HOPE Agenda
Heroin, Opioid Prevention & Education

WISCONSIN STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JOHN NYGREN – ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 89
Heroin and prescription opioid cases have been spiking in the last few years in Wisconsin. It is now considered an epidemic.

This epidemic affects big cities as well as smaller communities.

Rural areas are also at risk. These areas are less equipped to handle this problem than larger cities like Milwaukee and Madison.

The heroin and opioid epidemic has become a problem that has increased crime statewide and shocked entire communities.
Statistics

Heroin use, United States, 2007-2014

Source: SAMHSA, 2014 National Survey on Drug Use and Health
Statistics

Rates of heroin-related emergency department visits, hospital discharges, and deaths, Wisconsin, 2007-2014

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Wis. Department of Health Services

Heroin-related deaths, Wisconsin, 2014

Median age 34 years old
67% completed high school or less
75% male
80% white
87% unmarried
88% died at home

Source: Office of Health Informatics, Wis. Department of Health Services
HOPE Agenda: The Introduction

- In 2013, Rep. Nygren introduced seven bills that laid the foundation for the HOPE Agenda.
- During the 2015-16 Legislative session, Rep. Nygren offered 10 additional bills as a continuation of his HOPE Agenda.
- The bills target heroin addiction and the root of Wisconsin’s epidemic: prescription drug abuse and addiction. **In the majority of cases, heroin addiction begins with an addiction to prescription medications.**
- Today, there are 17 laws that make up the HOPE Agenda legislative package.
2013 Wisconsin Act 200:

- Provides all levels of EMTs, first responders, police, and fire the ability to be trained to administer Narcan (naloxone).
- Any person who administers the drug is immune from civil or criminal liability provided their actions are consistent with Wisconsin’s Good Samaritan law.
- This law is already saving lives. First responders have reported administering opioid antagonists over 1,000 times in the past year in Wisconsin.
Opioid Antagonist Legislation

Opioid antagonists are life-saving drugs that, when administered to a person experiencing an overdose, may reverse the effects of the overdose. Expanding access to opioid antagonists will prevent unnecessary overdose-related deaths and, in turn, offer people another chance at life.

2015-16 Wisconsin Act 115:

- Expands access to opioid antagonists like Narcan by offering the drug for purchase from certain pharmacies without a prescription through a standing order.
Treatment and diversion programs are alternatives for individuals charged with certain crimes to prosecution and incarceration. The individuals enrolled in the program will have the chance to receive the help and support they need in order to become and remain contributing members of society.

2013 Wisconsin Act 195:
- This law increases access to comprehensive opioid treatment programs in rural and underserved areas of Wisconsin.
- Under this law, 3 regional treatment and diversion pilot programs have been created.

2013 Wisconsin Act 197:
- This law provides grants to counties that offer substance abuse treatment and diversion options in lieu of incarceration.

2015-16 Wisconsin Act 338:
- This bill allocates $2 million each fiscal year to go toward treatment and diversion programs.
Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) Legislation

2015 Wisconsin Act 266:

- Changes the requirement for those who dispense certain prescription drugs to submit information to the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) from 7 days to 24 hours.
- It will also require a practitioner to review a patient’s record when initially prescribing a monitored prescription drug (for example, a Schedule II drug).
Get Involved

There are many things you can do to get involved and help fight Wisconsin’s heroin and opioid epidemic.


2. Shatterproof is a national organization that works to curtail addiction and reduce stigmas associated with the disease. Find more information on their website at www.Shatterproof.org.

3. Keep an open line of communication between you and your prescribers. It’s important to stay informed of the risks associated with prescription pain medications.

4. Many times, over the counter medications will suffice to treat pain after a minor surgery or injury. If you don’t feel as though you need a prescription pain medication to manage your pain, tell your prescriber.

5. For more information on the HOPE Agenda visit the website at http://legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/hope