

# Quincy College

---



**For Immediate Release: October 14, 2016**

**Contact:** Taggart Boyle, 617-984-1771, [tboyle@quincycollege.edu](mailto:tboyle@quincycollege.edu)  
Katy Spencer Johnson, 617-984-1759, [kjohnson@quincycollege.edu](mailto:kjohnson@quincycollege.edu)

## **Quincy College creates a forum for Southeastern Massachusetts communities to tackle Substance Abuse Prevention and Opioid Crisis**

*Annual Substance Abuse Forum facilitates regional discussions and identifies actionable solutions with representatives from City of Boston, City of Quincy, State Senator John F. Keenan, community groups, and others in attendance*

**SOCIAL MEDIA RELEASE (139 Characters): @QuincyCollege leads 10.20 Substance Abuse forum for substance abuse prevention w/ @SenJohnFKeenan @CityofQuincy @CityOfBoston reps & others**

**Quincy, MA (10/14/16):** Quincy College is once again taking a leadership role in regional conversations surrounding substance abuse and the opioid crisis by hosting two open to the public events on their Quincy Center campus.

On October 20th at 12:15pm, Quincy College will host the **Substance Abuse Forum** in the Lower Level Conference Room at the Quincy Campus (1250 Hancock Street, Quincy). This event is free and open to the public; media is welcome to attend.

The October 20th Substance Abuse Forum and Panel Discussion is hosted by the Quincy College Addiction Awareness Club. Many issues surrounding drug and alcohol abuse will be discussed. A diverse panel of speakers touching upon all aspects of addiction will lead the discussion including representatives from the Mayor's Office City of Quincy, Mayor's Office City of Boston, and State Senator John F. Keenan, representing Norfolk and Plymouth districts.

State Senator John F. Keenan remarked in response to the issues discussed at the Quincy College Substance Abuse Forum: "In Massachusetts, it is next to impossible to find an individual who has not been personally affected by substance abuse. I am very proud of the bi-partisan legislation aimed at tackling the opioid epidemic, however, we still have a long way to go. It is time that we demand responsibility from drug manufacturers and health insurance companies to step up and take responsibility. However, local open forums like this one are extremely crucial in gaining the needed momentum to put a final end to this epidemic."

The panel will be moderated by Mary Jane Knox, Advisor to the Quincy College Addiction Awareness Club and will feature the following panelists:

State Senator John F. Keenan  
Norfolk and Plymouth District

Larry Liuzzo  
Office of the Mayor, City of Quincy

Jennifer Tracey  
Office of the Mayor, City of Boston

Father James Hawker  
Board of Governors at Quincy College

Detective Patrick Glynn  
Drug Task Force  
Quincy Police Department

Celine Cannon  
Gavin Foundation

Massachusetts community groups will be on hand to provide information on support services including Learn to Cope, Baystate, The Sun Will Rise, A New Way, Gavin Foundation, New England Addiction Outreach, Danny Clegett of Sober Houses, Recovery Centers of America, Alcoholics Anonymous, and Narcotics Anonymous.

Two Quincy College students who are in recovery will speak at the event as well. Kristen McLaughlin, President of the Quincy College Addiction Awareness Club reflects on the annual Substance Abuse Symposium: "The Quincy College Addiction Awareness Club is pleased to maintain a safe space on the Quincy College campus for anyone to get support or information. The South Shore recovery community is engaged in an ongoing discussion about recovery and addiction awareness. The Addiction Awareness Club at Quincy College is pleased to be a part of this ongoing discussion via our annual substance abuse forums and our weekly club meetings. We continue to be proud of the network of support that we offer Quincy College students. Club discussions have included the benefits of having a sponsor, get someone connected to recovery programs, or provide them with a list of local detoxes."

In addition to the October 20th Substance Abuse Symposium, on November 3rd, Quincy College will host a Human Services and Substance Abuse Job Fair at the Quincy Campus for those interested in working in the health and human services field specializing in addiction support.

For event information, please visit: <http://quincycollege.edu/events/substance-abuse-symposium/>.

For more information about Quincy College Student Success Coaching, please visit: <http://quincycollege.edu/student-services/student-success-coaching/>.

###



## About Quincy College

Founded in 1958, Quincy College is a two-year, municipally affiliated community college serving approximately 4,500 students at campuses located in Quincy and Plymouth, Massachusetts. Quincy College is an open access institution that encourages academic achievement and excellence, diversity, economic opportunity, community involvement, and lifelong learning. The College facilitates valuable learning relationships that inspire students to realize their educational and professional futures. The college offers 35 associate degree programs and 21 certificate programs in a variety of disciplines, including those within Professional Programs, Liberal Arts, Natural & Health Sciences and Nursing. The college is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, and is licensed by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education to grant the degrees of Associate in Arts and Associate in Science. The college draws a diversity of students from the greater Boston area as well as 121 countries around the world. For additional information, visit [www.quincycollege.edu](http://www.quincycollege.edu)

