Community Responsibility

DOING NOTHING… IS NOT ACCEPTABLE!!
Substance Abuse COSTS to Society

- Violent crime
- Property crime
- Prison expenses
- Victimization
- Law enforcement costs
- Court costs
- Emergency room visits
- Healthcare
- Child Abuse and neglect
- Lost child support
- Foster care
- Welfare
- Homelessness
- Reduced productivity
- Unemployment
- On-the-job accidents
It's a disease.
Heroin addiction in particular is hurting us all.
It’s negatively impacting our homes, workplaces and our entire community.
What is heroin doing to Middletown?

- In 2014 the Middletown Division of Police investigated nearly 1500 complaints involving heroin.
  - This includes 66 search warrants, dozens of controlled buys and hundreds of hours of surveillance
  - 2 murders
  - 86 deaths from overdosing
  - 700 people arrested from drug crimes
More 2014 stats in Middletown

- Middletown paramedics responded to 702 calls for overdoses
- They administered Narcan 333 times
We cannot ignore the costs to our community any longer

- Heroin use is costing our the City over 1.5 million dollars
- This doesn’t include the costs to our families and businesses
You have to do something
But what can YOU do to make a difference?
First and foremost.....

If you or someone you love struggle with heroin addiction, ask for help NOW!

Find Treatment
Recognize signs of drug use and intervene!
Signs of an overdose

- Shallow breathing
- Pinpoint pupils
- Bluish Skin
- Weak Pulse
- Low Blood Pressure
- Cold/Clammy Skin
- Seizures
- Dry Mouth
- Muscle Spasms
- Disorientation
- Tongue discoloration
Loved ones or co-workers may notice a number of signs of heroin use, which are visible during and after heroin consumption:

- Shortness of breath
- Dry mouth
- Constricted (small) pupils
- Sudden changes in behavior or actions
- Disorientation
- Cycles of hyper alertness followed by suddenly nodding off
- Droopy appearance, as if extremities are heavy
More definitive warning signs of heroin abuse include possession of paraphernalia used to prepare, inject or consume heroin:

- Needles or syringes not used for other medical purposes
- Burned silver spoons
- Aluminum foil or gum wrappers with burn marks
- Missing shoelaces (used as a tie off for injection sites)
- Straws with burn marks
- Small plastic bags, with white powdery residue
- Water pipes or other pipe
Behavioral signs of heroin abuse and addiction include:

- Lying or other deceptive behavior
- Avoiding eye contact or distant field of vision
- Substantial increases in time spent sleeping
- Increase in slurred, garbled or incoherent speech
- Sudden worsening of performance in school or work, including expulsion or loss of jobs
- Decreasing attention to hygiene and physical appearance
- Loss of motivation and apathy toward future goals
Withdrawal from friends and family and instead spending time with new friends with no natural ties

Lack of interest in hobbies and favorite activities

Repeatedly stealing or borrowing money from loved ones or unexplained absence of valuables

Hostile behaviors toward loved ones, including blaming them for withdrawal or broken commitments

Regular comments indicating a decline in self esteem or worsening body image

Wearing long pants or long sleeves to hide needle marks, even in very warm weather
Users build a tolerance to heroin, leading to an increase in the frequency and quantity of heroin consumption. With growing tolerance, more definitive physical symptoms of heroin abuse and addiction emerge:

- Weight loss
- Runny nose (not explained by other illness or medical condition)
- Needle track marks visible on arms
- Infections or abscesses at injection site
- For women, loss of menstrual cycle (amenorrhea)
- Cuts, bruises or scabs from skin picking
Call the crisis line to find out what you should do to help a loved one.
Or visit this website

www.letsfaceheroinbc.org
Other ways you can help NOW!

INTERVENTION

• Report CRIME
• Join Neighborhood Watch
• TIP Lines

- 513-425-7749 (Middletown)
- Compose a new text to 274637 (CRIMES) - Text the keyword “COPS” along with your tip information
PREVENTION

Talk to your kids... your grandkids... your neighbors about the many reasons why they should choose \textbf{NOT TO USE} Heroin or any other Drug.

http://www.startalking.ohio.gov/
DONATE to organizations doing prevention
SHARE prevention messages on your Facebook, emails, etc
VOLUNTEER with a youth serving organization
GET INVOLVED in your community!!!
You CAN make a difference!
It is your responsibility!