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Established in 1945, DuPage County Health Department promotes physical and emotional health; prevents illness injury and disability; protects health from environmental risk factors, and strives to assure the provision of accessible, quality service.

September 20, 2018

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Board of Health Resolution Recognizes  
“Recovery Month” in DuPage County**

*HOPE Taskforce Offers Website with Resources to Residents*

**DUPAGE COUNTY**—September is National Recovery Month, and the DuPage County Board of Health and Health Department recognize the efforts of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to increase awareness and understanding of mental health and substance use disorders and celebrate the people who recover.

In a resolution, the DuPage County Board of Health supports National Recovery Month and the theme, “Join the Voices for Recovery: Invest in Health, Home, Purpose, and Community.”

Like many communities across the country, DuPage County is facing an opioid epidemic that has cut short the lives of too many of our residents. As part of its response, the DuPage County Heroin Opioid Prevention and Education (HOPE) Taskforce is announcing a new website that provides information to residents seeking help with opioid use.

If you, a loved one or someone you know needs help with substance use, there is no need to search further than [hopedupage.org](http://hopedupage.org), which links DuPage County residents to treatment, support services, and education and prevention information. The website offers resources for parents, community members and professionals to get informed about, and help end the opioid crisis.

The Board of Health resolution further recognizes the “HOPE Taskforce is taking steps to help reduce opioid addiction and establish integrated mental health and substance use disorder treatment and recovery options.”

The HOPE Taskforce developed a five-point framework to address the opioid epidemic that includes, reducing access to drugs; reducing opioid use and misuse; increasing overdose response; integrating mental health and substance use disorder treatment and recovery; and substance use prevention and education.

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The HOPE Taskforce was created to bring together partners from across DuPage County to find a way to end the opioid epidemic.

A joint operation of the DuPage County Board and the DuPage County Health Department, the HOPE Taskforce is evaluating opioid use within DuPage County and recommending effective and actionable policies, initiatives, and programs. The Taskforce is advising DuPage County elected leaders on ways to address opioid use in the County.

All HOPE Taskforce meetings are open and announced on [hopedupage.org](http://hopedupage.org), and the websites of the DuPage County Board and DuPage County Health Department. Interested members of the community are invited to attend.

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