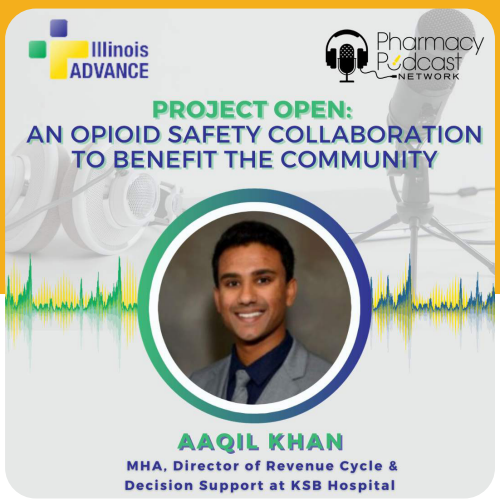
Illinois ADVANCE Newsletter

May 2024

RISING FROM CRISIS:
DIXON, ILLINOIS' JOURNEY TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

In 2015, the town of Dixon, IL experienced 3 overdose deaths in a 10-day period. The community's reaction is both interesting and inspirational. Listen to the story of how this tragedy prompted a police deflection program, which led to a community planning grant, and eventually led to the development of the multi-county Project OPEN. Here at Illinois ADVANCE, we are proud to have played a part in this community's response to a public health crisis.



EMPOWERING EDUCATION:
ACADEMIC DETAILING ON HIV PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS (PrEP) AT ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

In our ongoing commitment to collaborative healthcare and improving patient outcomes, we have proactively undertaken a series of group detailing initiatives with several organizations. Most recently, we had the privilege of conducting in-depth academic detailing visits on HIV PrEP to the faculty members of Roosevelt University College of Pharmacy. The visits took place virtually, and the faculty's interactive engagement and enthusiasm led to impactful conversations about improving Illinois PrEP coverage goals by 2030. Their receptiveness to the material presented underscored the importance and relevance of our efforts in advancing knowledge and understanding within the healthcare community. This successful interaction serves as a testament to our dedication to fostering meaningful connections and sharing valuable insights in our collective pursuit of better health outcomes.

EXPANDING OUR REACH TO SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

In April, Dr. Nerissa Caballes participated in the Commercial Tobacco Free Summit in Carterville, IL, and informed attendees about our statewide services. Conversations revolved around our program's relevance in rural areas with limited resources. The meeting attracted healthcare directors, school counselors, and pharmacists, with a focus on smoking cessation. We also discussed Medication Assisted Recovery (MAR) and buprenorphine, which are crucial topics in underserved rural communities. Illinois ADVANCE displayed its commitment to reaching diverse healthcare providers by establishing a relationship with the Southern IL Tobacco Disparities Partnership to potentially provide academic detailing to bridge existing gaps and improve community health outcomes.