



EDUCATING OUR YOUTH ON THE DANGERS OF OPIOID USE

DEC 9 | 9-11 AM



CAS CENTRAL OFFICE | 30 REALTY DR., CHESHIRE

The misuse of prescription medication and opioid-based drugs has increased significantly over the years to become a public health concern in our state, and the problem extends to our teens and young adolescents. A significant number of accidental drug overdoses can be traced to opioid addictions that resulted from the misuse of prescription pills during the teen or early adolescent years. The 2019 Connecticut School Health Survey showed that one in ten high school students reported taking prescription pain medications without a prescription or differently than prescribed, demonstrating a critical need to educate our young people about the dangers of opioid use.

The US Attorney's Office for the District of Connecticut has established a [Heroin Education Action Team](#) (HEAT) which provides opioid awareness presentations for Connecticut's middle and high schools. The presentations include remarks from a federal prosecutor, a special agent of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and a parent who lost a loved one to an overdose. The presentations also include a clip from "[Chasing the Dragon](#)," a video which tracks the lives of several young adults who were addicted to opioids.

Join us at CAS on **December 9** from 9-11 AM and see one of these powerful presentations first-hand. Meet members of the HEAT team and see if their program would be a good fit for your school or district. We welcome you to bring a member(s) of your school's mental health team.

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