Treatment taking place of incarceration

By JACK FICHTER
Cape May Star and Wave

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VILLAS — While the opioid epidemic has hit Cape May County hard, with 260 opioid overdoses last year, the problem wasn’t under the age of 16, according to Lt. Joseph Landis, of the county Prosecutor’s Office, who attributed the low rate of youth overdose to educational efforts.

“Many are not seeing the dangers posed by drugs and dabbling into them,” Landis said. He spoke as part of existence awareness panel presented by the Lower Township Healthy Townships Coalition. The event was held at Lower Township Health Department, and was co-sponsored by local organizations, including Lower Township Healthy Townships Coalition, Lower Township Health Department, Lower Township Police Department, Lower Township Schools, Take Back Day, and Lower Township Municipal Court.

The event was held to raise awareness about the dangers of opioid and other drug use, and to encourage individuals who may be struggling with addiction to seek help.

Landis said HopeOne provides clients immediate access to services and treatment facilities, putting them on the road to recovery and wellness prior to losing contact, and offering them services of choice. The program is a step in the right direction and continuing recovery.

“Our goal is to get people all the face time of Narcan to those who will take the training,” Landis said. He said he believes the decrease in overdose numbers is a result of efforts from organizations and the community.

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