

Quincy College creates a forum for Southeastern Massachusetts communities to tackle Substance Use and Opioid Crisis

Summary: Annual open-to-public Quincy College Substance Use Disorder Forum facilitates regional discussions with representatives from City of Quincy, community groups, students, and others in attendance.

SOCIAL MEDIA RELEASE: .@QuincyCollege leads Nov. 14 Substance Use and Opioid Crisis forum discussing substance abuse prevention w/ @CityofQuincy, community groups, & others.

Quincy, MA November 4, 2019: Quincy College is once again taking a leadership role in regional conversations surrounding substance use and the opioid crisis by hosting an open to the public forum and community services resource fair at their Quincy Center campus.

On November 14th at 12:15pm, Quincy College's Student Success Office will host the Substance Use Disorder Forum in the Student Lounge at the Quincy Campus (1250 Hancock Street, Quincy). This event is free and open to the public; media is welcome to attend.

Community organizations will be hosting tables and sharing resources from 10:30 am-2:00 pm.

Many issues surrounding drug and alcohol abuse will be discussed. A diverse panel of speakers touching upon various aspects of addiction will lead the discussion including representatives from the Mayor's Office City of Quincy. The forum will be moderated by Lori Earl, Student Success Coach at Quincy College and will feature the following panelists:

- Laura Martin, Substance Use Prevention Coordinator, City of Quincy
- A representative from Al-Anon
- Father Joe White, Archdiocesan Addiction Recovery Pastoral Support Services
- Todd A. Kerensky, MD, South Shore Health. Dr. Kerensky is a specialist in Addiction Medicine at South Shore Health. He is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Addiction Medicine.

Massachusetts community groups will be on hand to provide information on support services including:

- A New Way Recovery Center
- Al-Anon & Alateen
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Aspire Health Alliance
- Column Health
- Gavin Foundation
- Learn to Cope
- Manet Community Health Center

- MOAR: Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
- Northeast Addictions Treatment Center
- Quincy College Drugs and Society Class
- Quincy Family Resource Center
- South Shore Area of Narcotics Anonymous
- South Shore Health
- South Shore Peer Recovery
- The Family Center, VOA
- The Sun Will Rise Foundation

In addition to the forum, several individuals, some of whom are Quincy College students will share their personal, touching stories of recovery.

"Quincy College understands the importance of working to reduce the stigma around the issues of substance use disorders so that individuals struggling with addiction and their loved ones feel more comfortable speaking up and reaching out for support. We recognize the impact of communities connecting with each other to build solutions, and we are pleased to highlight vital resources and support available on the South Shore for the Quincy College community and the community at large," Lori Earl, Student Success Coach at Quincy College and the 2019 Substance Use Disorder Forum moderator.

For event information, please visit: <https://quincycollege.edu/events/substance-use-forum111419/>

For on-campus student services including Quincy College Student Success Coaching, please visit: <http://quincycollege.edu/student-services/student-success-coaching/>.

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ABOUT QUINCY COLLEGE

Founded in 1958, Quincy College is a two-year, municipally affiliated community college serving approximately 4,000 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 37 associate degree programs and 27 certificate programs in a variety of disciplines, including those within Professional Programs, Liberal Arts, and Natural & Health Sciences. 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

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