

# Fight the Heroin Crisis

## Please RAISE MY TAXES

Marcia Oganowski

Taxpayer, concerned citizen

# Reasons for my request to speak

- Thank you for the opportunity to address the Commissioners

# My neighbors in Goshen Agree

- Goshen Democratic Club
- Cross section of life – people visiting the Kroger's grocery
- In three hours on June 13
- 35! people signed
  
- “We have to do something”
- Harleys Against Heroin – one story
- Child almost steps on needle in Arby's parking lot
- ADDITIONAL \$10.94 at most per \$100,000 Market Value

# Public Health Crisis

- Erin L Winstanley, Ph.D. & Judith Feinberg, M.D.
- HIV can cost \$1/2 million to treat over lifetime  
Hepatitis can cost up to \$1/4 million
- On current course could bankrupt our healthcare system (affecting everyone)
- 42%-81% of those seeking treatment for opioid addiction develop chronic hepatitis
- 92% of heroin addicts are white
- “Evidenced-Based Practices to improve Outcomes for Person with Opioid Dependence” presentation at Opiate Task Force June 11, 2015

# CBS News this morning

- 100% increase in women using heroin
- 2012-2013 109% increase in deaths in age 18-25 group
- Most people use heroin after using opiate pills, OxyContin, Vicodin, Percocet etc.
- (Street cost of OxyContin \$80/pill) – “Dreamland”, Sam Quinones
- Street cost of Heroin \$4-\$10 per dose

# Treatment!

## is the only way out of this problem

- It is a disease, not a moral failing
- Addicts usually cannot heal themselves, just like other life style diseases as Heart disease, Cancer and Diabetes. They need treatment
- Long sustained treatment – stable platform over years of time
  - Rob's sons
  - Mike's scheduled Saturday visit
- Relapse is a predictable part of recovery and happens many times
- Incarceration – hard to get a job
- “Can't get treatment without committing a felony” we hear.
- Vivitrol \$1200 an injection for 15 – to 30 days.

# Treatment – we need to support Recovery

- What Insurance will pay for
- Medicaid Expansion – mixed blessing
- Sheriff \$1 at front save \$5.
- Jail ~ \$78/day, Treatment ~ \$42/day
- Unstable, unreliable funding for detox center, sober living
- Penny wise and pound foolish funding – wasting resources, increasing cost and misery in the long run

# Heroin Addiction is the source of the problem

- Airplane safety
- Fallout, see impact on other systems – MHRB
- When people are not in treatment or in jail – they are spreading the addiction
  - Needles
  - Grandma pain meds
  - Sell to friends – spread the addiction
- Too late to get in front, we are now chasing it, but levy increase for MHRB is a start
  - Sheriff at Feb 3 Tea Party meeting



# Irresponsible STATE Funding Cutbacks

- LWV meeting March 2014
  - \$18 million/yr. when no heroin deaths
  - \$8 million in 2014, just had 53 deaths in previous year from overdose
  - Dropping to \$5.1 million
  - MHRB PROVIDES THE TREATMENT SERVICES NEED MORE OF
  - Have expertise, just no funding to scale up to meet the need
- We have no detox centers, no sober living houses in Clermont
- Start of 2011 the “Rainy Day Fund” contains 89 Cents!
- As of Feb 2015, Tax dollar funds diverted from local govt and agencies Rainy Day Fund at over \$2 BILLION (a Million dollars 2000 times)
- Our local tax dollars for local services diverted into the Rainy Day Fund
- 5% to 8.5% June 30, 2015

# State Funding Appalling – fed by “misbranding”

- OH, NO!= Wed conversation, the myth debunked in “Dreamland” is the “official advice” given to state reps in Ohio Assembly
- Rep. Terry Johnson, Scioto “If you take opiates as prescribed, you can’t get addicted”. --- FALSE
- <1% pain patients developed addiction to Opiates – Hershel Jick
- - push to Drs. By Purdue Pharma  
2006 lawsuit, \$634.5 million fine for “misbranding” – “Dreamland”

# Invest in Recovery – These people are awesome!

- Near Sophie's choices
- Generous and impassioned to give back and prevent other's nightmare experience
- Children are part of recovery
- Develop skills at a level unknown to those of us who have not been tested.
- DESERVE to be helped, it is a Disease.
- RECOVERY is BEAUTIFUL

# I want to chip in

- Tried and true method
- I want to chip in to my community to fight the heroin crisis
- PLEASE follow the MH&RB request for a Levy in November
- PLEASE RAISE MY TAXES
  
- I promise to personally work to get the Levy passed
  
- Marcia Oganowski