



Media Advisory

From State Representative La Shawn K. Ford

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 17, 2017

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. La Shawn Ford

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WEST SIDE HEROIN TASK FORCE TO HOST TOWN HALL MEETING

CHICAGO, IL – On Tuesday, April 18 at 1:00p.m., State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (D-Chicago), Dr. Nirav Shah, state Rep. Mary Flowers (D-Chicago) and Congressman Danny K. Davis (D-Chicago) will be hosting a town hall meeting concerning the hundreds of deaths in Cook County from Heroin and Fentanyl overdoses. Despite media depictions that paint heroin users as located in the suburbs, the West Side of Chicago is the epicenter of the crisis.

"The availability of heroin is rising across the country, and the west side has borne the brunt of the crisis in terms of addiction and overdose deaths. Much can be done to treat those suffering from heroin use disorders and to reverse overdose so that they aren't fatal," said Rep. La Shawn K. Ford (8th) and co-sponsor of House Bill 1, The Heroin Crisis Act, which became law in Sept. 2015 and includes coverage of addiction, enforcement of parity regulations, and coverage of the important lifesaving drug naloxone under Medicaid. Since its inception, the West Side Heroin Task Force been at the forefront of combatting heroin usage and heroin overdose prevention.

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| Who: | State Rep. La Shawn K. Ford, Dr. Nirav Shah, State Rep. Mary Flowers, Congressman Danny K. Davis, IDPH, CDPH, HHS, DCFS & Chicago Recovery Alliance |
| What: | West Side Heroin Task Force Town Hall Meeting |
| When: | Tuesday, April 18, 2017 1:00 P.M. – 3:30 P.M. |
| Where: | Malcolm X College 1900 W Jackson Ave. Chicago, IL 60612 |

For more information, contact Rep. Ford's office at [773-378-5902](tel:773-378-5902), or visit www.lashawnford.com.