

# COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



**STEVEN BELLONE**  
SUFFOLK COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

**JAMES L. TOMARKEN, MD, MPH, MBA, MSW**  
Commissioner

TO: All EMS Providers in Suffolk County

FROM: Robert Delagi, MA, NREMT-P  
Director, EMS & Public Health  
Emergency Preparedness *Robert Delagi*

DATE: August 20, 2015

RE: Distribution of a Community Resource List

## PLEASE ENSURE WIDESPREAD DISTRIBUTION

As we are all aware, the impact of opioid addiction and overdose is felt in the EMS community. Frequently, our county's EMS providers encounter individuals with illness or injury that is either caused by, or exacerbated by, chronic substance abuse. I am writing to you today to remind you of community service that was first introduced to you in August, 2013. Recently updated, the enclosed Treatment Referral List can be made available to a particular subset of our patients and their families, who often times are looking for hope and direction in their time of need. We are providing this information to you for your situational awareness, and in an attempt to offer information on rehabilitation opportunities to individuals or families affected by drug overdose.

The Community Resource List was created out of a growing need for information on treatment agencies for adolescents and young adults. This user-friendly list encapsulates a variety of treatment and rehabilitation programs throughout Suffolk County.

We are not asking, nor expecting, EMS providers to provide counseling when responding to a patient with a history of alcohol or drug use. Rather, we are asking that, when confronted with such a patient, or when families of patients ask for assistance because they feel they have nowhere to turn for help, you as a health care professional are in a position to provide resource information that may positively influence their lives.

Please review the enclosed information which summarizes the services offered, and carry copies of the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Treatment Referral List on your ambulances and first response vehicles, so that you have this valuable resource information available when needed to pass along to patients and/or their families.

Please don't hesitate to call (852-5080) or email [robert.delagi@suffolkcountyny.gov](mailto:robert.delagi@suffolkcountyny.gov) if you have any questions or require any additional information.

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Prevent. Promote. Protect.

DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

360 Yaphank Ave, Suite 1B, Yaphank, NY 11980 (631) 852-5080 Fax (631) 852-5028