

**02H**

**OP I A T E S**

***FAIRFIELD COUNTY OPIATE TASK FORCE***



# How serious is the opiate problem in Fairfield County?



The Use of Opiates in Fairfield County has increased from levels in the 1990's that were barely detectable to epidemic proportions in 2010.



# Criminal Justice Trends



**In 2003 Fairfield County spent \$350,000 incarcerating opiate addicts.**

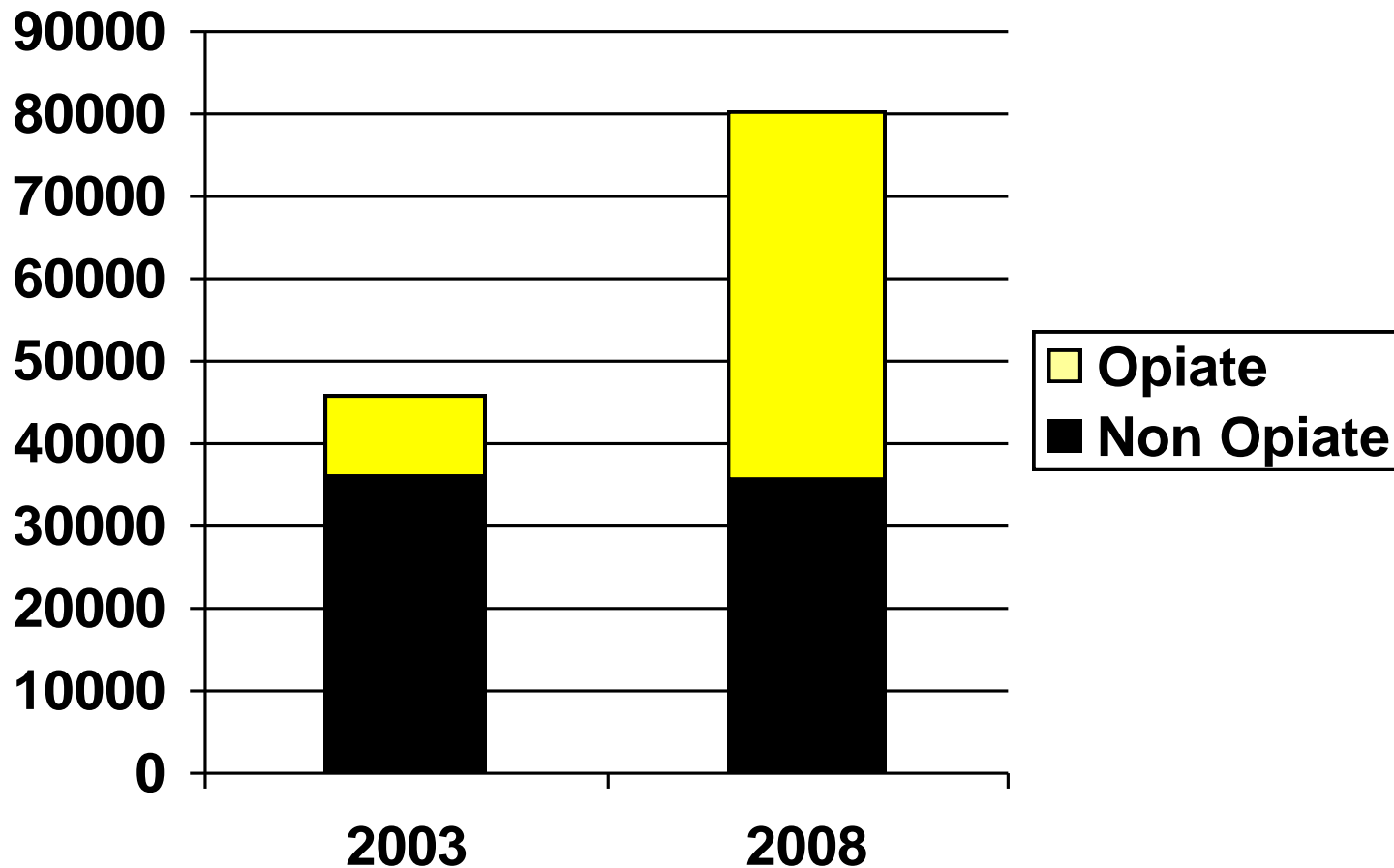
**By 2008 the cost of incarcerating opiate addicts increased to \$2.5 million.**

**More than 90% of opiate addicted persons in jail were repeat offenders.**

**85% of all Fairfield County drug court participants are addicted to opiates.**



# Fairfield County Jail Days





# How serious is the opiate problem in Fairfield County?

22% of 12th graders have used opiates at least once.

9% have used opiates on **20 or more occasions.\***

\*2010 Fairfield County Youth Behavior Survey





# Why are Opiates so frequently abused?



**58%** of Fairfield County 12<sup>th</sup> graders live in a household where someone had received a prescription painkiller during the past year.

**45.7%** of Fairfield County 12<sup>th</sup> graders report that Rx Drugs are easy to obtain.



# Why are Opiates so frequently abused?



13.9 Million doses of Hydrocodone and Oxycodone were legally dispensed to the residents of Fairfield, Athens, Hocking and Perry Counties in 2009.

***This is equal to 52 pills for every man, woman and child.***



# Fairfield County Opiate Task Force

- In November of 2009 the community came together to raise awareness of the opiate issue in Fairfield County
- The “Hooked” DVD was shown and a panel of local experts discussed the issue on multiple levels
- Committees were formed and community members signed up to be a part of the Task Force.



# Fairfield County Opiate Task Force

- The Fairfield County Opiate Task Force has accomplished many goals in the past year
- Fairfield County does have an opiate epidemic as do many other communities throughout the state and nation
- Our problems are not unique but our solutions are very unique

Fairfield County – “Recognizing the opiate problem and building community solutions”



# Fairfield County Opiate Task Force

- The Fairfield County Opiate Task Force is a model for other communities dealing with this issue
- The Task Force has spoken at National and State Conferences regarding our solutions
- The Governor of Ohio recognized our efforts along with Fairfield Medical Center and presented us with a certificate of recognition



# Fairfield County Opiate Task Force

- The Lancaster Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce recognized two of our members with special awards at the 2011 Chamber Dinner
  - Floyd Wolfe Award to Ron Burris for the Tour de Cause
  - Chairman's Award to Orman Hall for Leadership of the Task Force



# How Can We Resolve the Opiate Crisis?



Make sure that all Ohioans are **INFORMED** consumers of opiate medications.



# How Can We Resolve the Opiate Crisis?



Educate physicians and dentists.

Develop measures and benchmarks to assure appropriate practice standards for opiate therapy.



# How Can We Resolve the Opiate Crisis?



Provide **effective intervention** for those persons that are currently addicted.



# What We Are Doing

## Opiate Task Force Committees

Medical Committee

Treatment / Criminal Justice Committee

Measurement Committee

Tour de Cause

Community Education Committee



# What We Are Doing

## Medical Committee

Fairfield Medical Center oversees this committee.

**Current activities include:**

- **Mandatory opiate education for physicians and prescribers**
- **Regularly sponsored CME workshops about opiate addiction**
- **OARRS Training and Registration Assistance**
- **Monitor - a magazine style publication has been mailed to 59,000 households in Fairfield, Hocking and Perry Counties**
- **Rx Drug Handout to every patient at FMC**



# What We Are Doing

- **Treatment/Criminal Justice Committee**
- **Treatment**
  - **Implemented open access model to enter treatment**
  - **No waiting list**
  - **Ongoing training with the Fairfield Medical Center Emergency Department Staff**
  - **The “Loved Ones” Group**
  - **Medication Assisted Therapy**
  - **Exploring new options for medication assisted therapy**



# Treatment

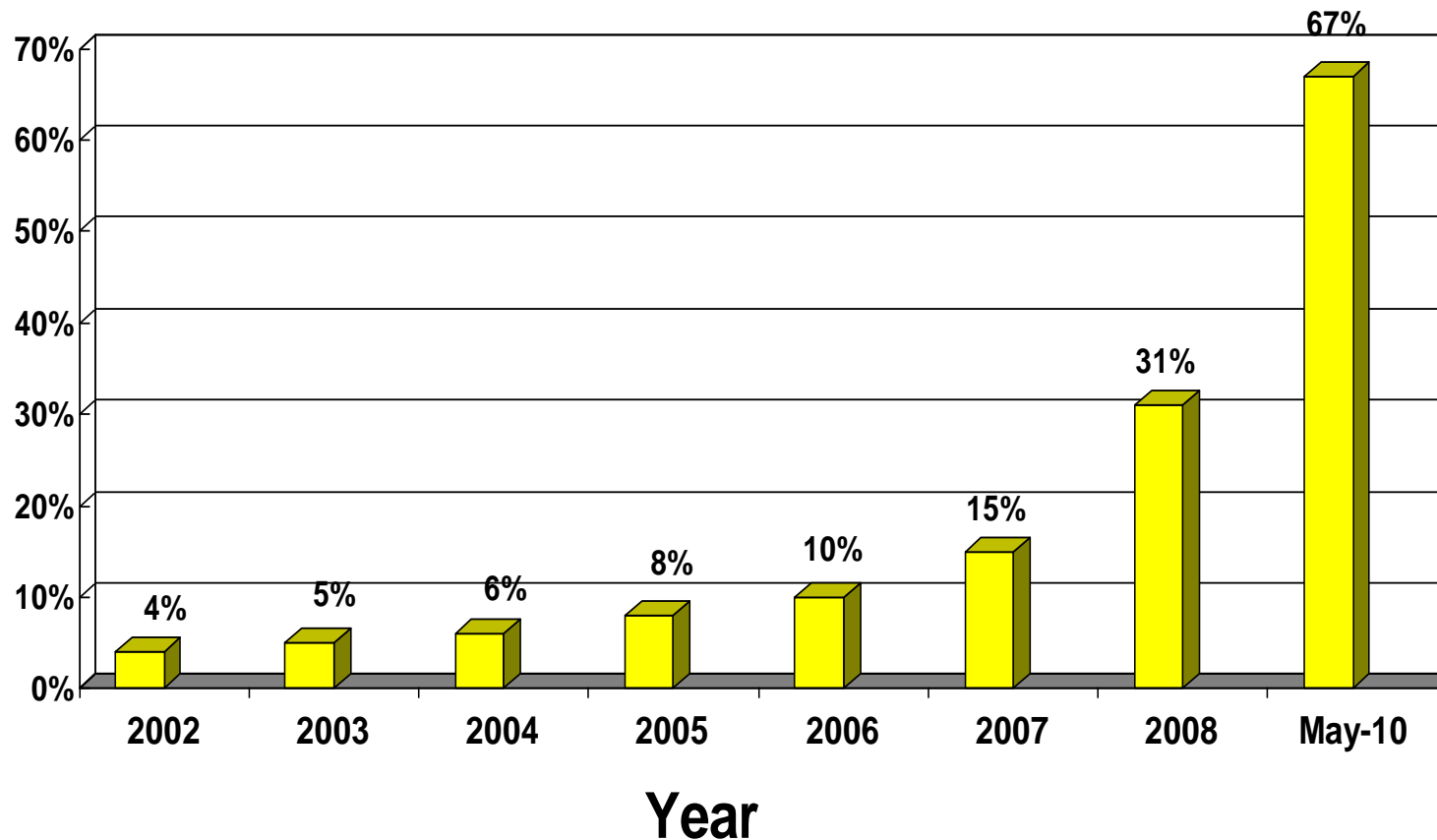


67% of all clients at The Recovery Center in May of 2010 **were opiate addicted.**



# Treatment Admission Trends

## Opiates as a % of Total Admissions





# How can we effectively intervene?



Treatment alone is not sufficient.

**Medication Assisted Therapy**  
is critical for abstinence and  
long-term recovery.



# How can we effectively intervene?



Without Medication Assisted Therapy **most opiate addicts will relapse.**



# What We Are Doing

## Treatment/Criminal Justice Committee

### Criminal Justice

- Has analyzed incarceration rates and estimated the impact of opiate addicts on criminal justice system (in conjunction with measurement committee)
- Exploring alternatives to incarceration
- The Fresh Start Program has expanded



# What We Are Doing

- Criminal Justice
  - D.A.R.E. through Lancaster Police Department donated over \$5000.00 to healthy youth oriented activities.
  - Lancaster Police Department received a COPS Grant to hire 3 officers
  - The Fairfield County Jail has replaced regular television with educational videos on a variety of topics including substance abuse



# Opiate Awareness Campaign

## Measurement Committee

- Purpose: To establish baseline results to measure the Opiate Task Force's effectiveness in educating the community about Rx pain medications, and to determine in a general sense, the use of pain medications in Fairfield County.



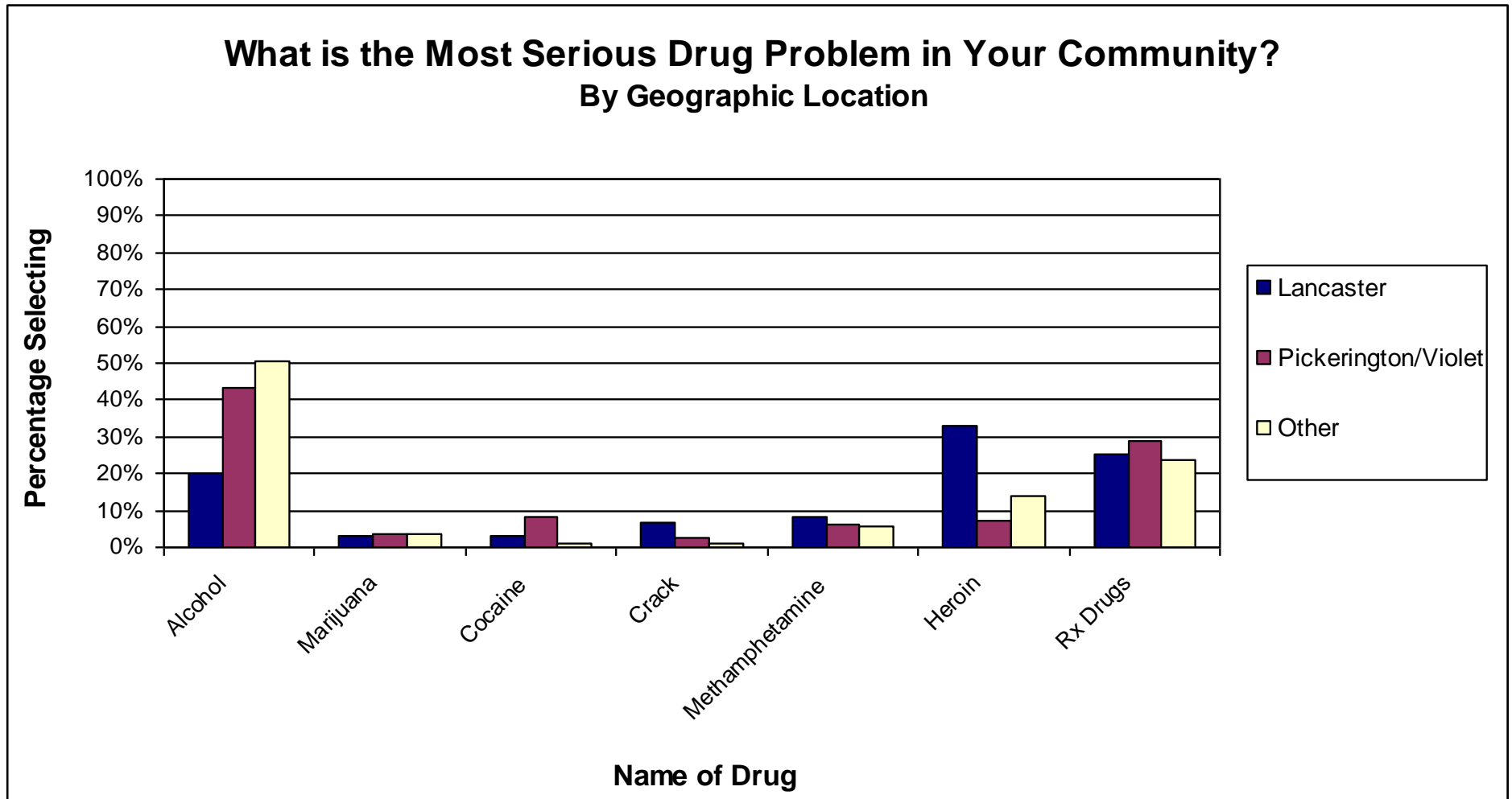
# What We Are Doing

## Measurement

- **Developed baseline measures to estimate the prevalence of opiate addiction in Fairfield County (Youth Behavior Survey and Of-1-Mind Adult Survey)**
- **Conducted utilization review studies at the Recovery Center and Fairfield County jail to determine the incidence of opiate addicts in treatment and involved in corrections**
- **Conducted preliminary outcome studies to determine the efficacy of treatment**



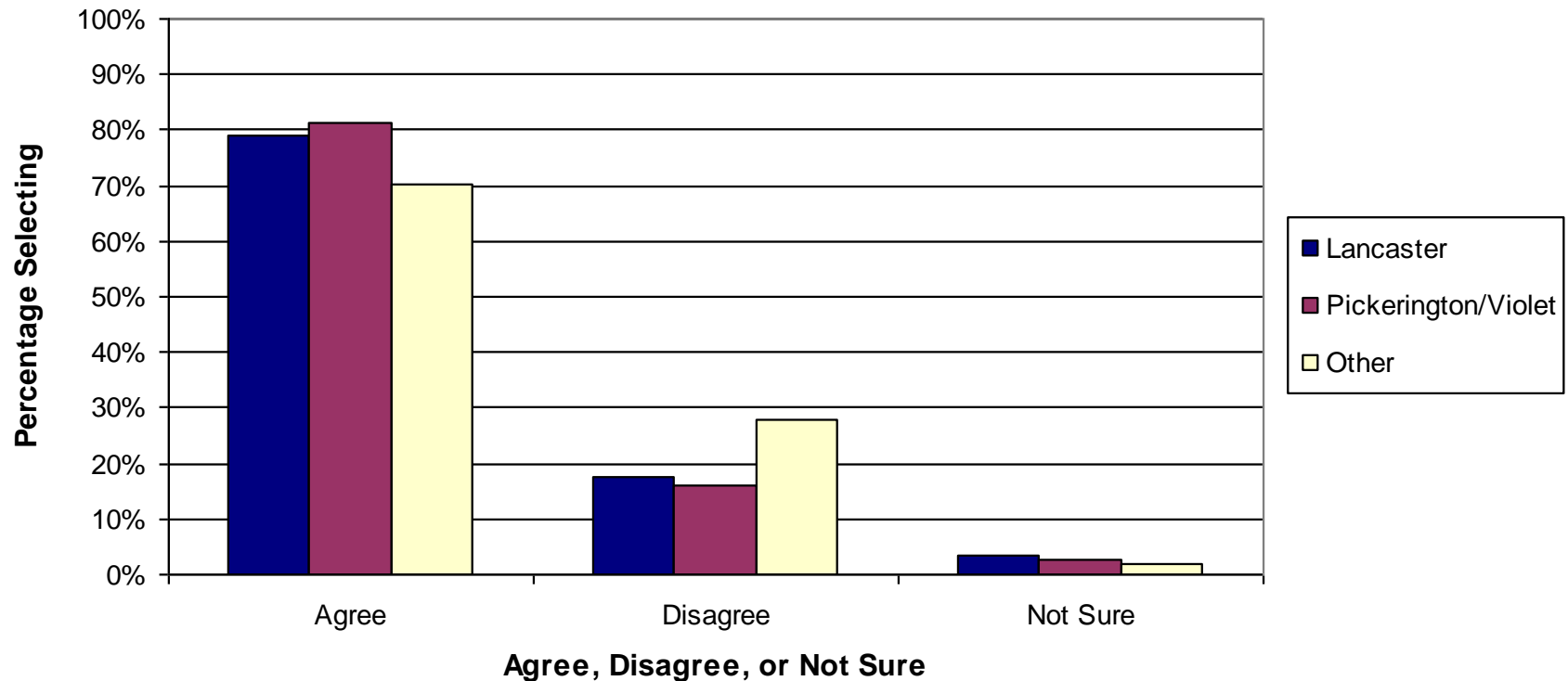
# Opiate Awareness Campaign





# Opiate Awareness Campaign

**I Have a Family Member or Friend Who Has Received Rx Pain Medicine from a Medical Professional During the Past Year.  
By Geographic Location**





# Tour de Cause





# What We Are Doing

## Tour de Cause

Bicycle tour throughout Fairfield County. The first year event which was held in 2010 raised in excess of \$40,000 from more than 500 cyclists and sponsors.



Show your support by participating in the 2011 event on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

[www.tourdecause.org](http://www.tourdecause.org)



# What We Are Doing

## Community Education Committee

- 20 trained volunteers have made more than 100 community presentations featuring a local documentary about opiate addiction (Hooked).
- Developed Logo and PowerPoint presentation and developing a website
- Coordinated two community disposal days, April 2010 and October 2010. Planned for April 2011
- Developed community education materials



# What We Are Doing

## Community Education Committee

- Face book Page
- Opiate Task Force display at the Lancaster ArtWalk
- The Lancaster Eagle-Gazette has published more than 30 front page articles about opiate addiction and treatment



# What We Are Doing

## • **Community Education Committee**

- Rx Drug Abuse Training in May 2010 and planned for May 2011
- Educational Class for parents/caregivers of substance exposed infants
- Fact cards to parents of teens regarding Rx Drug Abuse
- Fact cards to patients at Fairfield Medical Center regarding opiate addiction



# What We Are Doing

## Highlights

- “Hooked” a local documentary about heroin and opiate addiction has had a tremendous impact on the community
- Local churches coming to together to hold a Prayer Meeting
- 250 people attended
- “Monitor” a magazine style publication has been mailed to 59,000 households in Fairfield, Hocking and Perry Counties
- The Lancaster Eagle-Gazette has published more than 30 front page articles about opiate addiction and treatment
- Tour de Cause dramatically exceeded their fund raising goals and has made a multi-year commitment to opiate addiction.



# What Happens If We Fail?



Today, there are thousands of Opiate addicted Ohioans.

Without effective intervention many will become chronic offenders and long-term burdens on our criminal justice system.

Others will overdose and die.



# Fairfield County Opiate Task Force

As a community:

*“It is better to light a candle than to curse  
the darkness.”*

- *Chinese proverb often quoted by Eleanor Roosevelt*

# Fairfield County Opiate Task Force



Toni Ashton, MSEd, LSW, Director  
Prevention Works for a Drug Free Fairfield  
County

Co-Chair, Fairfield County Opiate Task  
Force, Community Education Committee

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