

Feb 29 Community Illicit Drug Forum: A Night for HOPE

6-8pm at the Waterfront

WHAT:

Please join us February 29 from 6-8pm for **A Night for HOPE**, a community illicit drug forum sponsored by the La Crosse County Heroin and Other Illicit Drug Task Force, La Crosse County Prevention Network and Addiction Medical Solutions.

A Family's Journey from Addiction to Recovery. "*Your Choice*" started with one family who lived through the devastation of drugs and alcohol. Their son Tyler struggled with drugs and alcohol for 11 years until he decided it was time to get help. Once he completed treatment in 2008, the family came together and decided they wanted to educate youth and families about drugs and alcohol so that other families wouldn't have to experience what they lived through.

Chris Eberlein, MD., Co-chair of the La Crosse County Heroin and Other Illicit Drug Task Force, and from Gundersen Health Systems stated, "Many people do not understand why or how other people become addicted to drugs. We do know that drug addiction can be successfully treated to help people stop abusing drugs and lead productive lives." A local survey, COMPASS NOW 2015 showed that illegal drug use was the top community concern.

There will also be resources available for participants prior to the event from 5-6pm and during the event. Staff from various agencies will be available to answer questions and concerns about counseling, treatment and resources. Panelists will present current efforts in the community on prevention, treatment, addiction, law enforcement, medical, and more! The main theme will focus on heroin, opioids (pain medications) and other prescription drug misuse, and meth. However, information available will appeal to a wide range of illicit drug addiction.

Everyone is welcome and the event is free. Community members such as parents, family members, caregivers, health professionals, business leaders, mental health providers, counselors, and others are encouraged to attend.

LOCATION:

Waterfront – Cargill Center located at 332 Front Street South in La Crosse, Wisconsin.

REGISTRATION or QUESTIONS:

Please contact Al Bliss, Coordinator of the La Crosse County Heroin and Other Illicit Drug Task Force at 608 789-4820 or email abliss@lacrossecounty.org. Registration is not required, but encouraged, so we provide adequate resources and materials!