



BCCHC NEWSLETTER

Burlington County Coalition for Healthy Communities

February, 2016

Anna Payanzo Cotton Honored

At the January coalition meeting, the BCCHC recognized Anna Payanzo Cotton, former Director of the Burlington County Human Services Department, for her forward thinking and record of collaborating with the coalition's efforts to reduce substance use in Burlington County.

During her tenure, Ms. Payanzo Cotton encouraged all staff at the Department of Health and Human Services to work collaboratively with other county agencies and non-profit organizations in an effort to better serve the residents of Burlington County.

Ms. Payanzo Cotton is now the Vice President of Workforce Development and Lifelong Learning at Rowan College at Burlington County. In this position, she will lead the institute, which includes business outreach and incubation services, corporate training, personal development, the Retired Senior and Volunteer Program, educational program development, grants, career and placement services, military and veterans services and workforce development.

The January coalition meeting was also an opportunity for members to be introduced to the new Director of Human Services, Ms. Shirla Simpson. Ms. Simpson was gracious enough to set aside time to attend the meeting honoring her predecessor, despite her busy schedule in that new role.

"In recognition of her support of the Burlington County Coalition for Healthy Communities, and her unyielding drive to foster collaborative relationships between all youth-serving agencies in the county."

- Plaque Inscription



Ms Payanzo Cotton Receives A Plaque From Coalition Coordinator Joe Conlin

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Overdose Reversal Drug Now Available To Every U.S. High School Free Of Charge

Narcan Free to All U.S. Schools

The Clinton Foundation has partnered with pharmaceutical company Adapt Pharma to provide complimentary overdose reversal kits to high schools around the nation.

Any high school in the U.S. that wants to carry an emergency opioid overdose reversal kit will now be able to get one free of charge, thanks to a new initiative announced Monday by the Clinton Foundation and the drug's manufacturer.

Adapt Pharma, manufacturers of a nasal-spray form of naloxone, also known as Narcan, has partnered with the Clinton Health Matters Initiative to further expand access to the life-saving drug, the two groups said at the final day of the Clinton Health Matters Initiative Activation Summit. Naloxone is non-addictive, nontoxic and easy to administer, especially through nasal application. It reverses the effects of an opioid overdose by essentially blocking the opioid receptors that heroin and many prescription painkillers target.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved a nasal-spray version of naloxone in November, though it had previously been gaining popularity among first responders and advocacy groups as a first line of defense to prevent surging opioid overdose deaths across the nation.

"We are pleased to encourage public-private collaborations expanding access to naloxone," Rain Henderson, CEO of Clinton Health Matters Initiative, said in a press release. "We are hopeful this effort will facilitate a dialogue amongst students, educators, health professionals, and families about the risks of opioid overdose and ensure naloxone is available in schools that decide to take steps to address opioid overdose emergencies."

In addition to helping schools obtain naloxone, Adapt Pharma also announced that it had given a grant to the National Association of School Nurses to support opioid overdose education.

Smoke Free

Strides are being made in the effort to make parks and athletic fields tobacco-free in Burlington County municipalities.

Both Delran and Maple Shade passed ordinances in late 2015 outlawing tobacco products in their recreational areas.

Burlington Township amended their smoke free parks ordinance in December 2015 to include Electronic Smoking Devices.

Tobacco-Free for a Healthy New Jersey Coalition Coordinator, Kim Burns will be providing these townships with "Breathe Easy" signs. The signs will be posted in township parks reminding the public that the areas have been zoned smoke-free.



New Tobacco-Free Signs

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School nurses care for ill children, as well as provide health education

Commentary: Do School Nurses Really Need Narcan?

The answer is YES. The data about drug overdose is alarming. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention states, "The United States is in the midst of a prescription painkiller overdose epidemic." Daily, 44 people will die from an overdose of prescription pain medication. The rise in deaths has mirrored the quadrupling of painkillers prescribed in the U.S.

Our youth are at risk and school nurses recognize the danger. The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) optimizes the health and learning of students by advancing the practice of school nursing. NASN keeps school nurses abreast of important issues affecting student and community health by publishing relevant position statements. In June of 2015, the NASN Board of Directors adopted a position statement supporting the emergency use of naloxone in a school setting.

Recent data indicates that opioid-related deaths in youth between the ages of 12-25 has either doubled, tripled or quadrupled in 35 states. More than 90 percent of adults who develop a substance use disorder began using before they were 18 years old. This data should be especially alarming to parents, school administrators and the community.

We must make every effort to prevent death from an overdose. School nurses are first responders in a school setting and should have as many available tools as they can to save lives.

Join the Burlington County Coalition for Healthy Communities

• **The Burlington County Coalition for Healthy Communities (BCCHC)** is an initiative of Prevention Plus of Burlington County, a non-profit agency which has served Burlington County since 1991. Our mission is to promote the health, wellness and safety of the individuals and families of our community by providing professional services for the prevention of abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and related issues, through education, collaboration and advocacy.



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Coalition Meeting Dates and Events

Coalition Meetings:

March 23 and April 26, 2016 at 11:00 AM.

Burlington County Health Department
15 Pioneer Boulevard,
Mount Holly.
Please join us!

Lunch will be served.

Please RSVP to:
joeconlin@prevplus.org
or 609-261-0001 x111.

FBI and DEA Collaborate to Educate Youth

Every day, the nation's law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and federal levels, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), use investigative resources to target the supply side in the war against drugs.

But even with numerous law enforcement successes in this area, the demand for drugs continues. And one of the more worrisome trends is a growing epidemic of prescription opiate and heroin abuse, especially among young people.

On February 4, 2016, in an effort to help educate students and young adults about the dangers of opioid addiction, the FBI and DEA unveiled a documentary called *Chasing the Dragon: The Life of an Opiate Addict* at the interactive *Newseum* in Washington, D.C., before an

audience of educational leaders from the region.

The 45-minute film's title refers to the never-ending pursuit of the original or ultimate high, and features stark first-person accounts told by individuals who have abused opioids or whose children have abused opioids, often with tragic consequences.

"This film may be difficult to watch," explains FBI Director James Comey, "but we hope it educates our students and young adults about the tragic consequences that come with abusing these drugs, and that it will cause people to think twice before becoming their next victim."

And according to Acting DEA Administrator Chuck Rosenberg, "The numbers are appalling—tens of thousands of Americans will die this year from drug-related deaths, and more than half of these deaths are from heroin and prescription opioid overdoses. I hope this

[documentary] will be a wakeup call for folks."

The 45-minute film also includes interviews with medical and law enforcement professionals. They talk about the effects of addiction and the unique aspects of the opiate epidemic in the United States.

"This epidemic does not discriminate. All across this country, it is taking good people from good homes and leading them down a trail that often ends in pain and sadness," Comey said in a news release.

Download the video for free at: www.fbi.gov/ChasingTheDragon.

CHASING THE DRAGON
THE LIFE OF AN OPIATE ADDICT