



The Opioid Crisis and Connecticut's Workforce Symposium Agenda

Target Audience: CT Business leaders (HR, Executive Management, Risk Management, etc.) and stakeholders.

Date: Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:00-4:30 PM

Location: Middlesex Community College
Chapman Hall, 808C & 808D
100 Training Hill Road
Middletown, CT 06457

Parking: Ample parking is available at the college upon entry.

Objectives:

- 1) Understand the opioid crisis in the U.S. and its impact on the Connecticut workforce.
- 2) Provide an overview of the legal considerations for employers related to substance abuse in the workforce.
- 3) Discuss strategies for the support and retention of substance-addicted employees.
- 4) Outline best practices and innovative approaches to develop a comprehensive and proactive response program to employee substance abuse.
- 5) Present case studies, stories and lessons learned regarding addiction in the workplace.
- 6) Develop a white paper detailing a model substance abuse program for Connecticut employers.

Time	Topics	Speakers
8:00-8:30 AM	Registration/Breakfast	
8:30-8:45 AM	Opening Welcome: What Connecticut is Doing to Combat the Opioid Crisis	Representative Sean Scanlon
8:45-9:45 AM	The Opioid Crisis in the American Workforce	Phil Walls, Clinical Pharmacist and national speaker on opioids
9:45-10:00 AM	Break	
10:00-11:15 AM	Employment Related Issues with Substance Abuse in the Workforce: A Legal Perspective ➤ Workers Compensation and Opioid Use: Helping Hand or Contributing to the Crisis by Attorney Nathan Julian Shafner	Labor Attorney Panel: -Rachel Ginsburg, Pullman & Comley, LLC - Moderator -John Letizia, Letizia, Ambrose & Falls, P.C.

	➤ Employment Related Issues – Medical Marijuana by Attorney John M. Letizia	-Monte Frank, Pullman & Comley, LLC -Nathan Shafner, Embry and Neusner
11:15-12:00 PM	Employment Related Issues with Substance Abuse in the Workforce: A Human Perspective	David Messenger and Melissa Monroe, LPC Rushford Clinical Director
12:00-12:30 PM	Lunch	
12:30-1:15 PM	Current Best Practices and Innovative Approaches for Employers to Assess Their Current Workforce Risk and How to Build A Proactive Response Program	Tom Mathews, CEAP, CPP Director, Solutions EAP
1:15-2:00 PM	An Innovative Solution to an Ever-Growing Problem	Panel: -Jody DeCarolis, Sr. Site Safety Manager, DIMEO Construction -Andrea Becker-Abbott, CADC, SAP, Connecticut Counseling and Wellness -Jerry Marcil, CEAP, LAP-C, LADC, SAP, Connecticut Counseling and Wellness -Ashley Dwyer, Members Assistance Program Coordinator IUOE Local 478
2:00-2:15 PM	Break	
2:15-2:30 PM	Brainstorming Areas/Topics for Discussion	Jenn Cavallari, ScD, CIH Assistant Professor Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine Department of Community Medicine, UConn Health Center
2:30-3:45 PM	Planning for the Future: How to Move Forward to Proactively Address this Crisis?	Adam Seidner, MD MPH Global Medical Director Travelers Insurance Company
3:45-4:30 PM	Next Steps: Developing Guidance for Connecticut Employers	Michael Erdil MD, FACOEM Assistant Clinical Professor Department of Medicine Division of Occupational Medicine University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Deborah Pease, MPH
Occupational Health Epidemiologist
Environmental and Occupational Health Assessment
 State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH)
 P: (860) 509-7771 | E: Deborah.pease@ct.gov | www.ct.gov/dph