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**Opioid Crisis and its impact on our workforce**  
*New workshop planned for employers*

**Fraser, Michigan – September 5, 2017** – According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, an average of 90 people die of an opioid overdose every single day in the United States. In 2015, more than 33,000 Americans died as a result of an opioid overdose, including prescription opioids, heroin, and illicitly manufactured fentanyl, a powerful synthetic opioid. In the same year, an estimated two million people suffered from substance use disorders related to prescription opioid pain relievers, and 591,000 suffered from a heroin use disorder (which are not mutually exclusive).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that the total "economic burden" of prescription opioid misuse alone in the United States is \$78.5 billion a year, including the costs of healthcare, lost productivity, addiction treatment, and criminal justice involvement.

To offer help to area employers, CARE of Southeastern Michigan is teaming with the Macomb County Office of Substance Abuse and Department of Planning & Economic Development, Families Against Narcotics, and Butzel Long to offer a workshop especially for them.

"Employers across the region face problems not only with employees who may be struggling with a substance abuse problem but also the family members and loved ones of employees." Said Monique Stanton, Director of Care of Southeastern Michigan. "This workshop will provide information about resources and tools that can help employers provide relevant and current information to employees."

Speakers include the Honorable Linda B. Davis, 41-B District Court and President of Families Against Narcotics; Monique Stanton, President and CEO and Susan Styf, Chief Program Officer for CARE of Southeastern Michigan and Brett Miller, Senior Associate for Butzel Long.

The workshop will be held from 8-10 a.m. on Friday, Sept 15 at the Velocity Center (6633 18 Mile Road in Sterling Heights, MI. There is no charge for this event but pre-registration is required. Visit [www.careofsem.com/events](http://www.careofsem.com/events) for more details and a link to register.

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**About CARE of Southeastern Michigan**

CARE of Southeastern Michigan's mission is to strengthen the resiliency in people and their communities through prevention, education, and services that improve the quality of life. For more information, visit [www.careofsem.com](http://www.careofsem.com)

