

From: Danny Varat <DannyVarat@scstatehouse.gov>
To: Catherine McNicollCatherineMcNicoll@scstatehouse.gov
Date: 8/2/2017 10:36:33 AM
Subject: Re: Opioids

Do we have any statistics on the level of addiction in SC?

From: Catherine McNicoll
Sent: Thursday, July 27, 2017 5:12 PM
To: Danny Varat
Subject: Opioids

The document labeled op-ed is the extremely rough draft for the op-ed. The other document is some of my notes. I also have a lot of other pieces.

The overall problem I have had is everyone agrees there is a problem but there really hasn't been a proven solution yet. So there isn't a whole lot support the theories on how to solve it. There is the obvious logic of stop addiction before it starts, which is two-fold; one where possible just don't expose people to addictive substances and two where exposure and addiction have already occurred treat immediately to stop the damage.

The only programs that seem to have some solid evidence are diversion programs like New Start and Drug Court, which offer addicts rehabilitation alternatives to imprisonment. These have high costs on the front end but have a proven impact.

Best Regards,
Catherine McNicoll
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