

District Attorney Ryan Addresses Medford Seniors on Middlesex District Attorney's Partnership with Project Linus

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Left to Right: Vinny Marcellino, Lieutenant, Medford Fire Department; Frank Gilberti, Chief, Medford Fire Department; Marian Ryan, District Attorney; Stephanie Burke, Mayor, City of Medford; Pam Kelly, Director, Medford Council on Aging and Leo Sacco, Chi

MEDFORD – Middlesex District Attorney Marian Ryan spoke to Medford seniors today at the Medford Senior Center about a new partnership with Project Linus to provide blankets to children in Middlesex County who experience an opioid-related, or other trauma. District Attorney Ryan also donated blankets to the Medford Police Department and the Medford Fire Department.

District Attorney Ryan was also joined by Medford Chief of Police Leo Sacco,

Medford Mayor Stephanie Burke, Medford Fire Department Chief Frank Gilberti, Medford Fire Department Lieutenant Vinny Marcellino and Medford Council on Aging Director Pam Kelly.

Through this program Project Linus will also provide blankets to all children identified through Project C.A.R.E, a partnership involving the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, the Lowell Police Department, Lowell Fire Department, Trinity Ambulance and the Mental Health Association of Greater Lowell to provide a 24-hour, 7-day-a-week rapid response trauma-informed intervention for children who witness a parent or loved one suffer an overdose.

Early and appropriate trauma-informed care can help children cope with trauma, build resiliency and help reduce the cyclical effects of substance misuse.

Blankets are currently being distributed to Middlesex County Chiefs of Police and other first-responders across the County to distribute when children have experienced other types of trauma such as witnessing a violent crime, loss of a parent or sibling or displacement from their home.

Project Linus is a 100% volunteer organization dedicated to creating and delivering new handmade blankets to any child who may be in need of some extra comforting. Blankets can be knitted, crocheted, quilted or hand-tied by volunteers of all ages and abilities and are delivered to children in hospitals throughout the world or to any child in need of consolation. You can find more information about Project Linus and its Greater Boston Chapter at

www.projectlinus.org.