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Prosecutor's office to take part in heroin, opioid programs in Randolph, Florham Park

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MORRIS COUNTY -- The Morris County Prosecutor's Office announced Friday it will take part in heroin and opioid epidemic programs in Randolph and Florham Park next week.

Last year, more than 64,000 Americans died from drug overdoses, and more than 20,000 fatal overdoses were related to fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, according to the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

"Morris County is hardly immune from the growing epidemic," according to the prosecutor's office. "Sixty-five individuals have died from heroin and opioid overdoses through the first eight months of this year, a rate that exceeds the number of overdose deaths in 2016 during the same period."

As reported by NJ Advance Media, [1,901 people died from opioid overdoses in the Garden State last year.](#)

The Randolph forum will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 11 at 7 p.m. in the Randolph High School auditorium. Co-sponsors include the Randolph Municipal Alliance Committee, the Randolph Police Department, Morris County Prevention is Key and Morris County CARES.

The other program is set for Thursday, Oct. 12 at 7 p.m. at Ridgedale Middle School in Florham Park. Co-sponsors include the Florham Park Police Department and the Florham Park Board of Education.



"By raising public consciousness of this heroin-opioid epidemic, it is our hope to stem the tide of addiction and related deaths," Morris County Prosecutor Fredric M. Knapp said. "Through traditional drug interdiction, treatment for addiction and educational programs we hope to end this senseless slaughter."

Knapp and Chief Assistant Prosecutor Bradford Seabury, head of the Morris County Prosecutor's Office Special Operations Division, will present the program, which will also feature a question-and-answer session.

Seabury will discuss the latest national and local statistics and how illicit drugs are distributed and sold in the United States. He'll also describe how the cycle of addiction can start and avoidance measures that can be taken.

"Informing our community about heroin, prescription opiates and treatment options for the disease of addiction is an important component to the strategy of combating this deadly epidemic," Seabury said.

All are welcome to attend the events.

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