening of the movie “No Letting Go” which is a true story about a family that had a child with bipolar disorder. She stated it will be on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at the Putnam County Golf Course. She stated it is a very moving and touching story. She stated they are trying to break the stigma and show people the importance of identifying problems early on and show that there is help available.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated it is \$15 for adults and \$10 for children. He stated they have a received a donation to cover if there is a family who wants to attend but cannot afford it.

**Item #5 - Discussion/Ban the Sale and Possession of Synthetic Drugs/Proposed Westchester County Local Law**

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated in the past the Sheriff’s Department stated this was not a big issue in Putnam County. She stated she thinks a proactive approach is a better approach. She stated there is a proposed Local Law in Westchester banning the sale and possession of synthetic drugs. She stated she knows enforcement is difficult because the drugs change but the law looks to have everything covered.

Legislator Albano stated the people who make the drugs continuously change the chemical makeup.

Commissioner of Social Services Michael Piazza stated yes it is like shooting at a moving target because there could be a list of illegal chemical compounds, but the drug dealers change the formula of the compounds. He stated there is nothing to lose with banning the majority of the chemical compounds used in synthetic drugs.

Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat stated the perception of sending the message about banning the compounds is very important, therefore he strongly supports it.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated he agrees that the sale of the drugs is not a big issue in Putnam County. He stated most of the synthetic drugs are being purchased on the internet.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the proposed law also bans possession of the drugs. She stated she would send Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo the proposed law for his insight.

Legislator LoBue stated her only issue with the law would be enforcing it.



Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated it is good that the proposed law covers the possession aspect of it.

Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Adrienne Lotto stated the proposed law is a civil law, not a criminal one. She stated it would not be a misdemeanor. She stated it would be enforced through the Department of Health. She stated Acting Commissioner Nesheiwat should review a copy of the proposed law.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated she would send a copy. She stated this is just discussing the law.

**Item #9 - FYI/Pharmacies Providing Drop-Off Boxes for Unused Medicines/Proposed Westchester County Local Law**

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated Putnam County already does a lot to get rid of unwanted medication.

Legislator Albano made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there is a proposed law in Westchester County and a law has already been approved in Rockland County. She stated it was previously discussed that there is so much being put in the drop off boxes throughout the County that it is causing problems for the Sheriff's Department to go around and pick it up. She stated this law would be another way for people to get rid of their unwanted medication, by taking it back to the pharmacies where they bought it.

Legislator Albano stated he supports the idea. He stated with the amount of medicine that has already been collected this year that could have been in the waterways or in the wrong person's hands.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it would be convenient for people to bring their old medicine to the pharmacy when they go to pick up their new medicine.

Legislator Nacerino stated it was previously discussed that it is hard to control what goes into the drop boxes, and that presents a danger. She stated there is a question of who monitors the boxes. She stated it is a great concept but the logistics of it can be problematic.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated that discussion referred to the drop boxes in municipalities, not at pharmacies. She stated the Sheriff's Department would not be taking care of the drop boxes at the pharmacies, the pharmacies would.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated what needs to be figured out, if take back boxes are put in the pharmacies, if the Sheriff's Department still has the responsibility of picking up the unwanted medication.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it is her understanding that it is the pharmacy's responsibility to get rid of the unwanted medication. She stated they have to get rid of their expired medication anyway.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated they could potentially be adding 8,000 pounds of medicine for them to get rid of.

Legislator Albano stated the pharmacy originally gave the medication out.

Deputy Commissioner DeMarzo stated it should be explored if the Sheriff's Department would have the responsibility of picking up the medications.

Legislator Addonizio stated it could be a dangerous situation if people who want the drugs know that they are at the pharmacy, they could try to steal them.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated there are drugs in the pharmacy to begin with.

Legislator Addonizio stated this is different because people know that others are discarding opioids there.

Legislator Albano stated there would have to be a scheduled, documented system in place.

Senior Deputy County Attorney for Risk and Compliance Lotto stated both the Rockland County law and the Westchester County proposed law are administered through the Department of Consumer Affairs. She stated also for the pharmacies to be mandated to take back the medication, they would have to have at least three (3) stores in the County. She stated it could be drafted in a similar way, which would include the bigger pharmacies like Rite Aid and CVS for example. She stated then the pharmacies would create a "stewardship program" which would include things like having envelopes for people to send back in their medications. She stated it depends on how the Committee would like to craft the law. She stated there is an enforcement provision if the pharmacies did not create the stewardship program, they would be subject to enforcement penalties. She stated a process and procedure that needs to be thought through. She stated since the Rockland and Westchester laws have the program being administered by Consumer Affairs, Director of Consumer Affairs Michael Budzinski should look into this matter.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated yes, this is just a discussion, as she is not ready to move forward with it. She stated the County should always look to do more with the drug crisis.

Chairman of the Putnam County Chambers of Commerce William Nulk stated reaching out to the bigger pharmacies that already have a stewardship program and having them include this area would be a good idea.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated Walgreens has a program in approximately 500 stores, but not in this area, it is only in New York City.



Commissioner Piazza stated when pharmacies started selling OxyContin there was a rash of violent thefts, assaults, and robberies in the pharmacies because people knew they had it. He noted that people have been asking what is being done about the amount of fatalities from drug overdoses. He stated there is a tremendous amount being done. He stated many of the deaths are people who got sober and were in recovery, but when they get out, the addiction is so strong that they need another shot and that shot kills them because they have lost their tolerance. He stated it is a difficult disease.

#### **Item #6 - Discussion/Memorialization/Erie County Medicaid Cost Relief Resolution**

Commissioner Piazza stated there is a political issue with repealing the Affordable Care Act. He stated it was negotiated that if the State was mandated to cover all the local shares of Medicaid, certain Senators would vote to repeal it and put in place the American Health Care Act. He stated in the meantime New York Governor Andrew Cuomo said the State would take over the local shares of Medicaid with the requirement that all the tax dollars saved go into reducing the property taxes. He stated this does not give Counties flexibility but could reduce the County's share of Medicaid costs of \$9 million. He stated there is some support for this and the State is considering the idea of taking on the full County share. He stated New York State is one of the few states that still has counties pay their share of Medicaid. He stated he supports this.

Legislator Albano made a motion to approve the memorialization of the Erie County Medicaid Cost Relief Resolution; Seconded by Legislator Addonizio. All in favor.

#### **Item #7 - Approval/Budgetary Amendment 17A022/Conform to Putnam's State Approved Safe Harbor Budget for 2017**

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated the State was originally going to fund 36% of Safe Harbor but now it is down to 30%. She stated this is to cover that difference.

Commissioner Piazza stated \$2,000 would have to come from the County. He stated under the new State budget, the State says the amount of money put towards fringe benefits was reduced. He stated usually when they are working under a grant they would not ask the County for more money but in this case they have to in order to maintain the service they are providing.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra stated it is a great program.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to approve Budgetary Amendment 17A022; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

#### **Item #8 - FYI/Relay for Life/American Cancer Society/Tracey Walsh**

Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to waive the rules and accept the additional; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Tracey Walsh, a Community Manager with Relay for Life stated her presentation has changed and is not going to be about Relay for Life. She stated Putnam County is a small county and one

of the best things about it is how people care about one another. She stated this presentation is informational so that when a Legislator has a constituent who has cancer, they can easily help. She stated all the information and services from the American Cancer Society she is presenting are free and available to everyone. She stated she has been with the American Cancer Society for 19 years as a volunteer and an employee. She stated people should be able to get help. She noted an 800-number that is always in service and available to help people with cancer. She stated they provide help with a variety of issues when people call. She stated the American Cancer Society matches people with clinics when there is nothing more a doctor can do. She stated getting seniors to their doctors' appointment is an issue that everyone is working on. She stated they offer a free service, which is volunteer based, that helps people get to their appointments. She stated she hopes one day Putnam Moves can provide a similar service. She stated they have Hope Lodges, which is for people who live more than 50 miles from their doctor. She stated people can stay at the Hope Lodge for free while they need treatment. She stated there was a member of the Patterson Volunteer Fire Department who used a Hope Lodge. She stated there are support groups at the Hope Lodge and people who stay there are given a free wig. She stated if someone is unable to get a wig, there is a regional office where people can get a wig. She stated at Putnam Hospital there is a service called "Look Good, Feel Better" and it is for women who are going through treatment and it is run by trained cosmetologists. She stated there is a program called "Reach for Recovery" which sets people up with others who have gone through similar circumstances for support. She stated they have insurance advocates who will call insurance companies to advocate for lower medical bills. She stated the American Cancer Society is the number one (1) funder of cancer research, outside of the federal government.

Legislator LoBue thanked Ms. Walsh for her presentation and informational numbers. She stated the services are brilliant.

Chairwoman Scuccimarra thanked Ms. Walsh for her presentation.

**Item #10 - FYI/ProAct Report – Duly Noted**

**Item #11 - Other Business - None**

**Item #12 - Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:10P.M. Chairwoman Scuccimarra made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Albano. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant Ed Gordon.



# **Lead in Water, Paint and Other Sources**

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## **Putnam County Department of Health**

**Michael Nesheiwat, M.D.**  
Interim Commissioner of Health

**Rick Carano**  
Public Health Supervisor

## **Damaging Effects of Lead**

Lead: Toxic metal harmful to the developing brain & nervous system of children; Lead negatively affects:

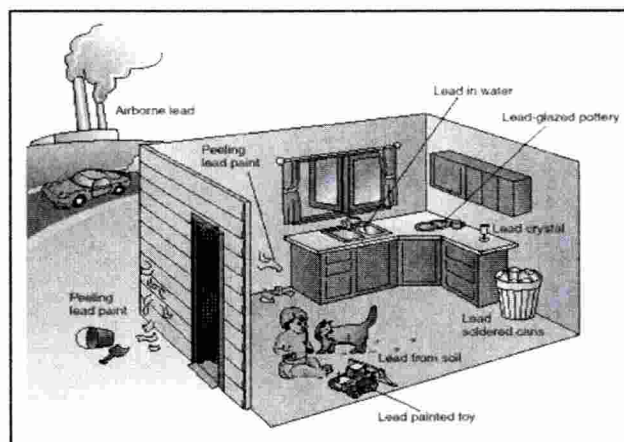
- Growth, Behavior & Ability to Learn

During Pregnancy, Exposure may Contribute to:

- Low Birth Weight
- Preterm Delivery/Miscarriage
- Developmental Delays in Infants

## **Sources of Lead Poisoning**

- **Paint** (Pre-1978; Chipped/Peeled, Friction, Impact)
- **Home Renovation** (Sanding/Scraping)
- **Soil** (House Paint, Gasoline)
- **Products** (Toys, Food, Jewelry, Containers)
- **Occupation** (Contractors, Manufacturing)
- **Recreation** (Stained Glass, Firearms)
- **Cosmetics, Remedies & Supplements**



**While Lead can be Found in Soil, Air & Water,  
the Main Source of Lead in Homes  
Is Older Paint, the Dust it Generates  
& Various Consumer Products.**



## **Lead in Water**

Following public concern about lead in water  
The NYSDOH has instituted the following:

2016: Water in schools was tested for lead levels

**2017: 1.5 Million \$ funding for Free Testing  
of Residential Water (until funds are gone)**

## **2017 Free Lead Testing of Residential Water**

To Access:

Visit the NYSDOH Website: **[www.health.ny.gov](http://www.health.ny.gov)**

- or -

E-mail: **[FreeWaterTesting@health.ny.gov](mailto:FreeWaterTesting@health.ny.gov)**

- or -

Telephone: **(518) 402-7650**

You will receive two sample bottles along with locations  
of testing labs (As long as funds are available)

## **Childhood BLL Testing**

NYS Requires Children to be Tested at Ages 1 & 2

NYSDOH Mandates Investigation when:  
Child's Blood Lead Level (BLL) exceeds 15 mcg/dl

PCDOH Investigates when a Child's:  
BLL exceeds 10 mcg/dl (**33% Lower Action Level!**)  
If the BLL is between 5-9 & Rising or Persistent

## **Thank You & For More Information**

For Info. on: NYS's Free Residential Lead in Water Testing  
Visit the NYSDOH Website: **www.health.ny.gov**  
- or -  
E-mail: **FreeWaterTesting@health.ny.gov**  
- or -  
Telephone: **(518) 402-7650**

For Info. on: Blood Lead Level Testing, Lead Safety,  
Safe Home Renovation or Sources of Lead  
Contact the PCDOH at: **(845) 808-1390**



## Legislative Update April 12, 2017



### AN OVERVIEW OF DRUG TRENDS FOR PUTNAM COUNTY, NY

PRESENTED BY:  
JOSEPH A. DEMARZO, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PUTNAM COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

DOREEN LOCKWOOD, CASAC, PROJECT COORDINATOR,  
PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS

## Overview of the Problem - Nationally



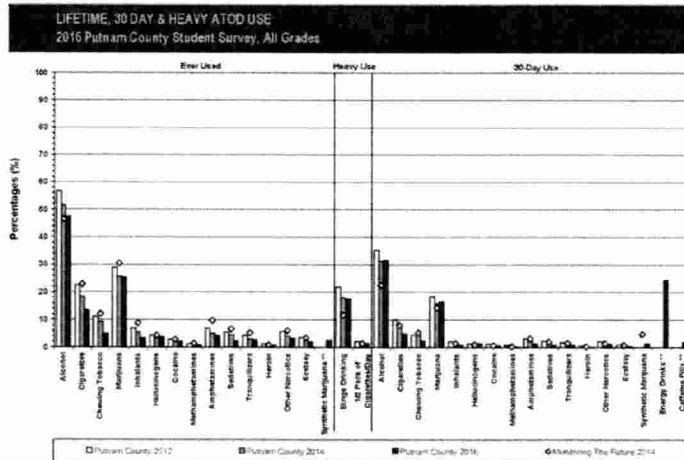
- In 2015 52,404 deaths in the United States were the result of drug overdoses, 33,091 (63%) involved an opioid
- More than 9 in 10 people that used heroin also used at least one other drug
- More than 45% of people who used heroin were also addicted to prescription opioid pain killers
- An estimated 88,000 people die from alcohol-related causes annually, making alcohol the fourth leading cause of death in the United States.
- That means a total of 142,404 Americans die from alcohol and drug related deaths each year. This far exceeds the number of deaths from car accidents and gun violence in America. It is three times the number of people who died during the height of the AIDS Epidemic.

Source: Center for Disease Control

## Overview of the Problem – Putnam

- Between 2012 and today Putnam County has lost 75 community members from drug overdoses. 54 of those deaths were the result of mixed intoxication (more than one substance present at the time of death/of those 54, 18 included heroin.) Ten deaths were the result of heroin use only.
- 14% or 12 community members were under the age of 25.
- Age group 26-35 (26) and 41-55(30) have seen the highest death rates.

## Prevention Needs Assessment 2016



## Putnam Communities That Care Coalition



- Provide Point of Sale Material on prescription drug abuse at all local 15 pharmacies in Putnam County on an annual basis
- Sponsor Medication Take Back Events for 5 years
- Co-sponsor bi-monthly Narcan Training with Arms Acres and Drug Crisis in Our Backyard
- Media outreach on the harm of abusing prescription drugs and heroin
- Sponsor MedReturn units at the Putnam County Sheriff's Office, Carmel and Kent Police Departments, at the Philipstown, Putnam Valley and Patterson Town Halls and at the Kern Building in Brewster. Currently all municipalities have MedReturn unit.
- Print and Billboard PSA's on prescription drug abuse and heroin
- PSA's at local movie theaters about prescription drug abuse and heroin
- Radio PSA on prescription drug use and locking medications
- Provide educational programs in our local high schools related to impaired driving (SIDNE)
- Provide parent programs such as the our Pre-Prom Initiative that focuses on safety during prom season
- Facebook, Twitter, Website and Blog about prescription drug abuse and heroin
- Grant from the American Medical Association allowed us to distribute medication lock boxes to Putnam County residents

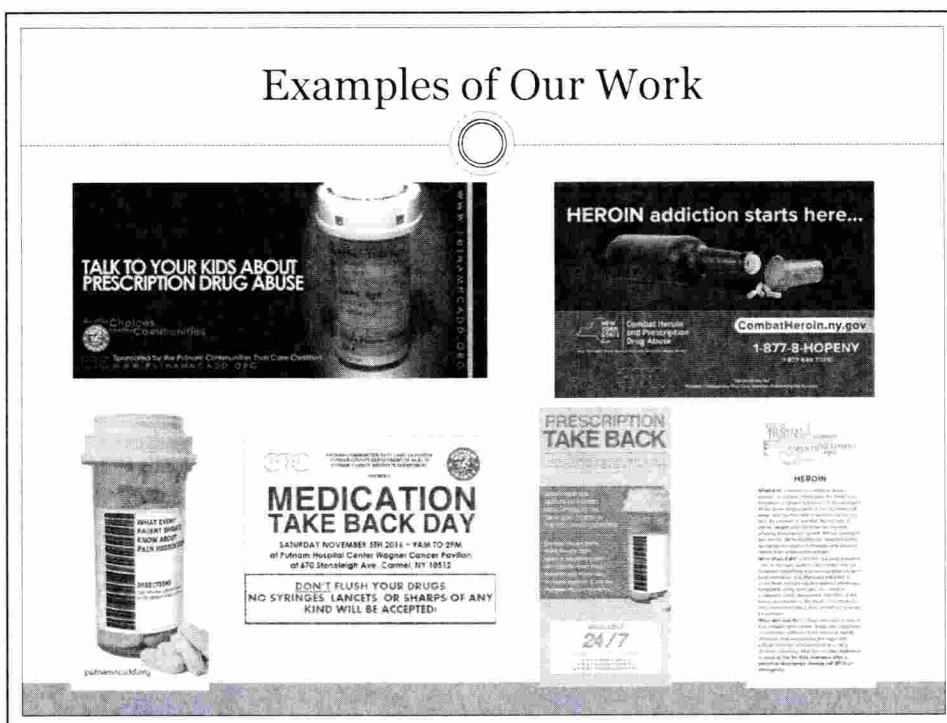
## Putnam County Initiatives



- Putnam County has three Overdose Prevention Training Centers at Arms Acres, PC Department of Health and at St. Christopher's Inn in Garrison. Putnam began Narcan Training for the community in the Fall of 2013. The majority of our first responders are trained to administer Narcan. In addition, all Putnam County School Districts (except one to be trained this month) have school RNs trained to administer Narcan.
- All three of our NYS OASAS licensed treatment providers provide Medication Assisted Treatment. In addition, there are local MDS who provide MAT in their private practices.



## Examples of Our Work



## Conclusion

- Summary of Community's Unmet Needs
  - Linkages and discharge planning for persons
  - Recovery support services such as recovery coaches, family navigators, and peer advocates.
  - Adequate funding for prevention, treatment and recovery support services.
- We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Putnam County Legislature for their ongoing support.

## Contact Information



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