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FILLING A GROWING NEED ON LONG ISLAND: OUTREACH TO OPEN NEW INTEGRATED OPIOID TREATMENT PROGRAM IN BRENTWOOD

Outreach, the agency known for life-saving treatment for those battling addiction, will hold a ribbon-cutting and grand opening for the new Outreach Recovery Center's Integrated Opioid Treatment Program (OTP), which will provide medication treatment services. The event will be held Monday, December 19, from 10:00 am to noon, at 998 Crooked Hill Rd, Building 5, within the agency's Adult Outpatient Program in Brentwood, NY. This OTP is designed to fill the growing need for treatment options on Long Island and will operate six days a week. This program will serve individuals throughout Long Island, and is one of only a few of its kind in Suffolk County.

Among those speaking at the ceremony will be Debra Pantin, President and CEO, Outreach Development Corporation; Chinazo Cunningham, M.D., Commissioner, NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports (OASAS), and Cari Besserman, MS, CRC, CASAC-Master, Director, Suffolk County Department of Health Services, Division of Community Mental Hygiene.

"The escalating problem of addiction has necessitated the need for expansion on our part," said Debra Pantin. "Sadly, treatment programs are more in demand than they have ever been. But, gratefully, New York State and Nassau and Suffolk Counties, have seen the need and are working with us to help those in the community who are suffering, both those who are addicted and their families. We are doing so with

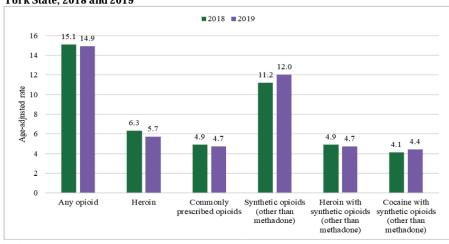
the opening of this new integrated clinic that will offer methadone along with other methods of substance abuse treatment like counseling, vocational assistance, education, and family support.

Functions of the Outreach Recovery Center's Integrated OTP, whose director will be Thomas Olivo, will be the following:

Assessments

- Methadone maintenance
- Clinical counseling utilizing a trauma informed, person centered care approach
- Psychiatric Evaluations
- Peer Services

Overdose deaths, age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population, by substance, New York State, 2018 and 2019



- Case Management
- Vocational Assessments and Counseling

According to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), nearly 92,000 people in the U.S. died from drug-involved overdoses in 2020, including illicit drugs and prescription opioids. In 2019, the latest year for which figures are available, there were 182 and 290 opioid-related deaths in Nassau and Suffolk Counties, respectively.

About Outreach

More than 40 years ago, <u>Outreach</u> opened its doors as a small assessment and referral center to engage people in the community struggling with addiction. Since then, its mission evolved to meet more needs and more communities. Today, Outreach inspires adolescents, adults, and their families to live their healthiest life through high quality, evidence-based behavioral health services and training programs located throughout New York City and Long Island. Outreach's experts in substance use treatment and recovery are available to speak with journalists and reporters.

For more information about Outreach, visit www.opiny.org. and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and YouTube.

If you or someone you know needs help with a drug or alcohol problem, please call Outreach at 1-833-OPINYORG (1-833-674-6967).

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