



Opioid Crisis Next Door: Building Local Coalitions – September 1, 2016

MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Please consider publicizing this information in advance of the event and also covering the event on Thursday, September 1. We thank you in advance for your assistance.

Date: July 26, 2016

Contact: Pat Schou, Executive Director
Stephanie Cartwright, Communications and Media Specialist

Phone: 815.875.2999 **Cell:** 815.503.2392 (sc)

Email: pschou@icahn.org scartwright@icahn.org

Website: www.icahn.org

OPIOID CRISIS NEXT DOOR: Strategies for Building Local Coalitions

WHO: The event is supported by the Illinois Critical Access Hospital Network; the Illinois Pharmacists Association; the Illinois Department of Public Health, Center for Rural Health; the Healthy Communities Partnership; and the Illinois Health and Hospital Association.

WHAT: “Opioid Crisis Next Door: Strategies for Building Local Coalitions,” a daylong workshop

WHERE: The Crowne Plaza, 3000 S. Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, IL (*Second Floor Ballroom*)

WHEN: Thursday, September 1 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHY: The “**2016 Rural Health Summit: Opioid Crisis Next Door**” was organized in an effort to 1) increase awareness of the rapidly growing problem of opioid abuse and heroin use in rural communities and particularly, the lack of community response; 2) create community engagement and assist in the formation of coalitions throughout the state dedicated to the fight against opioid abuse and heroin use; and 3) collaborate with legislators/policymakers to allocate immediate funding for treatment centers in rural communities. **The September 1st workshop** focuses on how local coalitions work, how local coalitions are created, what steps are needed to form a coalition, how to create the strategic prevention framework, and how to best gather and utilize data.

TARGET AUDIENCE: Critical access and small, rural hospital representatives; public health personnel; physicians; advanced practice practitioners; nurses; pharmacists; law enforcement; policymakers; drug abuse program staff; mental and behavioral health providers; and any citizen, organization, or group interested in supporting this cause.