

**RESOLUTION NO. 197 -2020, ESTABLISHING A STANDING  
YOUTH ADDICTION PANEL**

**WHEREAS**, exposure and addiction to substances ranging from electronic cigarettes to opioids has been increasing over the past decade, especially among teens and young adults; whether it is in school, at home, or while out socializing with their peers; and

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. 704-2017 established a permanent Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Panel to further the County's search for solutions to the opioid addiction crisis; and

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County has taken many steps to provide resources and programs to address these issues, however, a panel dedicated to youth addiction is necessary to compliment the work that is being done by the permanent Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel, to provide a young person's perspective on the dangers of substance abuse and to develop strategies for the most effective ways to reach the intended audience; and

**WHEREAS**, the ever-evolving nature of use and abuse among youth requires an ongoing commitment to identify new resources and additional funding sources for programs directed towards those between 16 and 25 years of age; and

**WHEREAS**, Suffolk County should establish a youth addiction panel to provide ongoing input and recommendations and to address the substance abuse epidemic that is affecting teens and young adults in Suffolk County through preventative education, enhancement of enforcement efforts, and aiding in the treatment and rehabilitation of those youths addicted; now, therefore be it

**1st RESOLVED**, that a Youth Addiction Panel ("the Panel") is hereby established to provide assistance and advice to the County in combating the addiction crisis for residents between the ages of 16 to 25 in an interdisciplinary manner and to assist the Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel in utilizing social media as part of their ongoing efforts; and be it further

**2nd RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall consist of the following nine (9) members who shall be between the ages of 16 and 25:

1. One (1) representative appointed by the Chairperson of the Legislature's Health Committee;
2. One (1) representative to be appointed by the Chair of the Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel;
3. Two (2) representatives who are in recovery from addiction, with one representative appointed by the Chair of the Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel and the other appointed by the Chair of the Legislature's Health Committee;

4. Two (2) representatives from a youth drug advocacy organization, with one representative appointed by the Chair of the Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel and the other appointed by the Chair of the Legislature's Health Committee;
5. One (1) representative to be appointed by the Suffolk County Medical Society;
6. One (1) representative who is well versed in social media outreach and marketing to be appointed by the Chair of the Legislature's Health Committee; and
7. One (1) representative who serves in the field of emergency medical services to be appointed by the Chair of the Legislature's Health Committee;

and be it further

**3rd** **RESOLVED**, that the chairperson of the Panel shall be selected by a majority of the membership of Panel; and be it further

**4th** **RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall hold its first meeting no later than thirty (30) days after the oaths of office of all members have been filed, which meeting shall be convened for the purpose of organization and the appointment of a chairperson, vice chairperson, and a secretary; and be it further

**5th** **RESOLVED**, that the members of said Panel shall serve without compensation and shall serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing authorities; and be it further

**6th** **RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall be advised in their actions by the Chairperson of the Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel, the Chairperson of the Legislature's Health Committee, and a professional in the field of substance abuse selected by the Chairperson of the Heroin and Opiate Epidemic Advisory Panel;

**7th** **RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall hold regular meetings at least quarterly, keep a record of all its proceedings, and determine the rules of its own proceedings with special meetings to be called by the Chairperson; and be it further

**8th** **RESOLVED**, that five (5) members of the Panel shall constitute a quorum to transact the business of the Panel at both regular and special meetings; and be it further

**9th** **RESOLVED**, that clerical services involving the month-to-month operation of this Panel, as well as supplies and postage as necessary, will be provided by the staff of the County Legislature; and be it further

**10th** **RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall conduct a minimum of two (2) formal public hearings annually to acquire necessary information or other data to assist the panel in gathering information and developing recommendations; and be it further

**11th**            **RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall cooperate with the committees of the County Legislature and make available to each committee, upon request, any records and other data it may accumulate or obtain and to provide quarterly reports to the pertinent Committees; and be it further

**12th**            **RESOLVED**, that the Panel shall prepare a written annual report, to be submitted by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year to the Clerk of the Legislature, each County Legislator and the County Executive, which details the work of the committee over the course of the previous year, recommendations to improve the County's response to the youth heroin and opiate addiction crisis and a summary of the previous year's recommendations and the outcomes associated therewith, if any; and be it further

**13th**            **RESOLVED**, that this Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this resolution constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(26) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as routine or continuing administration and management not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment, and the Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this resolution.

DATED: March 17, 2020

APPROVED BY:

/s/ Dennis M. Cohen  
Chief Deputy County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: April 1, 2020