Staten Island: Heroin and Opioid Crisis

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Overdose Map

- 2016 SI OD Death Rate 31.8 per 100,000
- SI has the highest rate in NYC
Initiatives in Response

- Overdose Response Initiative: Understanding the depth of the problem
- Long-Term Investigations: Attack the Pipeline & Dealers
- Special Narcotics Part: The “Drug Dealer Court”: More efficient system
- No D & Too Good for Drugs: Community collaboration
- Lawn Sign Campaign www.SIHOPE.org
- Heroin Overdose Prevention & Education Program (HOPE) & Coordinated Response Teams: Increase access to treatment

Starting to see some positive trends – on track to have a lower OD fatality rate.
HOPE Program

HOPE (Heroin Overdose Prevention & Education) is a pre-arraignment diversion program developed by law enforcement, public health advocates, and the community that redirects low-level drug offenders to community-based health services, instead of jail and prosecution.

Developed for Staten Island, the HOPE program is committed to:

- Saving lives
- Reducing overdoses
- Improving health outcomes by exposing those in need to treatment options and resources, including harm reduction services and peer mentors
- Improving public safety by reducing criminal activity

Launched: January 17, 2017
How HOPE Works

HOPE eligible individuals:
- Top charge 220.03
- 7-day Desk Appearance Ticket
- A peer mentor will come to the precinct

Your peer mentor will:
- Explain the HOPE program
- Provide a naloxone kit and train how to use it
- Introduce counselors at SI’s Resource & Recovery Centers

Counselors at the Resource and Recovery Center will:
- Assess for substance use disorder & other needs
- Develop an individualized care plan
- Help access services
- Participants can speak with an attorney for advice about HOPE before the return date listed on the DAT.
- Once assessment is completed prior to the 7 day DAT, the individual doesn’t need appear in court. The case will be adjourned for 30 days.
- Once participants meaningfully engage with services prior to the 30 day return date, the DAs office will decline to prosecute the case.
- There will have no criminal record.