



GREENE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE IMPACTED CITIZENS PROGRAM

In response to health concerns due to the use of drugs and the resulting overdoses within our country, state and particularly our own Greene County, the Greene County Sheriff's Office is taking an active role in providing help to members of our community.

With coordination and cooperation from the Columbia-Greene Addiction Coalition, Mobile Crisis Assessment Team (MCAT), Mental Health Association Columbia Greene Counties (MHACG) and all community providers, we are launching a new program called "Impacted Citizens Program" (ICP). The initial goal of the program is for members of the Sheriff's Office to respond to reported overdoses within 24 to 48 hours after being notified of a substance use concern, if deemed appropriate. Members of the team will assist the individual by providing information and the awareness of available resources for recovery and other services that would assist the individual with current or circumstantial difficulties. Should the individual not wish to receive any services at that time, they will be provided with the contact information of a team member if they desire such assistance. Team members will follow up in either case to assess future needs or progress.

Studies have shown that the individual who had one or more overdoses may not be the only one in need of support. Support services will also be available to family members and others associated with the individual.

Other components to the program will include; training to law enforcement personnel and other first responders on the complexity of this issue and the understanding of how we can best deal with the problem. Additionally, we will establish a program to help first responders acclimate with the pressures of first responder duties, events and other situations that may have arisen.