



MEDICAL CENTER

Monday, September 12, 2016

**Bergen Regional Medical Center Expands its Medical Detoxification Service**  
*Continues to Respond to the Heroin Crisis and Increasing Community Need*

(Paramus, NJ) The Heroin epidemic continues to rage throughout New Jersey. Recently, acting Bergen County Prosecutor Gurbir Grewal said, the epidemic is still “staggering” and “overwhelming.” Grewal recently unveiled that his office, partnering with Bergen Regional Medical Center and the Bergen County Sheriff’s Department, launched a new program at the end of August called ‘Operation Helping Hand’. This program gave detectives the chance to offer those arrested on heroin charges a chance to enter into a five-day detox program at Bergen Regional.

Bergen Regional has already responded to the increased need for medical detox beds by expanding the service from 54 beds to 74 beds over the last year. On September 12, 2016, eight more medical detox beds were added bringing the service to 82 beds with another two beds slated to be available later this fall.

“Bergen Regional Medical Center is committed to working collaboratively with the County to combat the Heroin crisis,” said Susan Mendelowitz, President, COO and Administrator for Bergen Regional. “The continuum of care we offer for those in need of mental health and/or substance abuse services is an essential service. This recent expansion furthers our dedication to this mission. I am proud of all those involved at the Medical Center with making this critical expansion happen.”

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