



NEWS FROM **ULSTER COUNTY** *County Executive Jen Metzger*

******For Immediate Release******

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Ulster County Department of Mental Health to host Opioid Community Forum on May 23, 2023

KINGSTON, NY - The Ulster County Department of Mental Health is pleased to announce that it will host an Opioid Community Forum on May 23, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. This event is the second forum of its kind, which aims to gather community feedback on what measures the County can take to address the opioid crisis in Ulster County. Interested community members can attend in person at Samadhi, located at 150 Sawkill Rd, Kingston, NY 12401, or via Zoom.

The opioid crisis is a national issue that has impacted communities across the country. The Ulster County Department of Mental Health recognizes the importance of gathering feedback from community members to help identify the most effective strategies for providing treatment and resources to those with Opioid Use Disorder and for preventing OUD in our community. This forum is an opportunity for members in the community to share their concerns, suggestions, and ideas with County officials, staff, and mental health and Opioid Use Disorder experts.

The insights gathered from these forums will be used to inform the work being done in Ulster County. Community members play a critical role in shaping the County's response to this crisis, and their feedback is highly valued.

“We are grateful for the opportunity to hear from community members about their experiences and concerns related to the opioid crisis,” **Ulster County Commissioner of Mental Health, Tara McDonald said.** “We hope this forum will provide a safe and supportive space for community members to share their thoughts and ideas with us, so we can continue to work together to prevent and treat OUD in Ulster County.”

"The opioid crisis continues to have a devastating impact on our community, and we must work together to prevent further harm," **Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger said.** "This Opioid Community Forum provides an opportunity for community members to share their experiences and insights, and their feedback will help us develop new strategies to combat this crisis and provide the support and resources necessary to those who need it most."

The Ulster County Department of Mental Health encourages all community members to attend the Opioid Community Forum on May 23, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. **To register for the Zoom meeting, please visit: <https://qrco.de/bdszAp>.**

For further information about the forum or the Ulster County Department of Mental Health, please contact the Department at 845-340-4110.
