



# The Opioid Epidemic: Actions in Response

Alan J. Wilmarth, CASAC  
Administrative Director Behavioral  
Health Services  
United Health Services Hospitals,  
Inc.



# Disclosures

- Alan J. Wilmarth, CASAC has no real or apparent financial relationships to disclose



# People Do Recover

- Patients with severe drug use related medical issues
  - Keeping them engaged
  - One way to provide concurrent care



# Reduce Stigma Campaign

- Screen savers, posters, language coaching, etc.
- All leaders in the behavioral health area and senior leadership of the health system took ownership of changing the language



# Opioid Prescription Reduction Team

- Team comprised of leadership from
  - Primary Care
  - Pain Management
  - Addiction Medicine
  - Pharmacy
  - Laboratory
  - Psychology
- Overview of work to date



# Inpatient Pain Management Team

- Comprised of leadership from:
  - Medicine (including residency faculty)
  - Pharmacy
  - Psychiatry
  - Addiction Medicine
  - Nursing
  - Surgery
- Summary of work to date



# Emergency Department Approach

- No replacement of lost or stolen prescriptions
- No opioid prescriptions for chronic pain issues, refer back to pcp or pain management
- Offer non opioid pain medications in ED



# Buprenorphine in Primary Care

- Three free training sessions provided by Addiction Medicine Physicians to encourage providers to obtain their waivers.
- “Mini residencies”
- On site support to providers
- Hub and Spoke model with Opioid Treatment Program clinic (OTP)





# Pregnancy Program

- Multi disciplinary team approach
- Contingency management
- Community engagement
- Two year follow up



# Community Collaboration

- Broome Opioid Abuse Council (BOAC)
  - Members
    - Providers, Health Department, Poison Control, Faith Community, Peers, Family members, Law enforcement, County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), County Officials, DSRIP representatives, National Guard Drug Task Force and HIDTA
  - Function
  - Accomplishments



# Community Collaboration

- Broome County Sheriff's Office
  - Groups in jail
  - Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) proposal for incarcerated individuals
  - Sheriff's Assisted Recovery Initiative (SARI) program
- Broome County Public Defender's Office
  - Assessment and treatment recommendations in the jail
  - Drug Treatment Court Support



Thank you!