

NEW JERSEY LEGISLATURE

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To the honorable volunteers, law enforcement officials, and health professionals behind the Sussex County Community Law Enforcement Addiction Recovery Program:

As we commemorate Sussex County CLEAR's first anniversary, it is our great privilege to reaffirm our support of this invaluable program.

As you know, Sussex County has not been immune to the opioid epidemic tearing apart families across New Jersey. Tragically, there were 36 overdose deaths in our area last year. Sussex County CLEAR has been instrumental in responding to this growing crisis.

In just one year, 19 area residents have signed up to become volunteer recovery coaches with Sussex County CLEAR, providing free services to dozens of people struggling with addiction. This has given our community an immeasurable amount of hope during this difficult time.

We were proud to support a new State law paving the way for collaborative addiction and recovery programs in law enforcement departments statewide. Signed in October of 2016, A-3744 provides for the establishment of law enforcement-assisted addiction and recovery programs in law enforcement departments throughout the State.

Much like Sussex County CLEAR, the programs outlined under A-3744 empower volunteer recovery coaches, treatment providers, and law enforcement officials to provide a pathway to treatment and free recovery assistance for anyone in need of these life-saving services.

Over the last year, the dedicated health professionals, police officers and local volunteers behind Sussex County CLEAR have demonstrated that these free recovery programs can save lives. Your triumphs give us great hope that this law will go a long way to curbing New Jersey's devastating opioid epidemic.

As longtime Sussex County public servants, we have had the honor of supporting Sussex County CLEAR from its inception. We know that your heroic efforts have and will continue to serve as an example for those charged with combatting the addiction crisis across our state.

On this commemorative occasion, we pledge our continued support for your compassionate and tireless efforts to assist those in need in our community.

With sincerest gratitude and commendation,

Senator Steven V. Oroho

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